QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27 & 28 May 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0230) PROGRAM – Internal Product

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

What is the total amount of litigation, internal and external legal costs accrued by the Department in the 2012-13 financial year? Give a breakdown on what the services were for and the cost attached to each of those services.

Answer:

For the period 1 July 2012 to 30 April 2013, \$17.112 million was spent on external litigation costs. A breakdown of these services and costs is provided in the following table:

2012-13 financial year to 30 April 2013

Litigation expenditure	\$million
External expenditure on solicitors ¹	13.658
External expenditure on counsel	2.849
Other disbursements on external legal services	0.605
total external	17.112

For the period 1 July 2012 to 30 April 2013, \$5.2 million was spent on internal litigation costs. A breakdown of these costs is provided in the following table:

2012-13 financial year to 30 April 2013

Total Internal litigation expenditure	\$million
Employees	4.854
Overheads (for example office stores, stationery,	0.346
training and travel)	
total internal	5.200

¹ As the Department has entered into 'fixed fee' arrangements for the payment of some of its litigation matters, this figure will also include some expenditure on counsel and disbursements that cannot be separately identified.