

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 OCTOBER 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE12/0159) PROGRAM – Internal Product

Senator Humphries (written) asked:

Portfolio wide - Legal Costs: What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

Answer:

The legal services rendered during these periods by private firms (excluding AGS) were for legal advice and litigation related services. The following is a breakdown of external legal services by Professional Fees, Counsel and Disbursements.

Current financial year to 30 September 2012

<i>Agency's total Other Firms legal services expenditure</i>	<i>\$million</i>
External expenditure on solicitors ¹	3.361
External expenditure on counsel	0.567
Other disbursements on external legal services	0.130
total external	4.058

MRT/RRT

The MRT-RRT spent nil on private firms to 30 September 2012.

¹ As the Department has entered into a 'fixed fee' arrangement 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.