SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Portfolio

Question No. 113

Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 16 October 2012:

Legal costs

1)

- a) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for 2011-12? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- b) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for 2011-12 from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- c) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for 2011-12 from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

2)

- a) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- b) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- c) 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.
- d) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Attorney-General's Department

Total legal expenditure for the Attorney General's Department for the 2011-12 financial year amounted to \$11,819,550.28, as follows: Total legal services expenditure \$11,819,550.28 Total external legal services expenditure \$10,396,791.74 Total internal legal services expenditure \$1,422,758.54	1	•			
Total external legal services expenditure \$10,396,791.74		a)		1	r the 2011-12
			Total legal services expenditure	\$11,819,550.28	
Total internal legal services expenditure \$1,422,758,54			Total external legal services expenditure	\$10,396,791.74	
Total Internal legal services expenditure \$\psi_{1,\psi_22,750.5\psi}\$			Total internal legal services expenditure	\$1,422,758.54	

		The breakdown of total external legal services	expenditure is as f	follows:
		Total external legal services expenditure	\$10,396,791.74	
		Total value of counsel briefs	\$2,142,382.95	
		Total disbursements (excluding counsel)	\$180,056.99	
		Total professional fees paid	\$8,074,351.80	
		Details of individual matters are not maintaine information would require an unreasonable div		
	Of the professional fees paid, total legal costs for the Attorney General's Department to the Australian Government Solicitor (AGS) for the 2011-12 financial year amount of \$7,439,502.82 for legal advice and litigation services, as follows:			nancial year amounted
		Total professional fees paid	\$8,074,351.80	
		Australian Government Solicitor	\$7,439,502.82	
		Other	\$634,848.98	
		Details of individual matters are not maintaine information would require an unreasonable div	-	-
	c)	Of the professional fees paid, total legal costs to other sources for the 2011-12 financial year accordance with the table above.		-
		Details of individual matters are not maintaine information would require an unreasonable div	-	-
2				
_	a)-d)	Under the <i>Legal Services Directions 2005</i> , age <i>Management and Accountability Act 1997</i> are legal services expenditure for the financial year the normal practice to collate these figures and closer to the October deadline. To identify the would require an unreasonable diversion of respective services.	required to make that public by 30 Octal determine legal seinformation sough	he records of their ober each year. It is ervices expenditure t at this early stage

Australian Crime Commission

1				
	a)	The total cost spent on legal servindividual matters are not mainta would require an unreasonable d	ained centrally and the cost to p	
		Totals	Ex GST	
		total external expenditure	\$1,092,448	
		total internal expenditure	\$3,343,502	
		total	\$4,435,950	

	All costs are exclusive of GST. With GST the in the Legal Services Expenditure Report.	tigure would be S	54,879,545 as reported
b)	The total spent on legal services from the Aust was \$783,476; the break up between legal fees details of individual matters are not maintained information would require an unreasonable div	and disbursemen l centrally and the	ts is listed below. The cost to provide this
	Legal fees for Australian Government Solici	tor \$597,618	
	Disbursements (Counsel fees)	\$143,317	
	Other Disbursements	\$42,541	
	Total	\$783,476	
c)	In 2011-12 \$3,652,474 was spent on other legal external counsel (other than AGS) and internal of individual matters are not maintained central information would require an unreasonable div	legal costs are listly and the cost to	sted below. The detail provide this
	Counsel QC	\$298,192	
	Other counsel	\$ 10,053	
	Private firm	\$727	
	Internal salaries and on-costs	\$3,233,600	
	Internal law library costs	\$109,902	
	Total	\$3,652,474	
a)	The cost spent on legal services FYTD within \$1,100,625. The details of individual matters to provide this information would require an unit	are not maintained	d centrally and the cost
a)		are not maintained	d centrally and the cost
a)	\$1,100,625. The details of individual matters at to provide this information would require an uniformation with the state of the state	are not maintained areasonable diver	d centrally and the cost
a)	\$1,100,625. The details of individual matters at to provide this information would require an unit to provide this information would require an unit total expenditure Ex GST total external expenditure	are not maintained areasonable diver \$251,287	d centrally and the cost
a)	\$1,100,625. The details of individual matters at to provide this information would require an uniformation would require and uniformation would require and uniformation would require an	service not maintained in the national maintaine	d centrally and the cost
a)	\$1,100,625. The details of individual matters at to provide this information would require an uniformation would require and uniformation would require an uniformation would require an uniformation would require an uniformation would require an u	\$251,287 \$849,338 \$1,100,625	d centrally and the cost sion of resources.
a) b)	\$1,100,625. The details of individual matters at to provide this information would require an uniformation would require and uniformation would require and uniformation would require an	\$251,287 \$849,338 \$1,100,625 In the Australian Cos are not maintain	d centrally and the cost sion of resources. Government Solicitor ned centrally and the
	\$1,100,625. The details of individual matters at to provide this information would require an unit total expenditure Total expenditure	\$251,287 \$849,338 \$1,100,625 In the Australian Cos are not maintain an unreasonable of	d centrally and the cost sion of resources. Government Solicitor ned centrally and the
	\$1,100,625. The details of individual matters at to provide this information would require an unit to provide this information would require an unit total expenditure total expenditure total internal expenditure Total The amount spent on legal services FYTD from was \$169,632. The details of individual matter cost to provide this information would require	\$251,287 \$849,338 \$1,100,625 In the Australian Cos are not maintain an unreasonable of	d centrally and the cost sion of resources. Government Solicitor ned centrally and the
	\$1,100,625. The details of individual matters at to provide this information would require an unit to provide this information would require an unit total expenditure total expenditure total internal expenditure Total The amount spent on legal services FYTD from was \$169,632. The details of individual matter cost to provide this information would require Legal fees for Australian Government Solicies	\$251,287 \$849,338 \$1,100,625 In the Australian Crs are not maintain an unreasonable of	d centrally and the cost sion of resources. Government Solicitor ned centrally and the
	\$1,100,625. The details of individual matters at to provide this information would require an unit to provide this information would require an unit total expenditure total expenditure total internal expenditure Total The amount spent on legal services FYTD from was \$169,632. The details of individual matter cost to provide this information would require Legal fees for Australian Government Solicit Disbursements (Counsel fees),	\$251,287 \$849,338 \$1,100,625 In the Australian Crs are not maintain an unreasonable of the state	d centrally and the cost sion of resources. Government Solicitor ned centrally and the
b)	\$1,100,625. The details of individual matters at to provide this information would require an unit to provide this information would require an unit total expenditure total external expenditure Total The amount spent on legal services FYTD from was \$169,632. The details of individual matter cost to provide this information would require Legal fees for Australian Government Solicit Disbursements (Counsel fees), Other Disbursements Total	\$251,287 \$849,338 \$1,100,625 In the Australian Cors are not maintain an unreasonable of the state of the stat	d centrally and the cost sion of resources. Government Solicitor ned centrally and the
	\$1,100,625. The details of individual matters at to provide this information would require an unit to provide this information would require an unit total expenditure total expenditure total internal expenditure Total The amount spent on legal services FYTD from was \$169,632. The details of individual matte cost to provide this information would require Legal fees for Australian Government Solici Disbursements (Counsel fees), Other Disbursements	\$251,287 \$849,338 \$1,100,625 In the Australian Cors are not maintain an unreasonable of \$124,868 \$42,478 \$2,286 \$169,632	Government Solicitor ned centrally and the diversion of resources

Other Counsel	\$5,818
Counsel (QC)	\$75,837
Internal salaries and on-costs	\$822,570
Internal library costs	\$26,768
Total	\$930,993

Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

1						
	a)	Total Legal Expenditure for 2011/12 was \$7,032,820.16. Of that expenditure, \$4,495,988.46 was spent on external legal services and				
		\$2,536,831.70 was spent on internal legal services.				
	b)	A total of \$3,920,729.87 was spent on services with AGS, which can be broken down to \$407,214.64 for Counsel fees, \$3,329,475.05 for Professional Fees and \$180,040.18 for Disbursements.				
	c)	A total of \$575,258.5	•	gal services from o	other sources.	
		This can be broken do		D' I	T. 4.1	1
		Firm	Professional Fees	Disbursements	Total	
		ASHURST	\$10,719.19	\$0.00	\$10,719.19	
		CLAYTON UTZ	\$74,130.21	\$15,527.88	\$89,658.09	
		DLA PIPER	\$28,961.21	\$728.00	\$29,689.21	
		KING AND WOOD				
		MALLESONS	\$10,253.00	\$24.00	\$10,277.00	
		MINTER ELLISON	\$53,411.16	\$0.00	\$53,411.16	
		NORTON ROSE	\$174,650.36	\$9,435.00	\$184,085.36	
		PROXIMITY	\$192,604.98	\$0.00	\$192,604.98	
		SPARKE	0.4.01.0.	фо. о о	* * * * * * * * * *	
		HELMORE	\$4,813.60	\$0.00	\$4,813.60	
2						
	a)	A total of \$1,265,448 Customs and Border	-	nis financial year o	n Legal Service	es within
		Details of individual matters are not maintained centrally and the cost to provide this information would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.			provide this	
	b)	A total of \$986,931.7 Australian Governme	_	this financial year	on services from	m the
		This can be broken do	own as follows:			
		Fee Type			Total	
		CORPORATE LEG			TS	\$26,979.67
		CORPORATE LEG	AL SERVICES -	LEGAL FEES		\$234,102.33

	CORPORATE LEG	AL SERVICES: D	ISBURSEMENTS	3	\$4,688.55
	PROSECUTIONS: DISBURSEMENTS				\$16,634.06
	PROSECUTIONS: LEGAL FEES				\$659,014.44
	PROSECUTIONS:	COUNSEL FEES			\$45,512.74
c)	A total of \$29,749.12 has been spent this financial year on services from Private Firms. This can be broken down as follows:				Private Firms.
	Firm	Professional	Disbursements	Total	
		Fees			
	CLAYTON UTZ	\$169.20	\$3,082.38	\$3,251.88	
	DLA PIPER	\$2,396.54		\$2,396.54	
	NORTON ROSE	\$2,500.70		\$2,500.70	
	MORTON ROBL	Ψ2,500.70		T = , = 0 0 1 1 0	
	PROXIMITY	\$21,600.00		\$21,600.00	

Australian Federal Police

a)	The AFP spent \$10,858,894.55 on legal service	ces for 2011-12, as	follows:
,	Total legal services expenditure	\$10,858,894.55	
	Total external legal services expenditure	\$3,779,258.28	
	Total internal legal services expenditure	\$7,079,636.27	
	The breakdown of total external legal services	s expenditure is as	follows:
	Total external legal services expenditure	\$3,779,258.28	
	Total value of counsel briefs	\$391,614.87	
	Total disbursements (excluding counsel)	\$57,803.16	
	Total professional fees paid	\$3,329,840.25	
	The cost to provide a list of this information w of resources at this time.		
b)	of resources at this time. Of the total professional fees paid, the AFP sp for legal services for 2011-12 from the Austra	pent \$2,050,570.54 llian Government S	on professional for
b)	of resources at this time. Of the total professional fees paid, the AFP sp	pent \$2,050,570.54	on professional for
b)	of resources at this time. Of the total professional fees paid, the AFP sp for legal services for 2011-12 from the Austra	pent \$2,050,570.54 llian Government S	on professional for
b)	of resources at this time. Of the total professional fees paid, the AFP sp for legal services for 2011-12 from the Austra Total professional fees paid	pent \$2,050,570.54 llian Government S \$3,329,840.25	on professional for
b)	of resources at this time. Of the total professional fees paid, the AFP sp for legal services for 2011-12 from the Austra Total professional fees paid Australian Government Solicitor	pent \$2,050,570.54 dian Government S \$3,329,840.25 \$2,050,570.54	on professional for
b)	of resources at this time. Of the total professional fees paid, the AFP sp for legal services for 2011-12 from the Austra Total professional fees paid Australian Government Solicitor	sent \$2,050,570.54 dian Government S \$3,329,840.25 \$2,050,570.54 \$1,279,296.72	on professional foolicitor, as follow

		Total professional fees paid (other than AGS)	\$1,670,884.59	
		Attorney-General's Department	\$1,538.42	
		Blake Dawson	\$264,511.61	
		Clayton Utz	\$294,554.37	
		DLA Phillips Fox	\$284,591.58	
		HWL Ebsworth	\$420,751.66	
		Sparke Helmore Lawyers	\$13,322.08	
		Total value of counsel briefs	\$391,614.87	
		The cost to provide a list of this information w of resources at this time.	ould require an un	reasonable diversion
2				
	a)-d)	Under the <i>Legal Services Directions</i> 2005, age Management and Accountability Act 1997 are legal services expenditure for the financial year the normal practice to collate these figures and closer to the October deadline. To identify the would require an unreasonable diversion of re	required to make to ar public by 30 Oct d determine legal so information sough	the records of their ober each year. It is ervices expenditure t at this early stage

Australian Government Solicitor (AGS)

Australian Government Solicitor (AGS) is a government business enterprise operating on a commercial and competitive basis in providing legal and related services to government and its agencies. AGS does not receive any Budget or other appropriations and its employees are engaged outside of the *Public Service Act 1999*. The question is therefore not applicable to AGS.

Australian Human Rights Commission

1			
	a)	The Australian Human Rights Commission's legal services e financial year 2011 – 2012 was as follows:	xpenditure for the
		Total external legal services expenditure (including briefs to counsel and other professional fees)	\$88,216.95
		Total internal legal services expenditure	\$1,345,012.00
		Total (external + internal) expenditure	\$1,433,228.95
	b)	The Commission spent \$470.80 on legal services from the Au Solicitor.	ustralian Government
	c)	The Commission spent \$87,746.15 on briefs to Counsel.	

2		
	a)-d)	Under the <i>Legal Services Directions 2005</i> , agencies regulated by the <i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997</i> are required to make the records of their legal services expenditure for the financial year public by 30 October each year. It is the normal practice to collate these figures and determine legal services expenditure closer to the October deadline. To identify the information sought at this early stage would require an unreasonable diversion of resources at this time.

Australian Institute of Criminology

1		
	a)	\$36,718 – Details of individual matters are not maintained centrally and the cost to provide this information would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.
	b)	\$25,305 - Details of individual matters are not maintained centrally and the cost to provide this information would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.
	c)	\$11,412 - Details of individual matters are not maintained centrally and the cost to provide this information would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.
2		
	a)-d)	Under the <i>Legal Services Directions 2005</i> , agencies regulated by the <i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997</i> are required to make the records of their legal services expenditure for the financial year public by 30 October each year. It is the normal practice to collate these figures and determine legal services expenditure
		closer to the October deadline. To identify the information sought at this early stage would require an unreasonable diversion of resources at this time.

Australian Law Reform Commission

1		
	a)	\$4,961.00
	b)	\$4,961.00 from Australian Government Solicitor. This was advice provided to the ALRC on its transition to a FMA agency from a CAC agency and its move of all employees to the Public Service.
	c)	NIL
2		
	a)-d)	NIL

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation

For security reasons, it would not be appropriate to comment publicly on this matter.

CrimTrac

nTrac			
	Total external legal services expenditure	\$383,125.94	
a)	Total of disbursements (excl counsel)	\$24.64	
	Total of professional fees paid	\$383,101.30	
	Note: All figures inclusive of GST.		
	Australian Government Solicitor	\$364,946.68	
	Blake Dawson/Ashurst	\$18,055.62	
	Murdoch Clarke Barristers & Solicitors	\$99.00	
	Please see responses, below, in relation to each	service and cost	with regard
	Australian Government Solicitor and other exten		_
	Australian Government Solicitor	\$	-
b)	Legal Advice	2201.76	
	Legal Advice	4669.94	
	Legal Advice	223,451.64	
	Legal Advice	4320.80	
	Legal Advice	5978.94	
	Legal Advice	1513.60	
	Legal Advice	122,810.00	
	Total	\$364,946.68	
	Blake Dawson/Ashurst	\$	
c)	Legal Advice	3321.34	
	Legal Advice	1103.52	
	Legal Advice	3437.39	
	Legal Advice	651.42	
	Legal Advice	776.16	
	Legal Advice	1853.28	
	Legal Advice	378.51	
	Legal Advice	277.20	
	Legal Advice	4065.60	
	Legal Advice	434.28	
	Legal Advice	1405.80	
	Legal Advice	351.12	
	Total	\$18,055.62	
	Murdoch Clarke Barristers & Solicitors		
	Business Name Registration (Tasmania)	99.00	
	Total	\$99.00	
ره (ه	Under the Legal Services Directions 2005, agen	cies regulated by	y the <i>Financ</i>
a)- d)	Management and Accountability Act 1997 are re	•	
	legal services expenditure for the financial year	•	
	the normal practice to collate these figures and of		

closer to the October deadline. To identify the information sought at this early stage would require an unreasonable diversion of resources at this time.

Family Court of Australia

1		Under the <i>Legal Services Directions 2005</i> , agencies regulated by <i>the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997</i> are required to make the records of their legal services expenditure for the financial year public by 30 October each year. The 2011-12 results have been published in the Court's Annual Report page 140. The totals for each category have been shown below, however to identify the detail of information sought would require an unreasonable diversion of resources at this time.
	a)	\$232,322.96
	b)	\$20,698.92
	c)	 Ashurst \$2,007.72 Blake Dawson Waldron \$8,220.17 Office of Legislative Drafting and Publishing \$6,630.00 Internal Resources \$37,556.81
2		The totals for each category have been shown below, however to identify the detail of information sought would require an unreasonable diversion of resources at this time.
	a)	\$2,520 (GST Exclusive)
	b)	\$2,520 (GST Exclusive)
	c)	\$0
	d)	The court has an internal resource; however calculation of the total cost of these resources is only undertaken at the end of a financial year. To identify the information sought at this early stage would require an unreasonable diversion of resources at this time.

Federal Court of Australia

1		
	2)	Total external legal services expenditure for 2011-12: \$47,990.16.
	a)	Detailed information on individual matters and transactions for which legal services were provided is not retained centrally and its provision would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.
	b)	Total professional fees paid to Australian Government Solicitor for 2011-12: \$17,825.66.
	c)	Total professional fees paid to other sources for 2011-12:
		• EMA Legal \$11,464.00; and
		Office of Legislative Drafting and Publishing \$12,212.73.
2		

a)-d)	Under the <i>Legal Services Directions 2005</i> , agencies regulated by the <i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997</i> are required to make the records of their legal services expenditure for the financial year public by 30 October each year. It is the normal practice to collate these figures and determine legal services expenditure
	closer to the October deadline. To identify the information sought at this early stage
	would require an unreasonable diversion of resources at this time.

Federal Magistrates Court

	ruciai Magistiates Court		
1		Under the Legal Services Directions 2005, agencies regulated by the <i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997</i> are required to make the records of their legal services expenditure for the financial year public by 30 October each year. The 2011-12 results have been published in the Court's Annual Report page 107. The totals for each category have been shown below, however to identify the detail of information sought would require an unreasonable diversion of resources at this time.	
	a)	\$55,849.46	
	b)	\$27,002.69	
	c)	 Blake Dawson Waldron \$3,537.77 Office of Legislative Drafting and Publishing \$18,703.00 	
2		The totals for each category have been shown below, however to identify the detail of information sought would require an unreasonable diversion of resources at this time	
	a)	\$2,520 (GST Exclusive)	
	b)	\$2,520 (GST Exclusive)	
	c)	\$0	
	d)	\$0	

National Native Title Tribunal

1		
	a)	Total legal services expenditure for 2011-12: \$103,409.
		Details of individual matters are not maintained centrally and the cost to provide this information would require an unreasonable diversion of resources
	b)	Legal services for 2011-12 from the Australian Government Solicitor: \$34,760. Details of individual matters are not maintained centrally and the cost to provide this information would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.
	c)	Legal services for 2011-12 from other sources: \$68,649.

		Details of individual matters are not maintained centrally and the cost to provide this information would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.
2		
	a)-d)	Please note: From 1 July 2012 the National Native Title Tribunal is no longer a Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997 Agency, and is funded to carry out its functions as a sub-program of the Federal Court of Australia's appropriation.
		For question two, please refer to the Federal Court's response

Office of the Australian Information Commissioner

		Australian Information Commissioner
1		
	a)	The OAIC spent a total of \$43,641 (excluding GST) on legal services for 2011–12.
		The following services were procured:
		• Professional fees relating to legal advice \$5,890 (excluding GST)
		 Professional fees relating to legal representation at court \$8,822 (excluding GST)
		Professional fees relating to legal correspondence \$28,929 (excluding GST)
	b)	The OAIC spent a total of \$43,641 (excluding GST) on legal services from the Australian Government Solicitor in 2011–12.
		The following services were procured:
		• Professional fees relating to legal advice \$5,890 (excluding GST)
		 Professional fees relating to legal representation at court \$8,822 (excluding GST)
		Professional fees relating to legal correspondence \$28,929 (excluding GST)
	c)	Nil
2		
	a)	The OAIC spent a total of \$23,061 (excluding GST) on legal services this financial year to date.
		The following services were procured:
		Professional fees relating to legal correspondence \$23,061 (excluding GST)
	b)	The OAIC spent a total of \$23,061 (excluding GST) on legal services from the Australian Government Solicitor this financial year to date.
		The following services were procured:
		Professional fees relating to legal correspondence \$23,061 (excluding GST)
	c)	Nil
		•

d)	Nil
u)	

Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions

1		
	a)	For the 2011-12 financial year the CDPP spent \$587,802 on legal services. Of this \$560,804 was for advice and administrative support in relation to the CDPP's response to the Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) People Smuggling Inquiry. The remaining \$26,998 relates to advice received for a range of HR and Property activities. Note: Legal expenses exclude legal costs associated with the handling of criminal prosecutions and related proceedings.
	b)	For the 2011-12 financial year the CDPP spent \$560,804 on legal services to the Australian Government Solicitor. Please see answer at a) above.
	c)	Nil
2		
	a)	For the period 1 July 2012 to 30 September 2012 the CDPP has spent \$23,197 on legal services. Of this:
		• \$10,000 for drafting of legal case reports for the annual report
		• \$4,000 for advice on the CDPP's Guidelines and Directions Manual
		 \$9,197 to Australian Government Solicitor for advice and administrative support in relation to the CDPP's response to the Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) People Smuggling Inquiry
		Note: Legal expenses exclude legal costs associated with the handling of criminal prosecutions and related proceedings.
	b)	For the period 1 July 2012 to 30 September 2012 the CDPP has spent \$9,197 on legal services from the Australian Government Solicitor. Please see answer at a) above.
	c)	For the period 1 July 2012 to 30 September 2012 the CDPP has spent \$14,000 on legal services. Please see answer at a) above.
	d)	N/A