

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2013-14 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross

Question No: 369

Topic: Legal costs

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Smith asked:

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.

Answer:

The Department is unable to provide year-to-date portfolio expenditure on legal services from the Australian Government Solicitor without diverting substantial resources.

Due to the complexities involved and the high level of resourcing required across the portfolio to collect the information, legal services expenditure is obtained and published once a year in the Department's Annual Report.

FaHCSIA's 2011-12 Annual Report is available at:

<http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/about-fahcsia/publications-articles/corporate-publications/annual-reports/2012>.

FaHCSIA's 2012-13 legal services expenditure will be published in the 2012-13 Annual Report by 30 October 2013, in accordance with the *Legal Services Directions 2005* obligations.