

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015

Agency - Safe Work Australia

Department of Employment Question No. EM1070_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

SWA - Legal Costs

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014: 1. List all legal costs incurred by the department or agency 2. List the total cost for these items, broken down by source of legal advice, hours retained or taken to prepare the advice and the level of counsel used in preparing the advice, whether the advice was internal or external 3. List cost spend briefing Counsel, broken down by hours spent briefing, whether it was direct or indirect briefing, the gender ratio of Counsel, how each Counsel was engaged (departmental, ministerial) 4. How was each piece of advice procured? Detail the method of identifying legal advice

Answer

1-4)

SOURCE	
Internal	Costs associated with employing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> one in-house full-time principal government lawyer (EL2), and one in-house full-time senior government lawyer (EL1). <p>Approximately 70 percent of the EL2's work is taken up with legal work, the remainder being policy-related work.</p> <p>Both internal government lawyers are female.</p>
External	1: Australian Government Solicitor
	Work type Legal consultancy
	Briefing hours Not applicable
	Specified personnel Deputy General Counsel, Senior General Counsel, three additional Counsel, all female except one male Counsel
	Engagement type Agency engagement
	Cost \$65,628.76 (GST Inc.)
	Procurement method Legal Multi-use list, administered by Attorney-General's Department

	2: Norton Rose Fulbright	
	Work type	Legal consultancy
	Briefing hours	Not applicable
	Specified personnel	Specified personnel: Two partners, both male
	Engagement type	Agency engagement
	Cost	\$57,200.00 (GST Inc.)
	Procurement method	Legal Multi-use list, administered by Attorney-General's Department