

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Agency - Fair Work Building and Construction

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ15-000287

Senator Cameron asked on 22 October 2015 on proof Hansard page 94

Question

FWBC - Costs of right of entry permit case

Senator CAMERON: What were the costs to the fair work building commission of the Rabba right-of-entry permit case?

Mr Hadgkiss: I do not think there are any costs yet, because, as I say, the matter is being given consideration of appeal.

Senator CAMERON: But there are still costs involved in getting to where you are.

Mr Hadgkiss: In putting Mr Rabba before the commission.

Senator CAMERON: Yes.

Mr Hadgkiss: I will take that on notice.

Senator CAMERON: Was this done by your internal legal?

Mr Hadgkiss: No. It was done by a member of the Brisbane bar, from recollection.

Senator CAMERON: Was that senior counsel, Queen's Counsel?

Mr Hadgkiss: No, I think it was junior counsel.

Senator CAMERON: Can you provide us with the itemised costs from that junior counsel.

Mr Hadgkiss: I will take that on notice.

Senator CAMERON: I suppose that the referral came from your internal legal people.

Mr Hadgkiss: It would have done, yes.

Senator CAMERON: Could you also provide us the details of the times and the costs involved in this case by your internal legal people.

Mr Hadgkiss: I will take it on notice.

Senator CAMERON: On notice again. How many fair work building commission officers were involved in this Rabba case?

Mr Hadgkiss: I will take that on notice.

Senator CAMERON: Again you will take

Answer

One FWBC lawyer had primary carriage of the Mr. Ravbar right of entry permit matter, with another becoming involved to provide coverage during the lawyer's leave.

The costs incurred by these lawyers are included in their standard remuneration and are not itemised.

The itemised costs of the junior counsel are as set out below:

Date	Description	Amount (\$)
18/12/2014	Setting draft written submission (2hrs)	766.00
19/12/2014	Setting draft written submission (3hrs)	1,149.00
23/01/2015	Reading and preparation (3hrs)	1,149.00
27/01/2015	Reading and preparation (4hrs)	1,532.00

28/01/2015	Fee on brief to appear at hearing	2,300.00
10/03/2015	Drawing and setting draft Response submission (1 hr 30 min)	518.18
1/05/2015	Drawing and setting draft Grounds of Appeal (3hrs)	1,044.55
1/06/2015	Settling draft submissions (2hrs)	766.00
2/06/2015	Further settling draft submissions (4hrs)	1,532.00
7/07/2015	Reading and preparation (4hrs)	1,532.00
8/07/2015	Fee on brief to appear on hearing of Appeal	2,300.00