

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee
Additional Estimates Hearings
21 February 2011**

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Office of National Assessments

Topic: ONA - Budget Increase

Senator: TROOD

Question reference number: PM62

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 15 April 2011

Senator TROOD—I thought your budget suddenly increased significantly. So, \$27,000; is that right? I was reading it correctly in the first instance. But they have now in 2009-10 risen to \$147,000? This is your area of expertise; is it? What I am interested in obviously is an explanation as to why your legal costs are now so great? They have gone up five-fold or something like that.

Senator TROOD—Would you mind perhaps providing me with a breakdown of the costs and how the \$147,000 is made up?

(Hansard: p109)

Response from ONA:

The following is a breakdown of ONA legal expenditure for 2009/10:

\$ 78,009	Advice - Australian Wheat Board subpoena
\$ 40,771	Advice - Property lease
\$ 9,009	Advice - Australian Law Reform Commission review of secrecy laws
\$ 8,603	Advice - Arrangements – S35 Archives Act
\$ 7,813	Julian Moti – Discovery – ONA subpoena Supreme Court
\$ 3,565	Advice - Employment matters
\$147,770	TOTAL