

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee:
Answers to written Questions on Notice Additional Budget Estimates 2013–14
Parliamentary Departments Portfolio
February 2014

Department	Parliamentary Budget Office
Topic	Legal costs

Senator	Senator Ludwig
Question reference number	133
Type of question	Written

Question

- 1 List all legal costs incurred by the department or agency since 7 September 2013
 - a 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.
 - b List cost spend briefing Counsel, broken down by hours spend briefing, whether it was direct or indirect briefing, the gender ratio of Counsel, how each Counsel was engaged (departmental, ministerial).
 - c How was each piece of advice procured? Detail the method of identifying legal advice.

Answer

For the period 7 September 2013 to 28 February 2014, the Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) incurred \$6,186.27 of legal expenses as a result of a cost sharing arrangement with other parliamentary departments. The PBO did not engage any of these services directly.