

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 23-27 February 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet
Topic: Legal costs

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 174

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 10 April 2015

Number of pages: 1

Question:

What total amount has been expended on legal services in 2014-15 to date? What amount was expended on services from providers other than the Australian Government Solicitor?

Answer:

Consistent with the longstanding practice of successive governments, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has not provided point-in-time information about its legal services expenditure as to do so would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.

In accordance with the *Legal Service Directions 2005* issued by the Attorney-General, the Department publishes on its website the total internal and external legal services expenditure, including the total expenditure on counsel. The Department will publish records on its legal services expenditure for 2014-15 by 30 October 2015.