

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2014**

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency: Australian National Audit Office**

**Outcome/Program:**

**Topic:** Legal costs

**Senator:** Ludwig

**Question reference number: 312**

**Type of question: Written**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 July 2014**

**Number of pages: 3**

**Question:**

1. List all legal costs incurred by the department or agency since Additional Estimates in February, 2014.
  - 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:**

Q1. The ANAO obtains all legal advice externally. Where available the details are presented in the table below.

Date	Provider	Cost	Hours	Level of counsel
21/1/2014	Australian Government Solicitor	3,926.00	9.0	Senior counsel / lawyer
			1.0	Executive Lawyer
29/1/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	8,844.57	25.3	Senior counsel
			6.8	Partner
30/1/2014	Clayton Utz	5,787.00	12.0	Senior counsel
			1.4	Partner
30/1/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	303.82	N/A	N/A
30/1/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	1,032.87	N/A	N/A
30/1/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	1,943.74	4.1	Senior counsel
			0.5	Partner
30/1/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	318.78	N/A	N/A
30/1/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	349.28	N/A	N/A
30/1/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	303.82	N/A	N/A
30/1/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	698.55	N/A	N/A
30/1/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	1,227.29	N/A	N/A
31/1/2014	Maddocks	1,938.00	4.8	Senior counsel
			0.3	Partner
21/2/2014	Australian Government Solicitor	1,090.91	4.2	Senior counsel / lawyer
			0.8	Executive Lawyer
28/2/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	6,631.85	4.0	Senior counsel
			10.5	Partner
28/2/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	7,924.12	15.5	Partner
18/3/2014	Australian Government Solicitor	1,616.00	3.2	Executive Lawyer
15/4/2014	Australian Government Solicitor	19,219.00	27.0	Senior counsel / lawyer
			1.5	Deputy general counsel
31/3/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	3,567.02	4.3	Senior counsel
			4.3	Partner
31/3/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	1,024.82	N/A	N/A
31/3/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	864.10	N/A	N/A
28/2/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	665.64	N/A	N/A
28/2/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	5,802.30	11.5	Partner
30/4/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	2,581.83	4.0	Senior counsel
			2.6	Partner
30/4/2014	Maddocks	2,622.00	5.9	Senior counsel
			1.0	Partner
30/4/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	3,722.75	7.4	Senior counsel
			2.8	Partner
30/4/2014	King & Wood Mallesons	1,392.73	3.2	Senior counsel
			0.5	Partner
30/5/2014	Australian Government Solicitor	6,013.50	0.5	Deputy general counsel
			12.1	Executive Lawyer
	<b>Total</b>	<b>91,412.29</b>		

b) Nil to this part of the question.

c) The ANAO utilises the Legal Services Multi-Use List and obtains quotes for each request for legal advice and compares the rates from the LSMUL to assess they are value for money prior to negotiating and accepting the quote.