

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO

Program: Portfolio

Question No. AE16/136

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 9 February 2016:

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. How much has been spent on workplace ergonomic assessments?
 1. List each item of expenditure and cost
2. Have any assessments, not related to an existing disability, resulted in changes to workplace equipment or set up?
3. If so, list each item of expenditure and cost related to those changes

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

1. The portfolio's response to this question is set out in the table below. The table covers the period 14 September 2015 to 9 February 2016. The table lists on those agencies that have expended funds on workplace ergonomic assessments during this period.

2. Yes.

3. To attempt to provide the level of detail requested from the portfolio would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.

Department/Agency	Total cost	Number of workplace ergonomic assessments
Attorney-General's Department*	\$23 856	85
Administrative Appeals Tribunal	\$11 416.54 - Ergonomic assessments NOTE: Per unit costs were considerably lower than usual as the bulk of assessments were completed through an ergonomic sweep as part of the Sydney co-location project.	169
Australian Crime Commission	\$3191.64	153 8 on referral and 145 bulk as part of an office relocation prevention initiative
Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity	\$748.50	9
Australian Federal Police	Internal AFP WHS staff conducts the assessments. A salary cost of \$1292 based on	51

	<p>an hourly rate of \$48.76 per hour was consumed.</p> <p>It is the remit of the relevant business area to fund any ergonomic equipment costs. Expenditure is not separately specified against ergonomic workplace equipment and significant effort would be required to capture the AFP's financial outcomes of 51 assessments.</p>	
Australian Financial Security Authority	\$4037.77	16
Australian Human Rights Commission	\$2029.93 (exc. GST)	24
Australian Institute of Criminology	\$330	1
Australian Security and Intelligence Organisation	\$40 261.10**	111
AUSTRAC	\$3303.00	5
Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions	\$9095	17
CrimTrac	\$6232.02	11
Federal Court of Australia	\$7095	5
Family Court and Federal Circuit Court	\$1727.66	16
High Court of Australia	Nil	
National Archives of Australia	\$2465.18	5
Office of the Australian Information Commissioner	\$491 (exc. GST)	4
Office of Parliamentary Counsel	\$1384	7

* This excludes workplace ergonomic assessments for the Australian Government Solicitor (AGS). AGS assessments are not centrally managed and arrangements are being transitioned following consolidation with the department. To provide the detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources at this time.

**This is an approximate figure based on the actual amount paid during the specified time period. Invoices are often provided on a bulk basis and as such this figure may include assessments conducted prior to the specified time period and likewise, may not include some assessments undertaken towards the end of the specified time period. To attempt to provide a precise figure would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.