

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates 2012

15 – 17 February 2012

Question: AET 331 - 334

Topic: Legal Costs (ASIC)

Hansard Page: Written

Senator BUSHBY asked:

331. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
332. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
333. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
334. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

Answer:

Question #	Description	from 1 July 2011 to 31 January 2012 \$'000
331	Total legal services	\$6,907
332	Legal services from AGS (excludes AGS staff seconded to work on matters)	\$150
333	Legal services from private firms (includes counsel fees)	\$6,726
334	From sources other than above	\$31

ASIC has a significant level of expenditure on legal fees and they are predominantly incurred in taking action to enforce the law. Providing a transaction listing of each service and cost would require an unreasonable diversion of resources to compile the data.