

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2012-2013**

**Cross Portfolio**

**DEEWR Question No.** EW0807\_13

**Senator Back provided in writing.**

**Question**

**Cost of Legal Services 2012/13 FYTD**

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.

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.

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.

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**

For the period 1 July 2012 to 28 February 2013 the spend on legal services from in-house areas for the Department and statutory agencies was:

DEEWR	\$13,020,019
Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	\$0
Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Limited	\$0
Comcare	*** \$6,664,208
Fair Work Building & Construction	Expenditure amounts are not available
Fair Work Commission	\$88,504
Fair Work Ombudsman	\$5,183,446
Safe Work Australia	\$379,738

*(\*\*\* the figures for Comcare are from 1 July 2012 to 31 January 2013 as the February figures are not available at the time of preparing a response)*

For the period 1 July 2012 to 28 February 2013 the spend on legal services from the Australian Government Solicitor for the Department and statutory agencies was:

DEEWR	\$542,058
Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	\$85,010
Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Limited	\$0
Comcare	*** \$2,733,892
Fair Work Building & Construction	\$237,172
Fair Work Commission	\$247,188
Fair Work Ombudsman	\$136,503
Safe Work Australia	\$0

(\*\*\* the figures for Comcare are from 1 July 2012 to 31 January 2013 as the February figures are not available at the time of preparing a response)

For the period 1 July 2012 to 28 February 2013 the spend on legal services from private firms for the department and statutory agencies was:

DEEWR	\$633,947
Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	\$6,600
Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Limited	\$70,181
Comcare	*** \$3,323,063
Fair Work Building & Construction	\$1,539,708
Fair Work Commission	\$335,247
Fair Work Ombudsman	\$520,492
Safe Work Australia	\$9,770

(\*\*\* the figures for Comcare are from 1 July 2012 to 31 January 2013 as the February figures are not available at the time of preparing a response)

For the period 1 July 2012 to 28 February 2013 the spend on legal services from other sources for the Department and statutory agencies was:

DEEWR	\$114,249
Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	\$0
Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Limited	\$0
Comcare	\$674,256
Fair Work Building & Construction	\$514,996
Fair Work Commission	\$388,658
Fair Work Ombudsman	\$849,949
Safe Work Australia	\$0

The Department and its statutory agencies obtain legal services on the full range of matters within their jurisdiction.