

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

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

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

**Outcome/Program:**

**Topic:** Legal costs

**Senator:** Ludwig

**Question reference number: 221**

**Type of question:** Written

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

**Number of pages: 3**

**Question:**

List all legal costs incurred by the department or agency since 7 September 2013

1. 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
2. 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)
3. 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. In some instances detailed information has not been provided to the ANAO, these have been marked with a N/A response.

Date	Provider	Cost	Hours	Level of counsel
11/9/2013	Australian Government Solicitor	\$ 9,137.50	24.40	Senior Associate
11/9/2013	Australian Government Solicitor	\$ 5,181.00	22.00	Senior Associate
16/9/2013	King & Wood Mallesons	\$ 8,998.75	21.70	Senior Associate
18/9/2013	Maddocks	\$ 3,045.45	N/A	N/A
18/9/2013	Maddocks	\$ 2,363.64	N/A	N/A
22/10/2013	Minter Ellison	\$ 5,065.00	0.60	Partner
			8.90	Senior Counsel
			0.30	Senior Associate
22/10/2013	King & Wood Mallesons	\$ 1,104.56	0.12	Partner
			2.12	Senior Associate
22/10/2013	Maddocks	\$ 722.00	0.40	Partner
			1.50	Senior Associate
23/10/2013	King & Wood Mallesons	\$ 2,382.40	0.36	Partner
			1.66	Senior Associate
			2.78	Solicitor
13/11/2013	King & Wood Mallesons	\$ 2,008.64	0.48	Senior Associate
			4.42	Solicitor
13/11/2013	King & Wood Mallesons	\$ 7,472.33	1.36	Partner
			6.34	Senior Associate
			7.62	Solicitor
13/11/2013	Maddocks	\$ 1,824.00	0.60	Partner
			4.00	Senior Associate
19/11/2013	King & Wood Mallesons	\$ 1,059.11	0.12	Partner
			1.66	Senior Associate
19/11/2013	King & Wood Mallesons	\$ 4,511.39	0.36	Partner
			4.20	Senior Associate
			4.90	Solicitor
19/11/2013	King & Wood Mallesons	\$ 350.00	1.00	Solicitor
19/11/2013	King & Wood Mallesons	\$ 940.92	1.48	Partner
19/11/2013	King & Wood Mallesons	\$ 3,489.16	1.36	Partner
			0.42	Senior Associate
			7.42	Solicitor
19/11/2013	Australian Government Solicitor	\$ 3,500.00	0.30	Senior General Counsel
			1.36	Senior Executive Lawyer
26/11/2013	King & Wood Mallesons	\$ 5,000.00	6.68	Senior Lawyer
			4.42	Senior Associate
26/11/2013	King & Wood Mallesons	\$ 4,000.00	9.66	Solicitor
			0.48	Partner
			1.24	Senior Associate
26/11/2013	King & Wood Mallesons	\$ 6,000.00	8.96	Solicitor
			0.98	Senior Associate
11/12/2013	King & Wood Mallesons	\$ 12,409.55	15.26	Solicitor
			5.68	Senior Associate
14/1/2014	Australian Government Solicitor	\$ 1,602.50	24.38	Solicitor
			2.90	Senior Executive Lawyer
22/1/2014	Maddocks	\$ 608.00	0.10	Partner
			1.90	Senior Associate
22/1/2014	Maddocks	\$ 3,838.00	10.10	Special Counsel
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 96,613.90</b>		

Q2. The ANAO's requirements are adequately conveyed via telephone or written correspondence to external parties. The time and cost of these briefings are incorporated in the response to question 1.

Q3. 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 ensure they are value for money prior to negotiating and accepting the quote.