

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

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Question No. 7

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 13 February 2006:

For the years 2005-06, provide the following figures:

- a) The total sum the Department or agency spent on external legal services;
- b) The law firms that the Department engaged for legal services;
- c) The sum spent on each law firm.

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

Attorney-General's Department

- a) Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$6,112,137.26 (including GST)**
(including \$93895.50 on external counsel)

b)	c)
Australian Government Solicitor	\$5,998,271.26
Blake Dawson Waldron	\$7,579.00
Bradley Allen	\$2,491.50
Sparke Helmore Solicitors	\$9,900.00

Administrative Appeals Tribunal

- a) Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$92,951.06 (excluding GST)**

b)	c)
Attorney-General's Department	\$2,076.16
Australian Government Solicitor	\$89,766.90
Clayton Utz	\$1,108.00

Australian Crime Commission

a) Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$875,351.30 (excluding GST)**

(including \$437,189.55 on external counsel)

b)	c)
Australian Government Solicitor	\$365,929.39
Patsouris & Associates	\$63,419.36
Shaw & Associates	\$2,113.00
Tony Hargraves & Assoc Associates	\$3,600.00
Valos Black & Associates	\$3,100.00

Australian Customs Service

a) Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$8,405,872* (including GST)**

b)	c)
Australian Government Solicitor	\$7,499,939.00
Blake Dawson Waldron	\$451,212.00
Clayton Utz	\$387,811.00
Dibbs Barker Gosling	\$14,215.00
Phillips Fox	\$24,764.00
Non-contracted legal providers *	
Accumen Alliance	\$208
Hunt and Hunt	\$5,164
Sparke Helmore	\$22,559

* Non-contracted legal providers were used where there was a potential conflict of interest with the contracted providers.

* The total legal services expenditure as reported in the Australian Customs Service Annual Report 2005-06 was \$8,444,992.03. The amount in the Annual Report includes document service fees.

Australian Federal Police

a) Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$2,536,052.25 (excluding GST)**

(including \$10,999.15 on external counsel)

b)	c)
Australian Government Solicitor	\$2,036,891.51
Dibbs Abbott Stillman	\$329,091.44
Clayton Utz	\$141,647.50
Phillips Fox	\$17,422.65

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation

- a. ASIO generally does not provide a break down of its financial data beyond that which already is provided in ASIO's Report to Parliament for reasons of national security.
- b. Consistent with the *Legal Services Directions 2005*, ASIO has engaged the Australian Government Solicitor (AGS) and other law firms for the provision of legal services. ASIO is unable to name those other firms for reasons of national security.
- c. ASIO generally does not provide a break down of its financial data beyond that which already is provided in ASIO's Report to Parliament for reasons of national security.

Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre

a) Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$808,646 (including GST)**

b)	c)
Australian Government Solicitor	\$808,646.00

Crim Trac Agency

a) Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$188,809 (excluding GST)**

b)	c)
Australian Government Solicitor	\$186,781.00
Corrs Chambers and Westgarth	\$1,878.00

Cridlands Lawyers	\$150.00
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Family Court of Australia

a) Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$131,000 (excluding GST)**

b)	c)
Australian Government Solicitor	\$42,000.00
Minter Ellison	\$89,000.00

Federal Court of Australia

a). Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$63,891 (including GST)**

b)	c)
Australian Government Solicitor	\$49,064.00
Wood Prince Lawyers	\$14,827.00

Federal Magistrates Court

a) Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$20,526.36 (excluding GST)**

(including \$9,100.00 on external counsel)

b)	c)
Australian Government Solicitor	\$9,301.33
Minter Ellison Lawyers	\$2,125.03

High Court of Australia

a) Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$4,640.50 (including GST)**

b)	c)
Australian Government Solicitor	\$4,640.50

Human Rights & Equal Opportunity Commission

a) Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$59,111.00 (excluding GST)**

(including \$39,399.00 on external counsel)

b)	c)
Australian Government Solicitor	\$4,051.00
Ward Keller	\$15,661.00

Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia

a) Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$1,278,435.51 (including GST)**

(including \$11,900.00 on external counsel)

b)	c)
Dibbs Abbott Stillman	\$ 10,536.08
AGS – ACT	\$ 10,738.50
AGS – ACT	\$ 17,436.09
AGS – NSW	\$ 192,520.82
AGS – NSW	\$ 3,380.09
AGS – NT	\$ 3,019.00
AGS – QLD	\$ 64,179.05
AGS – QLD	\$ 30.00
AGS – SA	\$ 79,701.77
AGS – VIC	\$ 305,499.45
AGS – WA	\$ 4,763.88
Aitken Walker & Stachan	\$ 55,364.18

Argyle Partnership	\$ 13,602.44
Bazzani Brand Lawyers	\$ 25,909.09
Bennett & Philp	\$ 3,874.91
James Conomos Lawyer	\$ 1,367.78
Farrar Gesini & Dunn Family Lawyers	\$ 13,766.41
Foster Hart Lawyers	\$ 219.27
Foster Harris Lawyers	\$ 4,394.59
Gordon & Jackson	\$ 727.27
Gretsas & Associates	\$ 5,974.39
Hutchinson Legal	\$ 31,377.21
Legal Aid Commission NSW	\$ 18,902.34
Legal Aid Queensland	\$ 5,805.79
Lobban McNally & Harney	\$ 97,028.00
Meltzer Green Solicitors	\$ 7,203.35
Pearce Webster Dugdales	\$ 592.77
Piper Alderman Trust	\$ 27,333.35
PWB Lawyers	\$ 2,019.58
Accrued Legal Expenses	\$ 259,268.06

National Native Title Tribunal

a) Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$61,159.50 (excluding GST)**

(including \$6400.00 on external counsel)

b)	c)
Australian Government Solicitor	\$41,246.65
Minter Ellison Lawyers	\$2,337.00
Gadens Lawyers	\$2,363.00
Mallesons Stephens Jacques	\$3,500.00
Sparke Helmore	\$5,312.85

Office of Film and Literature Classification

a) Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$91,885.01 (excluding GST)**

b)	c)
Australian Government Solicitor	\$79,520.61

Attorney-General's Department	\$10,964.40
Abbott Tout lawyers	\$1400.00

Office of Parliamentary Counsel

b) Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$3,506.25 (including GST)**

b)	c)
Australian Government Solicitor	\$3,506.25

Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions

a) Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$30,535.34 (including GST)**

b)	c)
Australian Government Solicitor	\$14,766.40
Minter Ellison	\$15,768.94

Office of the Privacy Commissioner

a) Legal expenditure for 2005-06 was **\$117,202 (excluding GST)**

(including \$4,242.00 on external counsel)

b)	c)
Australian Government Solicitor	\$18,532.00
Human Rights & Equal Opportunity Commission	\$94,428.00