

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 12 February 2007**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

### **(23) Output 1.3: Enforcement of Immigration Law**

Senator Crossin asked:

#### Immigration Legal Services

The current contract listings for the Department have the following entries:

	Cost	Start	End	Duration
Blake Dawson Waldron Legal Services	\$18,500,000	01-Jul-04	30-Jun-08	4 years
Clayton Utz Legal Services	\$41,500,000	01-Jul-04	30-Jun-08	4 years
Australian Government Solicitor Legal Services	\$55,500,000	01-Jul-04	30-Jun-08	4 years
Australian Government Solicitor Provision of Services of Special Counsel to DIMA	\$2,128,282	02-Jul-01	30-Jun-06	5 years
Phillips Fox Legal Services	\$12,500,000	01-Jul-04	30-Jun-08	4 years
Total	\$130.1 million			

The Department is now approaching the third year (July 2007) for the 4 year contracts for legal services.

1. Given the contracts listed had estimated costs, what is the amount spent to date on each of those contracts?
2. What is the Department's latest estimate on the amount to be spent under each contract?
3. What services are provided under the contracts?
4. Does the Department maintain its own internal legal services area?
5. How many are employed in that area?
6. What is the annual budget for that area?

Answer:

1. Under the Legal Services Contracts as at 31 December 2006 the Department has spent the following:

	Cost	Start	
Blake Dawson Waldron Legal Services	\$10.2m	1 July 2004	Expenditure to 31 December 2006
Clayton Utz Legal Services	\$23m	1 July 2004	Expenditure to 31 December 2006
Australian Government Solicitor Legal Services	\$28m	1 July 2004	Expenditure to 31 December 2006
Australian Government Solicitor Provision of Services of Special Counsel to DIMA	\$2m	2 July 2001	Expenditure to 30 June 2006
Phillips Fox Legal Services	\$9.2m	1 July 2004	Expenditure to 30 December 2006
Sparke Helmore Legal Services	\$12.1m	1 July 2004	Expenditure to 30 December 2006
Total	\$84.5m		

It should be noted that Sparke Helmore is the fifth member of the Legal Services Panel and the expenditure with that firm has been included in our response.

2. The Department estimates that it will spend under each Contract:

	Cost	Start	End	Duration
Blake Dawson Waldron Legal Services	\$18,500,000	1 July 2004	30 June 2008	4 years
Clayton Utz Legal Services	\$41,500,000	1 July 2004	30 June 2008	4 years
Australian Government Solicitor Legal Services	\$55,500,000	1 July 2004	30 June 2008	4 years
Australian Government Solicitor Provision of Services of Special Counsel	\$2m*	2 July 2001	30 June 2006	5 years
Phillips Fox Legal Services	\$12,500,000	1 July 2004	30 June 2008	4 years
Sparke Helmore Legal Services	\$25,000,000	1 July 2004	30 June 2008	4 years
Total	\$155.1m			

\*This is a final figure as this contract ended as at 30 June 2006.

3. Litigation and legal advice services are provided under the contracts.

4. Yes the Department does maintain its own internal legal services area.

5. There were 123 staff employed in the legal services area as at 31 December 2006.
6. The budget for 2006-07 for internal expenditure is \$11.86m.