

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT SOLICITOR

Question No. 61

Senator Brandis asked the following question at the hearing on 16 October 2012:

In relation to the Government's litigation in *JT International Sa V Commonwealth Of Australia; British American Tobacco Australasia Limited & Ors V Commonwealth Of Australia* [2012] HCA 43, can it be confirmed:

1. What was the total amount spent by the Commonwealth in this litigation?
2. How many lawyers from the Australian Government Solicitor were involved in this litigation?

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

AGS has been instructed not to disclose the resources associated with the Commonwealth's defence of the legal actions regarding plain packaging on the grounds that public disclosure of this information may confer a tactical advantage on other parties in the ongoing litigation.