

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 OCTOBER 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE12/0044) PROGRAM – Internal Product

Senator Cash (L&CA 36) asked:

In relation to the internal and external litigation costs in 2011-12, provide a breakdown on what the services were for and the cost attached to each of those services.

Answer:

For the period 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012, \$19.782 million was spent on external litigation costs. A breakdown of these services and costs is provided in the following table:

2011-12 financial year

<i>Litigation expenditure</i>	\$million
External expenditure on solicitors ¹	16.135
External expenditure on counsel	2.903
Other disbursements on external legal services	0.744
total external	19.782

For the period 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012, \$5.495 million was spent on internal litigation costs. A breakdown of these costs is provided in the following table:

2011-12 financial year

<i>Agency's total internal legal expenditure</i>	\$million
Employees	4.914
Overheads (for example office stores, stationery, training and travel)	0.581
total internal	5.495

¹ As the Department has entered into a 'fixed fee' arrangement for the payment of some of its litigation matters, this figure will also include some expenditure on counsel and disbursements that cannot be separately identified.