

## Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet Report on Legal Services Expenditure 2005-06

This is a statement of legal services expenditure by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet for the 2005-06 financial year, published in compliance with paragraph 11.1(ba) of the *Legal Services Directions 2005*.

*Agency's total legal services expenditure* [GST-exclusive] - approximately \$1 938 175, comprising the following.

Agency's external legal services expenditure [GST-exclusive] - \$1 638 175

- External expenditure on solicitors [GST-exclusive] - \$1 627 239
- External expenditure on counsel [GST-exclusive] - \$10 936
  - Number of male counsel briefed - 2
  - Value of briefs to male counsel - \$10 936
  - Number of female counsel briefed - 0
  - Value of briefs to female counsel - 0

Agency's internal legal services expenditure [GST-exclusive] - approximately \$300 000

- Salaries [GST-exclusive] - approximately \$230 000
- Overheads [GST-exclusive] - approximately \$70 000

### Explanatory Notes

1. This report has been prepared on the following basis.
  - 'Legal services expenditure' has been defined as legal services paid for during the financial year.
  - 'Internal legal services' have been identified in accordance with the definition used by the Australian National Audit Office in Audit Report No. 52 of 2004-05. Activities of the department coming within the ANAO definition of 'internal legal services' may also involve the provision of policy advice, so internal legal services are not necessarily directly comparable with, or able to be substituted by, external legal services.
  - In considering the department's internal legal services expenditure, relevant managers estimated the percentage of time spent by legally qualified staff on legal work. Approximate totals were derived using mid-range salaries, and include an estimate of entitlements and corporate overheads. Final amounts are rounded to the nearest \$10 000.
2. In addition to the two occasions identified above on which counsel was briefed by, or on behalf of, the department, it is noted that the department was also involved in a further matter, together with other Commonwealth agencies, in which counsel were briefed (two male counsel and one female counsel), but this is not reflected in the above as no expense was incurred by the department in that matter.