

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet Report on Legal Services Expenditure 2017-18

This is a statement of legal services expenditure by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet for the 2017-18 financial year, published in compliance with paragraph 11.1(ba) of the *Legal Services Directions 2017*. All figures are GST exclusive.

Total external legal services expenditure	\$2,589,250.45
Total internal legal services expenditure	\$3,192,286.00
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Total legal services expenditure	\$5,781,536.45
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Total external legal services expenditure comprised:

External expenditure on solicitors -professional fees and disbursements, excluding counsel	\$2,448,154.00
External expenditure on counsel (through 11 briefs)	\$141,096.45
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Total external legal services expenditure	\$2,589,250.45
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Explanatory Notes

This report has been prepared on the following basis.

- 'Legal services expenditure' has been defined as legal services accrued by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet during the 2017-18 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 base salaries, and include an estimate of overheads.