



# Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet Report on Legal Services Expenditure 2021-22

This is a statement of legal services expenditure by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet for the 2021-22 financial year, published in compliance with paragraph 11.1(ba) of the Legal Services Directions 2017. All figures are GST exclusive.

Total legal services expenditure	\$2,053,150
Total external legal services expenditure	\$1,639,271
Total internal legal services expenditure	\$413,879

Total external legal services expenditure comprised:

Total legal services expenditure	\$1,639,271
External expenditure on solicitors – professional fees and disbursements, excluding counsel	\$1,576,755
External expenditure on counsel (through 4 briefs: 2 to male junior counsel and 2 to male senior counsel)	\$62,516

## Explanatory Notes

- ‘Legal services expenditure’ has been defined as legal services accrued by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet during the 2021-22 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: “The procurement of legal services from within the agencies through the employment of APS personnel with appropriate professional legal qualifications, or such personnel collectively.” 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.
- A significant portion of the total legal expenditure is attributable to work undertaken by the Office of the National Data Commissioner, which was being established during this period.