

Safe Work Australia

Legal Services Expenditure Report

2021-22

Disclaimer

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Safe Work Australia works with the Commonwealth, state and territory governments to improve work health and safety and workers' compensation arrangements. Safe Work Australia is a national policy body, not a regulator of work health and safety. The Commonwealth, states and territories have responsibility for regulating and enforcing work health and safety laws in their jurisdiction.

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Legal Services Expenditure Report 2021-22

As a non-corporate Commonwealth entity, Safe Work Australia (SWA) is required (consistent with the *Legal Services Directions 2017*) to report its legal services expenditure to the Office of Legal Services Coordination (OLSC) within 60 days of the end of financial year, and publish this expenditure by 30 October each year. This published report is a summary of the information we reported to OLSC for the 2021-2022 financial year.

Information in this report

All figures in this report are exclusive of GST, and rounded to the nearest dollar. The categories included in this report are:

- total internal legal services expenditure;
- total external legal services expenditure;
- total value of disbursements; and
- total value of professional fees.

We have also included in this report the commentary about the data which we also provided to OLSC.

For more information about the guidelines we used to prepare this report, please refer to the [Reporting of legal services expenditure for reporting period 2021-22](#) page on the Attorney-General's website.

1.1 Legal services expenditure

Table 1 Summary of total legal services expenditure 2021-22

Item	Value
Internal legal services expenditure	\$1,091,898
External legal services expenditure	\$166,012
Total value of disbursements	Nil
Total legal services expenditure 2021-22	\$1,257,910

Table 2 Overview of external legal services expenditure 2021-22

Item	Value
Total value of Whole of Australian Government legal services panel fees	Nil
Other Government providers fees	Nil
Overseas legal services providers	Nil
Domestic Provider – Australian Government Solicitor	\$22,448
Domestic Provider – Clayton Utz	\$143,564
Total value of external legal services expenditure 2021-22	\$166,012

Table 3 shows there was an increase in legal services expenditure from 2020-21. This was a result of seeking specialist assistance to implement a number of recommendations from the 2018 Review of model Work Health and Safety laws, as well as filling vacancies in the Agency's legal services team.

Table 3 Comparison with 2020-21

Item	Value
Total legal services expenditure 2021-22	\$1,257,910
Total legal services expenditure 2020-21	\$741,334
Internal expenditure change	\$355,563
External expenditure change	\$161,013
Total expenditure change	\$516,576