

Legal Services Expenditure Report 2021-22

The Summary sheet is only visible once you have confirmed that the Entry form is complete following inclusion of the last domestic legal services provider in section 5c.

Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman

53 003 678 148

Summary Totals (explainer)

What is this section?

In this section you are required to review and confirm the summary totals for your entity's 2021-22 Legal Services Expenditure Report based on what you entered in the Entry form sheet.

What are the summary totals?

*Total Legal Services Expenditure = Internal + External Legal Services Expenditure
Internal Legal Services Expenditure = Internal Legal Services Expenditure
External Legal Services Expenditure = Counsel Fees + Disbursements + Professional Fees (does not include input from the legal services panels section)*

Expenditure comparison

Your entity's total legal services expenditure for 2020-21 is displayed below. If there has been a significant change in expenditure in 2021-22 compared to 2020-21, you will be required to provide an explanation of the change in the commentary text box.

Do I need to provide commentary?

Commentary is required if there has been a significant change in total expenditure between last year and this year. Otherwise, entities may provide optional commentary to OLSC about their report. Commentary will not be made public or shared with other entities.

Explaining a significant change in expenditure

Only a brief description of the reason or reasons for the increase/decrease is required. It is not necessary to go into the specifics of a matter. The information will not be made public or shared with other entities.

Summary Totals		
	Total Legal Services Expenditure	\$ 930,463
	Total Internal Legal Services Expenditure	\$ 785,388
	Total External Legal Services Expenditure	\$ 145,075
	Total value of briefs to Counsel	\$ 27,235
	Total value of briefs to Male Counsel	\$ 6,954
	Total value of briefs to Female Counsel	\$ 20,281
	Total value of briefs to gender X Counsel	\$ -
	Total value of disbursements (excluding counsel)	\$ 114
	Total value of professional fees	\$ 117,726
	Total value of professional fees - 10% off-Panel allowance	\$ -
	Total value of professional fees - Exemption from AGD	\$ -
	Total number of briefs to counsel	4
	Are the Summary Totals correct?	Yes
	Proceed to commentary	

Comparison with 2020-21

Total Legal Services Expenditure (2021-22)	\$	930,463
Total Legal Services Expenditure (2020-21)	\$	592,681
Total expenditure change	\$	337,782
Internal expenditure change	\$	415,492
External expenditure change	-\$	77,710

Commentary REQUIRED

Do I need to provide commentary?

Commentary is required if there has been a significant change in total expenditure between last year and this year. Otherwise, entities may provide optional commentary to OLSC about their report. Commentary will not be made public or shared with other entities.

Explaining a significant change in expenditure

Only a brief description of the reason or reasons for the increase/decrease is required. It is not necessary to go into the specifics of a matter. The information will not be made public or shared with other entities.

Please enter commentary below

The increase in internal legal expenses is caused by two issues. The first is an increase in staff numbers in the Legal team (from average of 3 FTE to average of 5 FTE throughout the year) due to increasing workload particularly in Freedom of Information requests and OAIC reviews. The second is our Office's review of the methodology for calculating the direct and indirect overhead costs.

Have you finished entering commentary?

Yes

Proceed to final confirmation

Please read below

You have completed all of the required fields in your entity's Legal Services Expenditure Report template for 2021-22. If you are satisfied that the information you have provided is correct, please provide your final confirmation below. Do not confirm unless you are satisfied your entries are correct. You can edit your template by returning to the Entry form sheet and revising your entries.

Once you have provided final confirmation, a final version of your entity's Legal Services Expenditure Report for 2021-22 will appear below. The report is locked for editing, so if you notice incorrect details you will need to revise your entries in the Entry form sheet. If you encounter any issues you may contact OLSC for assistance.

Please provide final confirmation of your entity's legal services expenditure for 2021-22

I confirm

Report complete

Below is your entity's Legal Services Expenditure Report for 2021-22.

Please save this template as a .XLSX file using the following naming convention: OLSC – [Name of Entity] (acronym) – 2021-22 LSER – [date sent to OLSC]

For example: OLSC – Attorney-General's Department (AGD) – 2021-22 LSER – 1 August 2022

Please email this completed template to LSER@ag.gov.au

Legal Services Expenditure Report 2021-22

Entity name	Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman
ABN	53 003 678 148

Totals

Total legal services expenditure	\$	930,463
Total internal legal services expenditure	\$	785,388
Total external legal services expenditure	\$	145,075

Section 1

Internal Legal Services Expenditure

Total value of internal legal services expenditure	\$	785,388
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Section 2

Counsel Briefs

Total number of briefs to counsel	4
Total value of briefs to counsel	\$ 27,235

Section 2a

Junior Counsel (direct briefs)

Total number of direct briefs to male junior counsel	0
Total value of direct briefs to male junior counsel	\$ -
Total number of direct briefs to female junior counsel	0
Total value of direct briefs to female junior counsel	\$ -
Total number of direct briefs to gender X junior counsel	0
Total value of direct briefs to gender X junior counsel	\$ -

Junior Counsel (indirect briefs)

Total number of indirect briefs to male junior counsel	0
Total value of indirect briefs to male junior counsel	\$ -
Total number of indirect briefs to female junior counsel	3
Total value of indirect briefs to female junior counsel	\$ 20,281
Total number of indirect briefs to gender X junior counsel	0
Total value of indirect briefs to gender X junior counsel	\$ -

Total number of briefs to junior counsel	3
Total value of briefs to junior counsel	\$ 20,281

Section 2b		Senior Counsel (direct briefs)	
	Total number of direct briefs to male senior counsel		0
	Total value of direct briefs to male senior counsel	\$	-
	Total number of direct briefs to female senior counsel		0
	Total value of direct briefs to female senior counsel	\$	-
	Total number of direct briefs to gender X senior counsel		0
	Total value of direct briefs to gender X senior counsel	\$	-
	Senior Counsel (indirect briefs)		
	Total number of indirect briefs to male senior counsel		1
	Total value of indirect briefs to male senior counsel	\$	6,954
	Total number of indirect briefs to female senior counsel		0
	Total value of indirect briefs to female senior counsel	\$	-
	Total number of indirect briefs to gender X senior counsel		0
	Total value of indirect briefs to gender X senior counsel	\$	-
Total number of briefs to senior counsel		1	
Total value of briefs to senior counsel	\$	6,954	
Section 3		Disbursements	
	Total value of disbursements	\$	114

Section 4**Legal Services Panels**

Does your entity participate in the Whole of Australian Government Legal Services Panel	Yes
Panel fee for 2021-22	\$ -
Total value of expenditure on 10% off-Panel allowance	\$ -
Total value of expenditure on exemptions from using the Panel	\$ -
Total value of expenditure on Provision of Tax Technical Legal Services Panel for 2021-22	\$ -
Total value of expenditure on ACCC/AER Competition and Consumer Panel 2019 for 2021-22	\$ -

Section 5**Professional fees**

Total value of professional fees	\$ 117,726
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Section 5a**Other Government Providers**

Attorney-General's Department (DO NOT INCLUDE PANEL FEE)	\$ -
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	\$ -
Office of Parliamentary Counsel	\$ -

Section 5b**Overseas Legal Services Providers**

Overseas firms (total figure)	\$ -
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Section 5c Domestic Providers

Domestic Providers

[illegible]
