

Questions taken on notice and further information agreed to be supplied at the hearings.

Portfolio:	Coordination of Jobs, Precincts and Regions - COVID-19
Witness:	Secretary
Committee Member:	Ms Bridget Vallence asked to the Secretary
Page/s of transcript:	24

Relevant text:

Ms VALLENCE: Secretary Phemister, has the department engaged any legal representation for the purposes of responding to the Coate inquiry?

Mr PHEMISTER: We have, Ms Vallence.

Ms VALLENCE: You have? Can you advise how much money has been spent so far and what is your expected total budget?

Mr PHEMISTER: I cannot, Ms Vallence. As Ms Peake indicated yesterday, it will be funded through our internal legal—

Ms VALLENCE: Can you make that available to the committee, please?

Mr PHEMISTER: As soon as it becomes available.

Answer:

DJPR has engaged Corrs Chambers Westgarth to support the department's in-house lawyers for purposes relating to the Board of Inquiry into the COVID-19 Hotel Quarantine Program.

DJPR has not yet received an estimate of total costs likely to be incurred or any invoices for legal costs by Corrs Chambers Westgarth in relation to the Board of Inquiry process. DJPR will be covered by its insurer for all reasonable costs incurred by the external legal team in relation to the Board of Inquiry process.