

Irish Aviation Authority
The Times Building
11–12 D'Olier Street
Dublin 2, D02 T449,
Ireland

T: 01-6031100

Údarás Eitlíochta na hÉireann
Foirgneamh na hAmanna
11–12 Sráid D'Olier
Baile Átha Cliath 2, D02 T449,
Éire

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ÚDARÁS EITLÍOCHTA NA hÉIREANN
IRISH AVIATION AUTHORITY

15/08/2025

Dail Question No: 414

To ask the Minister for Transport if all external legal fees incurred by his Department, and by any bodies under its aegis, are charged at negotiated discounted rates; how fees are monitored for compliance; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Deputy Boland,

When IAA engages external legal services, these procurements are conducted by reference to applicable procurement Regulations, national legislation and the Public Financial Procedures.

The IAA favours the open competition procurement procedure, a different procedure to a negotiated procedure. Typically, in the open competition procedures, the hourly rates to be charged by different lawyers are submitted by respondents to the Request for Tenders and fixed at the beginning of the period of the contract award and then apply to any work done within the subsequent contract award period. The open competition approach allows for emphasis to be placed on value for money. Thus, the rates submitted for consideration tend to reflect a discount on the market rate. Also, flexibility to agree a fixed price for certain projects if that is suitable generally exists. Monitoring is done by way of internal financial control processes. In addition, there is an annual audit by the C&AG.

Yours Sincerely,

Ciara O' Grady

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Foirgneamh na hAmanna, 11-12 Sráid D'Olier
Baile Átha Cliath 2, D02 T449, Éire
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