

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency

Question No: 271

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: Page 92 (16/10/2012)

Topic: Board Appointments

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

Senator BIRMINGHAM: Sure, I can accept that. That is fine. Of the members who have been appointed—Ms Boyle, Ms Nicole Rich, Mr Keith Gomes, Ms Rosemary Sinclair and Mr Cameron O'Reilly—were they all recommended by EWK International?

Mr Harris: I cannot answer that precisely today. I would have to take that on notice.

Senator BIRMINGHAM: If you could take that on notice, that would be appreciated, to confirm that all of those names came through that source and also what the brief provided to EWK International was and what they were looking for. Ms Boyle, I think, was a minister in the Beattie government and the Bligh government. What payments do she and her other board members—aside from you, Mr Harris, for whom it is waived—receive for being board members?

Answer:

The executive search for the five appointed TUSMA Members was undertaken by EWK International.

EWK International was directed by the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy to identify suitable and available executive candidates to fill part-time positions as Members of TUSMA. EWK International was to ensure each candidate had experience or knowledge, and significant standing, in at least one of the telecommunications industry, economics, business or financial management, law and public administration fields and that collectively there was a balance of those fields. Gender balance has also been achieved.

Remuneration for TUSMA Members is set by the Remuneration Tribunal. TUSMA Members are paid \$25,000 per year and \$500 per day in meeting fees.

Ms Nicole Rich has elected to waive her annual remuneration.

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Question No: 272

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Universal Service Obligation

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. It is frequently claimed by proponents of the NBN that one of its key benefits is elimination of the maintenance costs of Telstra's copper network, which are rising over time and commonly estimated to be between \$500 million and \$1 billion per year (the actual cost is known only to Telstra). The Government has decided to retain the copper network in the 'last 7 per cent' where it will be used to deliver the USO, and has signed a 20-year contract with Telstra for this. Doesn't this contractual arrangement in essence lock taxpayers into funding the repair and upkeep of the most costly part of the copper network for the next twenty years?
2. Is it correct that the annual cost of this to consumers and taxpayers (through industry levies and support from the Budget respectively) is at least a third and perhaps more of the estimated annual costs of the copper?
3. Please describe in greater detail the value, duration and preconditions which apply to any existing contractual arrangements associated with funding for migration of voice-only customers to the NBN – there is almost no detail of these arrangements on the website.

Answer:

1. The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) Agreement ensures that all Australians, no matter where they live will continue to have access to a Standard Telephone Service (STS) on request. In areas outside of the NBN fibre footprint the TUSMA Agreement provides the added safety net of ensuring that customers will be able to maintain access to their existing fixed line copper telephone service. While the Agreement is for 20 years, it is structured to give both parties an incentive to reduce costs. Either party may, at any time, provide the other with a cost saving proposal relating to the provision of the STS or Payphones. Secondly, there is also a mandatory 10 year review to be undertaken by an independent expert of the technologies and systems used by Telstra to provide USO STS and Payphones. The objective of this review is to determine if the use of alternative technologies or systems (including by an alternative provider of the USO) would result in cost savings to Telstra (therefore reducing the amount that TUSMA pays to Telstra). TUSMA can require a cost savings proposal arising from this review which has benefits to both parties to be implemented.
2. The Commonwealth's agreement with Telstra drew on advice from specialist legal, commercial and economic advisers, including a report on the net cost of meeting the STS and Payphone USO prepared by Dr Paul Paterson. Telstra will be paid \$230 million annually (not indexed to CPI), noting that payments may vary if standards or requirements are changed, or if cost savings are identified and agreed. This payment is for Telstra agreeing to provide STS

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nationally and maintaining its copper network in non-fibre areas for a 20 year period. The payment is at the lower end of the range proposed in the independent economic costing advice provided to the government by Dr Paul Paterson, which is available from (www.dbcde.gov.au/broadband/national_broadband_network/universal_service_policy).

3. As part of its agreement with Telstra, TUSMA has an arrangement to support migration of Telstra voice-only customers to the NBN fibre network. The arrangements will be in place for the duration of the rollout of the NBN fibre network to provide assistance to customers migrating to the NBN fibre network that only want a fixed line voice service. In June 2012, the Government released an Information Paper setting out its proposed voice-only migration arrangements and sought feedback from industry and other interested stakeholders. TUSMA is continuing to engage with stakeholders and is open to entering into similar arrangements with other Retail Service Providers with voice-only customers.

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Question No: 273

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Decommissioning the Copper Network

Senator MACDONALD asked:

NBN Co and TUSMA have advised that in-home wiring will be provided by ISPs for Broadband customers, and by TUSMA for voice-only customers (see Environment and Communications Legislation Committee Proof Hansard, Tuesday 16th October 2012, page 89).

1. Will the wiring installed by ISP's be at the ISP's or the customer's expense?
2. Will voice-service wiring provided to broadband customers be provided by the ISPs?
3. Will this wiring (voice service wiring provided to broadband customers) be installed at the ISP or the customer's expense?
4. If ISPs are providing or installing wiring at the customer premises without charge to the customer, who is paying the ISP/installation technician for the hardware that is being installed, and the labour to install it?

Answer:

1. The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency's voice-only migration arrangements will reimburse Telstra, and any other participating Retail Service Providers (RSPs), if required, for the cost of the minimum amount of cabling reasonably required to enable a voice telephony service over the NBN fibre network. Also refer to answer 2 below.
2. The voice-only migration arrangements do not cover wiring for fixed-line broadband customers.
3. Refer to answers 1 and 2 above.
4. Refer to answers 1 and 2 above.

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Question No: 274

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Decommissioning the Copper Network

Senator MACDONALD asked:

NBN Co and TUSMA have advised that in-home wiring will be provided by ISPs for Broadband customers, and by TUSMA for voice-only customers (see Environment and Communications Legislation Committee Proof Hansard, Tuesday 16th October 2012, page 89).

1. How many sockets will TUSMA install for voice-only customers?
2. How many sockets will TUSMA install for broadband-and-voice customers?
3. What is the maximum number of metres of wiring that TUSMA will install for voice-only customers?
4. What is the maximum number of metres of wiring that TUSMA will install for broadband-and-voice customers?

Answer:

1. If required, TUSMA will reimburse Telstra and any other participating RSPs for the cost of the minimum amount of cabling reasonably required to enable a voice telephony service over the NBN fibre network. In some cases the wiring to one socket will enable all voice connections in the premises to function.
2. Nil. The voice-only migration arrangements do not extend to customers receiving a fixed-line broadband service, regardless of whether they also receive a voice service.
3. If required, TUSMA will reimburse Telstra and any other participating RSPs for the cost of the minimum amount of cabling reasonably required to enable a voice telephony service over the NBN fibre network. It is important to note that the Government expects that the need for rewiring will be limited given that NBN Co will endeavour to install its equipment in locations that will enable ready access by customers.
4. Nil. Refer to answer to question 2 above.

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Question No: 275

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Decommissioning the Copper Network

Senator MACDONALD asked:

NBN Co and TUSMA have advised that in-home wiring will be provided by ISPs for Broadband customers, and by TUSMA for voice-only customers (see Environment and Communications Legislation Committee Proof Hansard, Tuesday 16th October 2012, page 89).

1. How many sockets will ISPs install at no charge for broadband customers for their voice services?

Answer:

See answer to QoN 273.

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Question No: 276

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Decommissioning the Copper Network

Senator MACDONALD asked:

NBN Co and TUSMA have advised that in-home wiring will be provided by ISPs for Broadband customers, and by TUSMA for voice-only customers (see Environment and Communications Legislation Committee Proof Hansard, Tuesday 16th October 2012, page 89).

1. Will TUSMA provide fibre or active copper for primary phone/voice connections?
2. Will TUSMA provide fibre or active copper for secondary phone/voice connections?
3. Will TUSMA provide fibre or active copper for back-to-base alarm systems?
4. If not, then who will provide the necessary cabling for additional sockets and alarms after the copper network is decommissioned?
5. At whose expense will be the provision of the necessary cabling and associated labour for additional sockets and alarms be, after the copper network is decommissioned?

Answer:

1. The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) is yet to finalise the detailed specifications for wiring under the voice-only migration arrangements. Internal rewiring will comply with relevant standards and be fit for purpose to enable a voice service over the NBN fibre network. TUSMA's objective is to ensure that any rewiring required is undertaken on a cost effective basis, therefore it is not envisaged that fibre would be required for internal rewiring to support a voice service. These arrangements will only be available to eligible voice only customers.
2. If required, TUSMA will reimburse Telstra, and any other participating RSPs, for the cost of the minimum amount of cabling reasonably required to enable a voice telephony service over the NBN fibre network. In some cases the wiring to one socket will enable all voice connections in the premises to function.

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3. The voice-only migration arrangements that TUSMA is responsible for are intended to maximise service continuity for customers that want a voice-only service on the NBN fibre network. The Government recognises that the successful migration of 'over the top' monitored alarm services, which are generally provided and installed independently of RSPs, will depend on the actions of a range of stakeholders. For example, providers of these 'over the top' services, will need to ensure their services and equipment are capable of operating over the NBN (or an alternative network). While many monitored alarm services are currently operating over the NBN, the Government recognises the potential range of issues that may need to be addressed to ensure all legacy services can be supported. Accordingly, the Government is working with stakeholders such as NBN Co, the Australian Communications and Media Authority and peak bodies such as the Communications Alliance and the medical alarm and personal services peak body, PERSA, to ensure legacy services continue to operate over the NBN and consumers are appropriately informed of the issues involved.
4. The voice-only arrangements that TUSMA administers are safety net measures that will provide support to eligible customers that only want to have a voice service over the NBN fibre network in an area. Once an NBN connection has been provided, and as is currently the case with the copper network, it will be a matter for individual customers to make ongoing decisions and arrangements for any further in-home equipment or wiring they want installed.
5. Refer answer 4 above.

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Question No: 277

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Staffing

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. How many ongoing staff have been recruited this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?
2. How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?
3. This financial year to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?
4. How many ongoing staff left the department/agency in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?
5. How many non-ongoing staff left the department/agency in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?
6. How many contract staff left the department/agency in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?
7. How many ongoing staff were recruited in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?
8. How many non-ongoing staff were recruited in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?
9. How many contract staff left were recruited in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff? What is the average length of their employment period?
10. Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut.
11. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.

Answer:

1. TUSMA commenced operations on 1 July 2012, as at 16 October 2012, TUSMA's staffing was 14 including the Acting CEO. Refer to the table.

Classification Levels	FTE October
CEO (Statutory Officer Holder)	1.0
EL 2	2.0
EL 1	5.0
APS 6	4.0
APS 5	1.0
APS 4	-
APS 3	1.0
TOTAL	14.0

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2. Nil.

3. Nil.

4. – 9. Nil. The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational in the 2011-12 financial year.

10. TUSMA is a very small agency and there are no plans to reduce staffing levels in the next 12 months.

11. Not Applicable.

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Question No: 278, 280, 288

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

278. Topic: Forward Estimates Efficiencies

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. Please detail how the department/agency will achieve savings over the forward estimates through pursuing further efficiencies in the way the public service operates (with reference to the media release issued by the Minister for Finance and Deregulation and the Special Minister of State on 25 September 2012:
http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media/2012/mr_1982012.html).

In addition, please provide the following detail:

2. How will reductions in air travel spending be achieved? What is the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
3. What restrictions will be implemented for business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
4. How will the use of external consultants and contractors be reduced? How will this impact on the department/agency? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
5. How will printing costs be reduced? Please explain if and how the department/agency will reduce its printing costs by five per cent or, if it will not, why not? How will it be determined what documents will no longer be printed? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

280. Topic: Printing Costs

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. How much was spent on printing 2011-12? Of this amount, how much was for printing documents?
2. How many documents (please include the amount of copies) were printed in 2011-12? How many of these printed documents were also published online?
3. Of the documents that were printed in 2011-12, where were they delivered and what was the cost?
4. How much has been spent on printing this financial year to date? Of this amount, how much was for printing documents?
5. How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed this financial year to date? How many of these printed documents were also published online?

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288. Topic: Consultancies

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. How many consultancies have been undertaken this financial year to date? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (i.e. open tender, direct source, etc). Please also include total value for all consultancies.
2. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and, if not, why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement, as above, and the name of the consultant if known.
3. How many consultancies were undertaken in 2011-12? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (i.e. open tender, direct source, etc). Please also include total value for all consultancies.

278. Answer:

1. The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational in the 2011-12 financial year.
2. – 3. TUSMA is a contract management agency and it will undertake minimal travel including usage of business flights.
4. Refer to Question on Notice 288.
5. Refer to Question on Notice 280.

280. Answer:

1. – 3. Nil. The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.
4. -5. Nil.

288. Answer:

1. Details of the agencies consultancies valued in excess of \$10,000 are available on the Austender website (www.tenders.gov.au) as required.
2. In accordance with the Commonwealth Procurement Rules, the agency is required to publish an Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on Austender by 1 July each year outlining its forthcoming planned strategic and major procurements. TUSMA will publish its APP for the 2013/14 financial year.
3. Nil. The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.

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Question No: 279

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Recruitment Advertising

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. How will the department/agency manage moving recruitment advertising online? Will all future recruitment advertisement be online only? If not, please explain why. What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
2. How much was spent on recruitment advertising in 2011-12? How much of this was spent online and how much of this was spent on print advertising?
3. Please list where recruitment advertising was listed online and in print media.
4. How much has been spent on recruitment advertising this financial year to date? How much of this was spent online and how much of this was spent on print advertising?
5. Please list where recruitment advertising was placed online and in print media.

Answer:

1. & 3. The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy for the provision of core Support Services.
2. Nil, TUSMA was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational in the 2011-12 financial year.
4. – 5. From 1 July to 16 October 2012, TUSMA has expensed \$37.12 (GST exclusive) for online recruitment advertising.

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Question No: 281 & 282

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Graduate Recruitment

281. Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. How much has been spent on 2013 Graduate Recruitment? Please itemise and detail costs.
2. Has any travel been incurred for 2013 Graduate Recruitment? Please itemise and detail costs.

Topic: Graduate Training

282. Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

How much is estimated to be spent on 2013 Graduate Training? Please provide details of what training is to be provided, why and the estimated cost for each.

281. Answer:

1. -2. Nil and not applicable.

282. Answer:

Nil and not applicable.

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Question No: 283 & 284

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Government Advertising

283. Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. What was the total cost of all advertising for the financial year to date?
2. Is the advertising campaign or non-campaign advertising? Provide details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.
3. Has the Department of Finance and Deregulation provided any advice about the advertising? Please provide details of each advertising item.
4. Has the Peer Review Group (PRG) and/or Independent Communications Committee (ICC) provided any advice about the advertising? Please provide details of each advertising item.
5. Did the advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies? Please provide the details for each advertising item.
6. Please provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services.
7. What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – and other communications programs is the department/agency undertaking and/or planning to undertake?

Topic: Government Advertising

284. Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. What was the total cost of all advertising for 2011-12?
2. Is the advertising campaign or non-campaign advertising? Please provide details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.
3. Has the Department of Finance and Deregulation provided any advice about the advertising? Please provide details of each advertising item.
4. Has the Peer Review Group (PRG) and/or Independent Communications Committee (ICC) provided any advice about the advertising? Please provide details of each advertising item.
5. Did the advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies? Please provide the details for each advertising item.

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6. Please provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services, that was undertaken in 2011-12.

283 & 284 Answer:

The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) is a statutory agency with responsibility for managing contracts and grants and does not expect to undertake any Government advertising.

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Question No: 285 & 286

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Hospitality and Entertainment

285. Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. What is the department/agency's hospitality spend for this financial year to date? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. What is the department/agency's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
2. What hospitality spend is the department/agency planning? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
3. What entertainment spend is the department/agency planning? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
4. Is the department/agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved and what are the estimated savings over each year of the forward estimates?

Topic: Hospitality and Entertainment

286. Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. What is the department/agency's hospitality spend for 2011-12? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
2. What is the department/agency's entertainment spend for 2011-12? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.

285. Answer:

1. -4. Nil and not applicable.

286. Answer:

- 1.-2.The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational in the 2011-12 financial year.

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Question No: 287

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: FOI

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. Has the department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
2. What is the total cost to the department/agency to process FOI requests for 2011-12?
3. How many FOI requests did the department/agency receive in 2011-12?
4. How many requests were denied and how many were granted 2011-12?
5. In 2011-12 did the department/agency fail to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?
6. What is the total cost to the department/agency to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?
7. How many FOI requests has the department/agency received for this financial year to date? How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted? Has the department/agency failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many and why? Do any of these requests remain outstanding? If so, how many and why?

Answer:

1. Yes.
2. -5. Nil. The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.
6. Zero.
7. TUSMA has not received any FOI requests to date.

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Question No: 289 & 290

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Media Monitoring

289. Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etc provided to the department/agency for this financial year to date?
 - a. Which agency or agencies provided these services?
 - b. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13?
 - c. What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?

Topic: Media Monitoring

290. Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. What was the actual total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etc provided to the department/agency for 2011-12?
 - a. Which agency or agencies provided these services?
 - b. What was the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2011-12?

289. Answer:

The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy for the provision of core Support Services. Media Monitoring is extended to TUSMA under the MOU arrangements.

290. Answer:

Nil, TUSMA was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.

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Question No: 291

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Social Media

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. Have there been any changes since May 2012 Budget Estimates to department/agency social media or protocols about staff access and usage of YouTube, online social media such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter and access to online discussion forums and blogs? If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issued.
2. Does the department/agency monitor usage of social media?
 - a) If yes, provide details of the usage (for example, details could include average hours per employee, hours when usage peaks)
 - b) If no, will the department/agency monitor usage in the future?
3. Does social media impact on employee productivity? Please provide details (details could include increased internet usage in general or increased internet usage in standard business hours).

Answer:

1. The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.
2. -3. Not applicable

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Question No: 292

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Internet

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

Has the department/agency experienced any internet problems, such as but not limited to slow internet or internet blackouts? If yes, what was the reason for this? Did it impact the Minister's office?

Answer:

No.

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Question No: 293

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Staff Amenities

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

What amenities are provided to staff? Please provide a list.

Answer:

The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Australia Communications and Media Authority for the provision of property and related services inclusive of staff amenities.

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Question No: 294

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Coffee Machines

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. Has the department/agency purchased coffee machines for staff usage? If yes, please provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased.
2. Why were coffee machines purchased?
3. Where did the funding for the coffee machines come from?
4. Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance in 2011-12 and how much this financial year to date? Please include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?

Answer:

1. -4.No.

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Question No: 295 & 296

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Contractors for this Financial Year

295. Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. For this financial year to date:
 - a. Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - b. Has the department/agency ever employed Shannon's Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon's Way? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - c. Has the department/agency ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group in any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - d. Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - e. Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - f. Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - g. Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - h. Has the department/agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - i. Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.
 - j. What contractors have been employed by the department/agency? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).

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Topic: Contractors for 2011-12

296. Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. For 2011-12:
 - a. Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - b. Has the department/agency ever employed Shannon's Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon's Way? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - c. Has the department/agency ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group in any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - d. Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - e. Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - f. Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - g. Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - h. Has the department/agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - i. Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.
 - j. What contractors have been employed by the department/agency? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).

295. Answer:

The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) has not engaged any of these contractors during this financial year and has no plans for future engagement.

296. Answer:

Not applicable, TUSMA was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.

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Question No: 297

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Grants

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. Please provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for this financial year to date. Please provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.
2. Have all grant agreement details been published on the department/agency's website within the required timeframe? If not, please provide details.
3. Please provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for 2011-12. Please provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.
4. Were all grant agreement details published on the department/agency's website within the required timeframe? If not, please provide details.

Answer:

1. -2. The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) has no grants. In accordance with the Commonwealth Grant Guidelines, TUSMA will be required to disclose and report arrangements for grants rewarded on its website and annually in the Senate Orders.
3. -4. TUSMA was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.

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Question No: 298 & 299

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Government Payment of Accounts for this Financial Year to Date

298. Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. For this financial year to date, has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)?
 - a. If not, why not? Please provide details, including what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.
 - b. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and, if so, how much has been paid by the department/agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?
 - c. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

Topic: Government Payment of Accounts for 2011-12

299. Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. For 2011-12, did the department/agency pay its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)?
 - a. If not, why not? Please provide details, including what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.
 - b. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is/was interest being paid on overdue amounts and, if so, how much has been paid by the department/agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?
 - c. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?
 - d. Have all accounts from 2011-12 been paid? If not, why not?

298. Answer:

1. -a. Yes.
- b. -c. Not applicable.

299. Answer:

1. -(a-d). Not applicable, TUSMA was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.

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Question No: 300

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Stationery Requirements

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. What are the department/agency's stationery costs for the financial year to date?
2. What were the department/agency's stationery costs for 2011-12?

Answer:

1. From 1 July to 16 October 2012, the Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) has expensed \$1,354.47 (GST inclusive) on stationery requirements.
2. Nil, TUSMA was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.

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Question No: 301

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Media Subscriptions

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. Has there been any change since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012) to your pay TV subscription?
 - a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.
 - b. What is the cost for this financial year to date?
2. Has there been any change since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012) to your newspaper subscriptions?
 - a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.
 - b. What is the cost for this financial year to date?
3. Has there been any change since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012) to your magazine subscriptions?
 - a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.
 - b. What is the cost for this financial year to date?
4. What was the 2011-12 cost for:
 - a. TV subscriptions
 - b. Newspaper subscriptions
 - c. Magazine subscriptions

Answer:

1. -4. The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency has no media subscriptions.

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Question No: 302

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Travel Costs

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that includes airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).
2. Are the Government's Lowest Practical Fare travel policy for Domestic Air Travel (Finance Circular No. 2009/10) and Best Fare of the Day for International Air Travel (Finance Circular No. 2009/11) guidelines being followed? How is the department/agency following the advice? How is this monitored? If the guidelines are not being followed, please explain why.
3. Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, please detail what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the total costs of the lounge memberships.
4. When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as an Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel.
5. For 2011-12, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that includes airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).

Answer:

1. For the financial year to 31 October 2012 the total agency spend for domestic travel was \$21,254.60. The agency does not record travel in a way that would readily allow individual components of travel to be identified. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of agency resources.
2. All travel within the agency is undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Finance Circular No. 2012/04 for domestic travel and Finance Circular 2012/05 for international travel.
3. No, the agency has not provided lounge memberships to its employees.
4. No.
5. Not applicable, the Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.

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Question No: 303

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Legal Costs

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for 2011-12? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
2. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for 2011-12 from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
3. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for 2011-12 from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
4. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for 2011-12 from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
5. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
6. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
7. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
8. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

Answer:

The Government does not generally disclose the content of legal advice received by the Government or its agencies. It is important for any government to be able to make fully informed decisions based on comprehensive and confidential legal advice. As such only total figures for legal service expenditure will be provided.

1.-4. Not applicable, the Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.

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5. TUSMA has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy for the provision of core Support Services. Details about the MOU are available on the Austender website (www.tenders.gov.au).
6. TUSMA expenses on legal services provided by the Australian Government Solicitor from 1 July to 16 October 2012 were \$14,205 (GST inclusive).
7. TUSMA expenses on legal services provided by private firms from 1 July to 16 October 2012 were \$5,570.51 (GST inclusive).
8. TUSMA has no legal services provided from other sources.

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Question No: 304

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Education Expenses

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. Has there been a change since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012) to the department/agency's guidelines on study? If yes, please provide details.
2. For this financial year to date, please detail all education expenses (i.e. in-house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Please include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, the employment classification of each participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). Please also include the reason for the study and how it is beneficial for the department/agency.
3. For 2011-12, please detail all education expenses (i.e. in-house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Please include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, the employment classification of each participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). Please also include the reason for the study and how it is beneficial for the department/agency.

Answer:

1. Not applicable, the Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) was not operational during the May 2012 Budget.
2. Nil.
3. Not applicable, TUSMA was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.

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Question No: 305 & 306

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Executive Coaching and Leadership Training for this Financial Year to Date

305. Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:
 - a. Total spending on these services
 - b. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification
 - c. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. The names of all service providers engaged
2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (1d), please provide:
 - a. The name and nature of the service purchased
 - b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based
 - c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification
 - d. The total number of hours involved for all employees (please provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - e. The total amount spent on the service
 - f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)
3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:
 - a. The location used
 - b. The number of employees who took part on each occasion (please provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - c. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (please provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location.

Topic: Executive Coaching and Leadership Training for 2011-12

306. Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for 2011-12:
 - a. Total spending on these services
 - b. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification

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- c. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (please provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. The names of all service providers engaged
2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (1d), please provide:
- a. The name and nature of the service purchased
 - b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based
 - c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification
 - d. The total number of hours involved for all employees (please provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - e. The total amount spent on the service
 - f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)
3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:
- a. The location used
 - b. The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - c. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location.

305. Answer:

1. -3. Nil.

306. Answer:

1. -3. Nil, the Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.

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Question No: 307 & 308

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Media Training for this Financial Year

307. Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:
 - a. Total spending on these services
 - b. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification
 - c. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. The names of all service providers engaged
2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (1d), please provide:
 - a. The name and nature of the service purchased
 - b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based
 - c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. The total number of hours involved for all employees (please provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - e. The total amount spent on the service
 - f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)
3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:
 - a. The location used
 - b. The number of employees who took part on each occasion
 - c. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location.

Topic: Media Training for 2011-12

308. Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for 2011-12:
 - a. Total spending on these services
 - b. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification

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- c. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (please provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. The names of all service providers engaged
2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (1d), please provide:
- a. The name and nature of the service purchased
 - b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based
 - c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - e. The total amount spent on the service
 - f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)
3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:
- a. The location used
 - b. The number of employees who took part on each occasion
 - c. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location.

307. Answer:

1. -3. The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) has not and does not expect to undertake media training.

308. Answer:

1. -3. Not applicable, TUSMA was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.

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Question No: 309

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Paid Parental Leave

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. Please list how many staff in each portfolio department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme?
2. For this financial year to date please list which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff and their classification are in receipt of these payments.
3. For 2011-12 to date which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff and their classification are in receipt of these payments.

Answer:

1. -2. Eligibility for the Government's Paid Parental Leave Scheme is determined by the Family Assistance Office and is subject to a number of criteria including a work and income test. No claims have been submitted to date.
3. The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.

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Question No: 310

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Corporate Cars

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. Please update if there have been any changes since Budget Estimates 2012-13 (May 2012):
 - a. How cars are owned by each department/agency?
 - b. Where is the car/s located?
 - c. What is the car/s used for?
 - d. What is the cost of each car for this financial year to date?
 - e. How far did each car travel this financial year to date?

2. For 2011-12:
 - a. How cars are owned by each department/agency?
 - b. Where is the car/s located?
 - c. What is the car/s used for?
 - d. What was the cost of each car?
 - e. How far did each car travel?

Answer:

The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency was established as of 1 July 2012 and has no requirements for corporate cars.

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Question No: 311

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Taxi Cars

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis this financial year to date? Please provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.
2. What are the reasons for taxi costs?
3. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis in 2011-12? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.
4. What are the reasons for taxi costs?

Answer:

1. For the period 1 July to 16 October 2012, the agency spend on taxis was \$1,020.25. The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) has issued a contract notice with Cabcharge Australia Pty Ltd for Cabcharge Cards and E-ticket vouchers. Details of this contract are available on the Austender website (www.tenders.gov.au).
2. The use of taxis is assessed on a needs basis and is subject to the same value for money considerations as are all other travel undertaken by agency employees.
3. -4. Nil, TUSMA was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.

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Question No: 312

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Credit Cards

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. Please provide a breakdown for each employment classification that has a corporate credit card.
2. Please update if there have been any changes since Budget Estimates 2012-13 (May 2012):
 - a. What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused?
 - b. How is corporate credit card use monitored?
 - c. What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered?
 - d. Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? Please list staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.
 - e. What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?
3. For 2011-12 how many instances of corporate credit card misuse were there? Please list staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.

Answer:

1. Number of staff and classification in the agency holding a corporate credit card are as follows:

APS 3	1
APS EL1	3
APS EL2	2
Grand Total	6

2. (a-e) - 3. Not applicable, the Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.

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Question No: 313

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Provision of Equipment

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. Is electronic equipment (such as iPad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, BlackBerry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive) provided to department/agency staff for this financial year? If yes, please provide details of what is provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it.
2. If electronic equipment (such as iPad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, BlackBerry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive) was provided to department/agency staff for 2011-12, please provide details of what was provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it.

Answer:

1. The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy for the provision of core Support Services. Within this agreement, Executive Level Staff are generally provided with a blackberry, laptop and wireless card for remote access to the agency's network.

Details about the MOU are available on the Austender website (www.tenders.gov.au).

2. Not applicable, TUSMA was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.

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Question No: 314

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Electricity Purchasing

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. Provide details of any update of the department/agency electricity purchasing agreement if there has been a change since Budget Estimates 2011-12 (May 2012).
2. What were the department/agency's actual electricity costs for 2011-12, and what are the budgeted costs for 2012-13?
3. What are the department/agency electricity costs for this financial year to date?

Answer:

The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Australian Communications and Media Authority for the provision of property and related services inclusive of electricity.

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Question No: 315

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Briefings for the Australian Greens and Independents

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. Have any briefings been provided to the Australian Greens this Financial Year? If yes, please include:
 - a. How are briefings requests commissioned?
 - b. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.
 - c. Have any briefings requests been unable to proceed? If yes, provided details details of what the briefings were and why it could not proceed.
 - d. How long is spent undertaking briefings for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Please provide a breakdown for each employment classification.
2. Have any briefings been provided to Independents this Financial Year? If yes, please include:
 - a. How are briefings requests commissioned?
 - b. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.
 - c. Have any briefings requests been unable to proceed? If yes, provided details details of what the briefings were and why it could not proceed.
 - d. How long is spent undertaken briefings for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.
3. Were any briefings been provided to the Australian Greens in 2011-12? If yes, please include:
 - a. How are briefings requests commissioned?
 - b. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.
 - c. Have any briefings requests been unable to proceed? If yes, provided details of what the briefings were and why it could not proceed.
 - d. How long is spent undertaking briefings for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.
4. Were any briefings been provided to Independents in 2011-12? If yes, please include:
 - a. How are briefings requests commissioned?
 - b. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.
 - c. Have any briefings requests been unable to proceed? If yes, provided details of what the briefings were and why it could not proceed.
 - d. How long is spent undertaking briefings for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.

Answer:

The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational in the 2011-12 financial year. TUSMA is a statutory agency with responsibility for managing contracts and grants and does not expect to be undertaking any briefings.

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Question No: 316

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Shredders

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. Did the department/agency purchase any shredders in 2011-12? If yes, provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.
2. Has the department/agency purchased any shredders since Budget Estimates 2011-12 (May 2012)? If yes, please provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.

Answer:

1. Not applicable, the Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) was established as of 1 July 2012 and was not operational during the 2011-12 financial year.
2. TUSMA procured a GBC Fordigraph shredder at the cost of \$3,025 (GST Inclusive) and it is required to dispose of confidential material.

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Question No: 317

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Protective Security Policy Framework

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

Please provide an update for your department/agency, including what is your current compliance level, what are you doing to manage risk, what is being done to comply with the mandatory requirements and details of any department/agency specific policies and procedures.

Answer:

The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy for the provision of core Support Services.

Details about the MOU are available on the Austender website (www.tenders.gov.au).

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Question No: 318

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Office Locations

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. Please provide a list of all office locations for all departments and agencies within the portfolio by:
 - a. Department/Agency;
 - b. Location;
 - c. Leased or Owned;
 - d. Size;
 - e. Number of Staff at each location and classification;
 - f. If rented, the amount and breakdown of rent per square metre;
 - g. If owned, the value of the building;
 - h. Depreciation of buildings that are owned;
 - i. Type of functions and work undertaken.

Answer:

1a-d. The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) is located in the Melbourne CBD, within the Melbourne Central Tower on 360 Elizabeth Street.

e. As at 16 October 2012, TUSMA's staffing was 14 including the Acting CEO. Refer to the table.

Classification Levels	FTE October
CEO (Statutory Officer Holder)	1.0
EL 2	2.0
EL 1	5.0
APS 6	4.0
APS 5	1.0
APS 4	-
APS 3	1.0
TOTAL	14.0

*Note all staff are located in the Melbourne CBD

f.-i. TUSMA has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Australian Communications and Media Authority for the provision of property and related services.

Details about the MOU are available on the Austender website (www.tenders.gov.au).

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Question No: 319

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Media/Comms Staff

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following, by department or agency:
 - a. How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.
 - b. How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location.
 - c. How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location?

Answer:

The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency does not have any public relations, communications and media staff.

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Question No: 320

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Grants Pause

Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:

1. To date, how much of the 2012-13 budget appropriations has your department/agency received?
2. For 2012-13 please list each grant program your department/agency administers, and the total funding of each program.
3. Please list each grant program that has not been paused as part of the Government- wide grants pause.
4. Please provide the total cash value of each program that has not been paused?
5. Please list each grant program that has been "paused" as part of the Government-wide grants pause.
6. Please provide the total cash value of each program that has been paused, and the total value of all grants paused?
7. On what date did your department/agency receive advice from the government to pause certain grants programs?
 - a. How was the instruction received, and from whom was it received?
8. Please list the dates on which the Minister for Finance met with senior department/agency officials to discuss the grants pause and on which the Minister overseeing your department/agency met with senior department officials
9. From what date was your department/agency told to implement the grants pause?
 - a. When did it do so?
10. Has your department/agency been provided with information regarding when the grants pause would end?
 - a. If so, what was the date?
 - b. Was your department/agency advised if it could communicate when the grants pause would end to grant applicants?
11. Please provide the advice your department/agency gave to Department of Finance regarding which programs should be included in the grants pause.
12. Did your department/agency receive advice/instruction from the Department of Finance regarding how best to communicate the grants pause to grant applicants, the media and other external stakeholders?
13. What information has been provided to grant applicants regarding the grants pause? Please provide scripts if these have been given to call centres, or any other information sheets which have been used internally for discussing the grants pause with applicants.
14. Has your department/agency been advised by the Department of Finance of further grants pauses in the future? If so
 - a. When did you receive notification of future grants pauses?
 - b. What is the date of future grants to be paused?

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- c. Which grants programs will be paused?
- d. What is total value of pauses in future grants programs?
- e. When will notification of these future grants pauses be made public?
- 15. How many staff are employed to administer grant programs within the department?
- 16. During the Grants Pause, with what activities have these staff been involved?
 - a. Have staff been moved to other divisions during the grants pause?
- 17. During the Grants Pause, were decisions on grants being made, but applicants not alerted?

Answer:

Not applicable.