

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2012-13 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross Outcome

Question No: 286

Topic: Communications Staff

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Boyce asked:

Do any departments/agencies have independent media studios? If yes, why? When was it established? What is the set up cost? What is the ongoing cost? How many staff work there and what are their classifications?

Answer:

The Department has a radio studio that is used for recording phone interviews and cutting audio material. There are no broadcasts from the studio.

The studio was established in mid-2009 at a total cost of \$88,420.50 (ex GST). This includes:

- \$66,016.50, for construction of the studio
- \$7,090.00 for equipment and materials.
- \$8,750.00 for software
- \$6,564.00 for installation and technical assistance

There are no on-going costs for the up-keep of the studio.

FaHCSIA produces *Newlines* radio - a 12 minute radio program which profiles Indigenous communities, achievements and topics of interest to Australia's Indigenous people.

The program is written and recorded in-house, with post-production contracted outside of the Department. The program is sent to community radio stations on disk weekly. It is also available as a downloadable podcast on both *Indigenous.gov.au* and iTunes.

There is currently one staff member working full time on production of the radio program. The staff member is at the Public Affairs Officer 2 level (APS 6 equivalent).