

## **Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee**

### **ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES – 11 FEBRUARY 2016 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **Department of Human Services**

**Topic:** Media subscriptions

**Question reference number:** HS 74

**Senator:** Ludwig

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 4 April 2016

**Number of pages:** 2

#### **Question:**

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- a) What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have?
  - 1) Please provide a list of channels and the reason for each channel.
  - 2) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
  - 3) What is provided to the Minister or their office?
  - 4) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
- b) What newspaper subscriptions does your department / agency have?
  - 1) Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each.
  - 2) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
  - 3) What is provided to the Minister or their office?
  - 4) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
- c) What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have?
  - 1) Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each.
  - 2) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
  - 3) What is provided to the Minister or their office?
  - 4) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
- d) What publications does your department / agency purchase?
  - 1) Please provide a list of publications purchased by the department and the reason for each.
  - 2) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
  - 3) What is provided to the Minister or their office?
  - 4) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?

**Answer:**

a) Pay TV subscriptions

- 1) Some areas of the department purchase subscription television services to support departmental operations. There is no central register of service details. The financial management information system is set up to combine all subscriptions and publications which include purchase of books (technical and non-technical), videos, periodicals, journals, newspapers and subscriptions.
- 2) For the department to provide a specific breakdown of pay TV costs for the financial year to date would be an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.
- 3) The department does not provide pay TV to the Minister's office.
- 4) Nil.

b) Newspaper Subscriptions

- 1) Some areas of the department purchase newspaper subscriptions to support departmental operations. There is no central register of newspaper subscription details. The financial management information system is set up to combine all subscriptions and publications which include purchase of books (technical and non-technical), videos, periodicals, journals, newspapers and subscriptions.
- 2) For the department to provide a specific breakdown of newspaper subscription costs for the financial year to date would be an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.
- 3) The following newspapers are provided to the Minister's office:
  - *The Australian*;
  - *Australian Financial Review*;
  - *Canberra Times*;
  - *Sydney Morning Herald*; and
  - *Daily Telegraph*.
- 4) The total expenditure on newspaper subscriptions from 1 September 2015 to 31 January 2016 was \$1,940 (GST exclusive).

c) Magazine Subscriptions

- 1) Some areas of the department purchase magazine subscriptions to support departmental operations. There is no central register of magazine subscription details. The financial management information system is set up to combine all subscriptions and publications which include purchase of books (technical and non-technical), videos, periodicals, journals, newspapers and subscriptions.
- 2) For the department to provide a specific breakdown of magazine costs for the financial year to date would be an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.
- 3) No magazine subscriptions were provided to the Minister's office.
- 4) Nil.

d) Publications

- 1) Some areas of the department purchase publications to support departmental operations. There is no central register of purchased publications. The financial management information system is set up to combine all subscriptions and publications which include purchase of books (technical and non-technical), videos, periodicals, journals, newspapers and subscriptions.
- 2) For the department to provide a specific breakdown of publications costs for the financial year to date would be an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.
- 3) No publications were provided to the Minister's office.
- 4) Nil.