

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES - 4 JUNE 2013 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: DHS Staff Uniform

Question reference number: HS 21

Senator: Fifield

Type of question: Hansard page 87

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 26 July 2013

Number of pages: 95

Question:

a) Senator FIFIELD: How much is an ensemble?

Ms Campbell: I will find someone who has the details on that or we might be able to take that on notice.

Ms Bennett: I will have to take the cost of the start-up packs on notice.

b) Senator FIFIELD: Would you be able to table the tender brief?

Ms Bennett: I will have to take that on notice.

Answer:

a) The table below provides the average cost of Start up Packs and Update Packs for men and women in the Office Wear, Out Servicing and Combination corporate wardrobe categories.

The average cost of each pack has been provided as there is not a fixed price for each pack. Eligible staff may select a set number of garments in each pack once per calendar year. The cost of the pack differs depending on their choice of garments within the set number of items and range available.

Pack Type	Average Cost
Women's Office Wear Start up Pack	\$720
Women's Out Servicing Start up Pack	\$564
Women's Combination Start up Pack	\$662
Women's Office Wear Update Pack	\$367
Women's Out Servicing Update Pack	\$219
Women's Combination Update Pack	\$219

Pack Type	Average Cost
Men's Office Wear Start up Pack	\$750
Men's Out Servicing Start up Pack	\$622
Men's Combination Start up Pack	\$707
Men's Office Wear Update Pack	\$357
Men's Out Servicing Update Pack	\$232
Men's Combination Update Pack	\$232

Customer facing staff receive a basic set of garments and an annual update pack provided by the Department.

Non-customer facing staff can purchase items at any time directly from the supplier. If they purchase more than \$200 worth of items, they receive a \$100 subsidy, which is deducted by the supplier from the total cost of the purchase. This subsidy is only available on each staff member's first purchase of \$200 or more each financial year.

The supplier invoices the department to recover all subsidies as per the terms of the contract.

- b) The tender brief is at **Attachment A**.

The tender brief was placed on Austender by the Centrelink agency prior to the creation of the Department of Human Services in July 2009. The rules of the *Human Services Legislative Amendments Act 2011* allow the Department to access these tenders previously managed by its constituent agencies. A new tender brief for the manufacture and distribution of the staff uniform will be produced before the end of the final contract option in early 2015.