

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES - 4 JUNE 2013 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Media Subscriptions

Question reference number: HS 66

Senator: Smith

Type of question: Written

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

Number of pages: 2

Question:

- a) What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have?
 - 1) Please provide a list of what channels and the reason for each channel.
 - 2) What is the cost for this financial year to date?
- b) What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have?
 - 1) Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each.
 - 2) What is the cost for this financial year to date?
- c) What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have?
 - 1) Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each.
 - 2) What is the cost for this financial year to date?

Answer:

- a) 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 which include purchase of books (technical and non-technical), videos, periodicals, journals, newspapers and subscriptions. For the Department to provide a specific breakdown of pay TV costs for the financial year to date would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.
The total cost for all subscriptions for the period 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013 was \$866,610.
- b) Some areas of the Department subscribe to newspapers for information and reference to support departmental operations. There is no central register of subscription details.
The financial management information system is set up to combine all subscriptions, which include purchase of books (technical and non-technical), videos, periodicals, journals, newspapers and subscriptions. For the Department to provide a specific breakdown of newspaper subscriptions for the financial year to date would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.

The total cost for all subscriptions for the period 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013 was \$866,610 as noted in paragraph (a) above.

- c) Some areas of the Department subscribe to magazines primarily for the purpose of obtaining current information in specific professional fields or relevant to specific activities, thereby supporting departmental operations. There is no central register of subscription details.

The financial management information system is set up to combine all subscriptions, which include purchase of books (technical and non-technical), videos, periodicals, journals, newspapers and subscriptions. For the Department to provide a specific breakdown of magazine costs for the financial year to date would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.

The total cost for all subscriptions for the period 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013 was \$866,610 as noted in paragraph (a) above.