

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 22 October 2014**

**Ref No:** SQ14-001393

**OUTCOME:** 0 - Whole of Portfolio

**Topic:** Media Monitoring

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Ludwig, Joe

**Question:**

1. Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014 what was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office during the specified period?
  - a) Which agency or agencies provided these services?
  - b) What has been spent providing these services during the specified period?
  - c) Itemise these expenses.
2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency during the specified period?
  - a) Which agency or agencies provided these services?
  - b) What has been spent providing these services during the specified period?
  - c) Itemise these expenses.

**Answer:**

1. The cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera is covered by the one budget and the one service. The service covers the Department of Health, (which includes the Therapeutic Goods Administration, National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme and Office of the Gene Technology Regulator), five Portfolio Agencies and the offices of two Portfolio Ministers. The Department's financial system does not break down the cost of media monitoring services to the level required to separately identify details of services provided to the Ministers' offices.

- a) The service is provided by iSentia Media Pty Ltd.
- b) and c) See answer to 1. above.

2. The cost of these services for the period 1 June 2014 to 30 September 2014 was \$265,454 (GST exclusive). This includes services to the Ministers' offices and the Department's Portfolio Agencies.

- a) See answer to question 1.a) above.
- b) See answer to question 2. above.
- c) See answer to question 1. above.