

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 22 October 2014

Ref No: SQ14-001445

OUTCOME: 0 - Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Provision of Equipment - Departmental

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Ludwig, Joe

Question:

1. Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014 has electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive, video cameras) been provided by the department/agency to departmental staff? If yes provide a list of:

- a) What has been provided?
- b) The purchase cost.
- c) The ongoing cost.
- d) A list of any accessories provided for the equipment and the cost of those accessories. (e.g. iPad keyboards, laptop carry bags, additional chargers etc).
- e) A breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives each item.

Answer:

a) and b)

Since 1 June 2014 the following devices have been provided to departmental staff:

- 5 Nokia Asha 302 mobile phones. The device cost is \$104.50 GST inclusive.
- 6 Optus WiFi hotspots. The device cost is \$200 GST inclusive,
- 8 Optus 4G broadband cards. The Optus E3276 is the standard device approved by the Department of Health. The device cost is \$200 GST inclusive,
- 1 Telstra WiFi hotspot. The device cost is \$216 GST inclusive.

c) The ongoing cost of the equipment is:

- For mobile phones accessing the Telstra network a \$5 per month plan and fee per call arrangement applies. For mobile phones accessing the Optus network there is a mix of a \$20 per month plan or a fee per call arrangement.
- Optus Data charges are part of the pooled mobile data plan, which attracts a monthly surcharge of \$7,500 per month;
- Telstra network monthly data plans are available ranging from \$39 per month to \$109 per month GST inclusive.

d) Nil.

- e) Mobile phones are available to departmental staff where a business justification exists. Wireless cards and WiFi hotspots are available to staff for use with departmental laptops or personal smartphones where connection to the Department's network is required from remote locations. Non-SES Officers are able to request devices where a business justification and Assistant Secretary level approval is provided.