

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**  
**Supplementary Estimates Hearings November 2016**  
**Communications Portfolio**  
**Australian Communications and Media Authority**

**Question No: 187(e)**

**Australian Communications and Media Authority**

**Hansard Ref: Written, 19/02/2016**

**Topic: Media subscriptions**

**Senator Ludwig, Joe asked:**

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September 2015:

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

**Answer:**

1. The ACMA subscribes to Foxtel.
  - (a) The channels included in this package are skyNEWS, World News, CNN, The Weather Channel, Bloomberg, Fox News, CNBC, a-pac, Aljazeera and CCTV News. A number of sports, documentaries and other miscellaneous channels are also included as part of the overall package. The ACMA subscribes to Foxtel to oversee and monitor various content and technical issues while also responding to complaints under the Broadcasting Services Act, for example, the anti-siphoning rules.
  - (b) The cost of this package during the period 14 September 2015 to 29 January 2016 was \$6,231.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Supplementary Estimates Hearings November 2016**

**Communications Portfolio**

**Australian Communications and Media Authority**

- (c) Nothing is provided to the Minister or his office.
  - (d) Not applicable.
2. The ACMA subscribes to the following newspapers;
- (a) The Australian, The Age, Financial Review, The Canberra Times and The Sydney Morning Herald. The ACMA, as a regulator, keeps abreast of and monitors media issues in the industry as they emerge.
  - (b) The cost of these subscriptions during the period 14 September 2015 to 29 January 2016 was \$6,482.
  - (c) Nothing is provided to the Minister or his office.
  - (d) Not applicable.
3. The ACMA subscribes to the following magazines;
- (a) The Economist, TechLife, Harvard Business Review and The New Scientist for the purpose of keeping up with current issues as they relate to the ACMA and the communications sector. The ACMA also subscribes to TV Week which is used for reference purposes in relation to the Australian Content Standards and the Children's Television Standards.
  - (b) The cost of these subscriptions during the period 14 September 2015 to 29 January 2016 was \$233.
  - (c) Nothing is provided to the Minister or his office.
  - (d) Not applicable.
4. The ACMA purchases a number of publications for the purpose of to keeping up to date on current issues as they relate to the ACMA, the public service and the communications industry. They are separated into the following knowledge database and industry newsletter categories;
- a)
    - (i) Knowledge database- LexisNexis, Thomson Reuters, Ovum Telecoms, APSC Allowance Subscription service.
    - (ii) Industry Newsletter- Policy Tracker, CommsWire, Communications Day, Crikey, RadioInfo.
  - b) The cost of these subscriptions during the period 14 September 2015 to 29 January 2016 was \$62,123.
  - c) Nothing is provided to the Minister or his office.
  - d) Not applicable.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Supplementary Estimates Hearings November 2016**

**Communications Portfolio**

**Australian Communications and Media Authority**