

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**  
**Additional Estimates Hearings February 2016**  
**Communications Portfolio**  
**Department of Communications and the Arts**

**Question No: 212(a)**

**Program 1.1**

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

**Topic: Departmental Staff Misconduct**

**Senator Ludwig, Joe asked:**

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. Please provide a copy of the departmental staff code of conduct.
2. Have there been any identified breaches of this code of conduct by departmental staff?
  - (a) If yes, list the breaches identified, broken by staffing classification level.
  - (b) If yes, what remedy was put in place to manage the breach? If no remedy has been put in place, why not?
  - (c) If yes, when was the breach identified? By whom? When was the Minister made aware?
  - (d) If yes, were there any legal ramifications for the department or staff member? Please detail.

**Answer:**

1. The Department's employees are required to comply with the APS Code of Conduct. A copy of this is available on the Australian Public Service Commission website at [www.apsc.gov.au/working-in-the-aps/your-rights-and-responsibilities-as-an-aps-employee/code-of-conduct](http://www.apsc.gov.au/working-in-the-aps/your-rights-and-responsibilities-as-an-aps-employee/code-of-conduct) and is referenced in all applicable departmental policies and procedures.
2. There have been no identified breaches of the code of conduct by departmental staff since change of Prime Minister on 14 September 2015.