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: 213(a)

Program 1.1

Hansard Ref: Written, 19/02/2016

Topic: Fee for Services

Senator Ludwig, Joe asked:

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

- 1. Have any existing services provided by the department / agency moved from being free to a user-pay service? Have any additional fees been placed on existing services? If yes please provide a list and include:
- 2. Name of the fee and a short description of what it covers.
- 3. How much is the fee (and is it a flat fee or a percentage of the service).
- 4. The date the fee came into place.
- 5. Were any reviews requested, commenced or complemented into the benefits and drawbacks of attaching the fee to the service? If yes, please detail and provide a copy of the review.
- 6. What consultation was carried out before the fee was put into place?
- 7. How was the fee put into place (e.g. through legislation, regulation changes etc)?
- 8. What justification is there for the fee?

Answer:

- 1. No existing services provided by the department have moved from being free to a user-pay service. No additional fees been placed on existing services.
- 2. N/A
- 3. N/A
- 4. N/A
- 5. N/A
- 6. N/A
- 7. N/A
- 8. N/A