

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: 224(a)

Program 1.1

Hansard Ref: Written, 19/02/2016

Topic: Workplace assessments

Senator Ludwig, Joe asked:

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

1. How much has been spent on workplace ergonomic assessments?
 - (a) List each item of expenditure and cost
2. Have any assessments, not related to an existing disability, resulted in changes to workplace equipment or set up?
3. If so, list each item of expenditure and cost related to those changes

Answer:

1. For the period from 1 September, 2015 to 31 January 2016, a total of \$11,211.31 (GST excl) has been expensed on workplace ergonomic assessments.
 - (a) A breakdown per item of expenditure is as follows:

Type of assessment	Amount
Workstation Assessments (several)	\$4,476.97
Workstation Assessment	\$398.07
Workstation Assessment	\$331.73
Workstation Assessment	\$331.73
Workstation Assessment	\$331.73
Workstation Assessment	\$331.73
Workstation Assessment	\$1,372.95
Workstation Assessment	\$331.73
Workstation Assessment	\$3,304.67
Total	\$11,211.31

2. Where it is considered that the risk of a workplace injury to an employee would be reduced by a change in the equipment or set-up, reasonable adjustments are implemented. For example: desks being raised or lowered; and small items such as keyboards, mouse, footrests being purchased via individual Branch stationery orders.

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3. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.