

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Spill-over hearing March 2017

Communications Portfolio

Australian Communications and Media Authority

Question No: 279

The Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: Page 29, 24/03/2017

Topic: Spectrum Review – Commissioned research/modelling

Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:

Senator URQUHART: Do you have plans to commission research or modelling to inform spectrum review implementation?

Mr Bean: I am not sure if we have finalised plans for specific research on specific aspects of it. Certainly, we are consulting widely and we expect to participate in the consultations, which will follow the release of the exposure draft.

Senator URQUHART: So you are not sure if you have plans or do you have plans but you just have not started yet?

Mr Bean: I can take on notice whether we have commissioned specific research in relation to this project. I can certainly assure you that we are gathering information and we will be doing so through the consultation processes, which are ongoing.

Senator URQUHART: If there are plans to commission research or modelling, could you give me the nature of what the research and modelling is and what the value of the contract would be?

Mr Bean: Certainly.

Answer:

1. The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) signed a contract on March 29, 2017 to commission research to inform its spectrum review implementation.
2. The research will be supplied by Analysys Mason.
3. The research is expected to inform the ACMA's implementation of regulatory policy reforms as specified by the Spectrum Review. The research will identify regulatory best practice in spectrum management drawing on international developments and innovations in regulatory practice in licensing, allocation, equipment rules and compliance and enforcement approaches which minimise regulatory burden.
4. The total fixed price for this commissioned research is AU\$94,070 (including GST).
5. The ACMA has no plans to commission modelling to inform its spectrum review implementation.