

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Budget Estimates Spill-over Hearing June 2017**

**Communications Portfolio**

**NBN Co Limited**

**Question No: 356**

**NBN Co Limited**

**Hansard Ref: Written, 27/06/2017**

**Topic: Research on entrepreneurs in Launceston**

**Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:**

On 22 June 2017 NBN Co published a media release titled ‘New wave of Launceston Lifestylepreneurs’. The release went on to state:

“Launceston has been named one of the nation’s top entrepreneurial hotspots according to leading KPMG Demographer Bernard Salt.”

“Commissioned by nbn, the Launceston Lifestylepreneur Report reveals that micro businesses (1-4 employees) in the area have been growing at an annual rate of three per cent for the last two years.”

- (a) Please advise what fixed-line NBN technology is Launceston predominantly served by?
- (b) How many premises in Launceston have Fibre to the Premises?
- (c) How many premises in Launceston have Fibre to the Node?
- (d) What was the cost of the Lifestylepreneur Report commissioned by NBN Co?
- (e) What was the cost of the breakfast in Launceston promoting Fibre to the Premises NBN and the Lifestylepreneur Movement on 22 June 2017? Please include payments to Mr Bernard Salt, cost of catering, room hire, flights, accommodation, ground transport and any other costs.
- (f) What is the virtue of promoting fibre to the premises NBN in Launceston, where for example the Charles Clinic Heart Centre has its main operations, at the same time that people an hour and a half drive to the west in Burnie face the loss of a critical service due to the failure of Fibre to the Node NBN to guarantee an upload speed of 10Mbps?

**Answer:**

- (a) This area is predominantly FTTP
- (b) Approximately 39,000 premises are in the FTTP footprint
- (c) Approximately 1500 premises are served with FTTN technology.
- (d) nbn has a publicly available advertising and marketing budget within which it operates in order to generate revenue and ensure a return on investment to taxpayers. Within that budget, nbn runs a number of consumer campaigns and research insights are commissioned as part of these campaigns to make sure Australians are aware of the benefits of the nbn™ network in an aim to drive activations. The details of the individual costs these research reports are commercial-in-confidence as nbn works with numerous/multiply research vendors
- (e) \$2609.61 ex GST

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- (f) The campaign referred to is not focused on any particular technology. In regard to the clinic referred to, a site was recently chosen for a new node to service these premises. The node will be located approximately 500 metres from the centre's communications room. At that distance the expected upload speeds are more than 30 Mbps, which far exceeds what the clinic has said they require.