

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2016
Communications Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 165

NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: Page 18, 25/11/2016

Topic: On demand fibre to the distribution point - Costs

Senator Bushby, David asked:

Senator CHISHOLM: How would the on-demand fibre to the distribution point to fibre to the home upgrade option actually work in practice in terms of the choices that people have? Would someone be expected to pay around \$1,200 per premise to actually get that technology into their home?

Mr Morrow: Obviously, we offer this to anybody that is interested. Do not quote me on this, but I believe we have had roughly 300 or 400 qualified applications that have come through. There have been only 21 in total that have actually proceeded with this. When you look at the ones that have taken it, typically they are moving from fixed wireless to fibre to the premises. I think there are a couple now that have been from fibre to the node to fibre to the premises. We find that it is typically private schools that are willing to pay for this. You see a couple of multidwelling units where the strata has gotten together and said, 'We want to go ahead and pull fibre in to the rest of the house', or a business that is in a particular location. I think there might be one case, or two at the very most, of individual residents that have chosen to do this. That cost range will vary depending on how far away they are from where the node is, because we know we have fibre up until that point, or the way in which the house is constructed on the property. There is a varied range behind that, but we do process the applications and we have seen a number come through.

CHAIR: Would it be possible to provide on notice an average of what the cost has been?

Mr Morrow: Averages are dangerous, Senator. Why don't we take that away to see what we can actually apply to give you a sense of roughly what the costs look like.

Answer:

Please refer to Question 140 from the supplementary hearing on 18 October 2016.