

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

**Cross Portfolio**

**Department of Employment Question No. EM0183\_15**

**Senator Ludwig provided in writing.**

**Question**

**Media monitoring**

1. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? a) Which agency or agencies provided these services? b) What has been spent providing these services from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? c) Itemise these expenses.

**Answer**

Since the Machinery of Government changes that took effect on 18 September 2013, the media monitoring service has been shared between the Department of Employment and the Department of Education, and it is not possible to provide costs for the Department of Employment only for the period requested.

The total cost of media monitoring to both departments since Additional Estimates in February, 2014 up to 31 May 2014 is \$148,141 excluding GST.

The services were provided by Australian Associated Press (AAP) until their contract was taken over by iSentia.

The arrangement with AAP had a number of inclusions in the monthly payment, mainly the provision of the media monitoring portal and relevant media clips; along with a number of file downloads and transcripts per month. iSentia also provide a media portal and clips for a monthly payment. It is not possible to provide a further breakdown of expenses for the period requested.