

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2015-16**

Finance Portfolio  
9 February 2016

**Department/Agency:** Department of Finance

**Outcome/Program:** 2/2.2

**Topic:** ICON

**Senator:** Wong

**Question reference number:** F144

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** Friday, 1 April 2016

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

1. What is the unit cost for agencies in terms of the number of links that they have?
2. How much does it cost for agencies to have new work done in relation to ICON? Is there a unit/fixed cost for this?

**Answer:**

1. As at 31 December 2015 there are 3,175 fibre cores in use across Commonwealth Government with an average unit cost of \$1,773 p/a. The cost to an agency will be proportional to the number of fibre cores, or “units” they consume.
2. New work is designed and directed by the Department of Finance and procured under an open market approach. Costs are passed through to the agency requesting the connection to ICON. Each work request is unique and it would not be appropriate to disclose contemporary market pricing as this would be prejudicial to interests of the Commonwealth impairing the ability to pursue value for money in associated procurements.