

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet
Topic: Websites

Senator: Bilyk, Catryna

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Type of question:

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Question:

1. What were the top 20 most utilised (by data sent and received) unique domain names accessed by departmental staff in calendar year 2016?
2. What were the top 20 most accessed (by number of times accessed) unique domain names accessed by departmental staff in calendar year 2016?

Answer:

1. The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) is unable to accurately provide the top 20 most utilised unique domain names accessed by departmental staff in 2016. Due to how modern websites work, deliberately accessed or utilised domains names are overshadowed by backend content delivery systems, advertising networks, constant content refreshing and tracking domains. PM&C's software is unable to distinguish between domains deliberately utilised by staff members and those domains that are accessed through the background operations of a website.
2. As above, PM&C is unable to accurately provide the most accessed unique domain names by departmental staff in 2016 due to content delivery, advertising and tracking domains skewing any results that may be derived from PM&C's logging capabilities.