

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013-2014**

**Finance Portfolio**

**Question reference number:** F92

**Senator:** Ludwig

**Topic:** Media Subscriptions

**Question:**

1. What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have?
  - a) Please provide a list of what channels and the reason for each channel.
  - b) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?
  - c) What is provided to the Minister or their office?
  - d) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?
2. What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have?
  - a) Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each.
  - b) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?
  - c) What is provided to the Minister or their office?
  - d) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?
3. What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have?
  - a) Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each.
  - b) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?
  - c) What is provided to the Minister or their office?
  - d) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?
4. What publications does your department/agency purchase?
  - a) Please provide a list of publications purchased by the department and the reason for each.
  - b) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?
  - c) What is provided to the Minister or their office?
  - d) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?

**Answer:**

<b>Department / Agency</b>	<b>Response</b>
Finance	1. The Department of Finance has subscriptions to Foxtel and Parliamentary TV. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Foxtel assists Finance officials to stay informed of news, current affairs and world events. Parliamentary TV assists Finance officials with monitoring of Parliamentary Question time and Estimates hearings. Current channels provided under the Foxtel subscription are:   <i>BBC World</i>  <i>Bloomberg Television</i></li> </ol>

	<p><i>CNBC</i>  <i>CNN</i>  <i>Fox News Channel</i>  <i>Sky News Channel</i>  Parliamentary TV is a single channel service.</p> <p>b) Costs from 7 September to 31 October 2013, inclusive of GST were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Foxtel – \$10,745.52</li> <li>- Parliamentary TV – \$2,270.20 (pro-rated proportion of annual cost)</li> </ul> <p>c) Nil.</p> <p>d) N/A.</p> <p>2. Newspaper subscriptions provide information that may be used for inform policy development, provide advice to government and monitor news, current affairs and trends.</p> <p>a) <i>The Age</i>  <i>The Australian</i>  <i>Australian Financial Review</i>  <i>The Canberra Times</i>  <i>The Daily Telegraph</i>  <i>The Herald Sun</i>  <i>Melbourne Herald</i>  <i>The Sydney Morning Herald</i></p> <p>b) Costs from 7 September to 31 October 2013 inclusive of GST were \$13,117.21.</p> <p>c) <u>Minister for Finance</u>  <i>The Australian</i>  <i>Australian Financial Review</i>  <i>The Canberra Times</i>  <i>The Daily Telegraph</i>  <i>The West Australian</i>  <u>Special Minister of State</u> – Nil  <u>Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance</u> – Nil</p> <p>d) Costs from 7 September to 31 October 2013 inclusive of GST were:  <u>Minister for Finance</u> – \$352.04.  <u>Special Minister of State</u> – Nil.  <u>Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance</u> – Nil.</p> <p>3. Magazine subscriptions provide information that may be used for inform policy development; provide advice to government; and to monitor news, current affairs and trends.</p> <p>a) <i>Australian and New Zealand Property Journal</i>  <i>Australian Personal Computer Magazine</i>  <i>Australian Economic Review</i>  <i>The CIO Report</i>  <i>The Economist</i>  <i>Property Australia Magazine</i>  <i>The Week</i>  <i>The Spectator</i>  <i>Australian Journal of Public Administration</i>  <i>Budget Monitor</i></p>
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	<p><i>Business Outlook</i>  <i>Business Review Weekly</i>  <i>Public Administration</i>  <i>The Quarterly Essay</i></p> <p>b) Costs from 7 September to 31 October 2013 inclusive of GST were \$1,128.57.</p> <p>c) <u>Minister for Finance – <i>The Economist</i></u>  <u>Special Minister of State – Nil</u>  <u>Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance – Nil</u></p> <p>d) Costs from 7 September to 31 October 2013 inclusive of GST were:  <u>Minister for Finance – \$55.00</u>  <u>Special Minister of State – N/A</u>  <u>Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance – N/A</u></p> <p>4. Publication subscriptions are used to monitor the profile of investment and its contribution to economic activity; to provide a private sector view of the Commonwealth budget and fiscal outlook; and to assist in monitoring wage price inflation and the indexation of Government expenditure.</p> <p>a) Australian Bureau of Statistics – Unpublished breakdown of quarterly Wage Price Index (WPI) – by level of government by jurisdiction  Deloitte Access Economics – <i>Investment Monitor</i>  Deloitte Access Economics - <i>Budget Monitor</i>  <i>Harvard Business Review</i>  <i>Property Daily</i>  <i>Commonwealth Law Reports</i></p> <p>During the nominated period, the Finance Library purchased 5 publications. These items were purchased to keep the Library collection current and useful, and as a result of client requests relevant to the interests of the Department. Titles were as follows:  <i>Design Thinking for Strategic Innovation: What They Can't Teach You at Business or Design School</i>  <i>Australian Policy Handbook</i>  <i>Uncommon Sense, Common Nonsense</i>  <i>Australia's Competitiveness: From Lucky Country to Competitive Country</i>  <i>Hello World: Where Design Meets Life</i></p> <p>b) Costs from 7 September to 31 October 2013, inclusive of GST, were \$2,656.70.</p> <p>c) Nil.</p> <p>d) N/A.</p>
AEC	<p>1. a) House Monitoring System (Parliamentary TV), to observe the work of the Parliament.  b) The cost from 7 September to 31 October for House Monitoring is \$990.  c) Nil.  d) N/A.</p> <p>2. a) - d)  The AEC's financial system does not provide reporting data on newspaper</p>

	<p>subscriptions. To provide the level of detail sought would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.</p> <p>3. a) - d) The AEC's financial system does not provide reporting data on magazine subscriptions. To provide the level of detail sought would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.</p> <p>4. a) - d) The AEC's financial system does not provide reporting data on purchase of publications. To provide the level of detail sought would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.</p>
ComSuper	<p>1. Nil. a) - d) N/A.</p> <p>2. ComSuper's newspaper subscriptions are: a) <i>The Canberra Times</i> <i>The Financial Review</i> <i>The Australian</i>.</p> <p>The reason for each of ComSuper's newspaper subscriptions is to keep abreast of current events.</p> <p>b) The cost for ComSuper's newspaper subscription for the period 7 September to 31 October 2013 is \$230.00.</p> <p>c) - d) N/A.</p> <p>3. ComSuper's magazine subscriptions are: a) <i>Govt news subscription</i> <i>AHRI magazine</i> <i>InDesign emagazine</i> <i>Harvard Business Review</i> <i>Super Review magazine</i> <i>The Economist magazine</i>.</p> <p>The reason for each of ComSuper's magazine subscriptions is to keep abreast of current events.</p> <p>b) The cost for ComSuper's magazine subscription for the period 7 September to 31 October 2013 is \$90.00.</p> <p>c) - d) N/A.</p> <p>4. Nil. a) - d) N/A.</p>
Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation	<p>1. Foxtel – Business Value Package a) <i>Bloomberg TV</i> <i>Sky News</i> <i>Fox News</i> Media monitoring – staff education</p> <p>b) \$161.32. c) Nil. d) N/A.</p>

	<p>2.</p> <p>a) <i>The Australian</i> <i>Canberra Times</i> <i>Financial Review</i> <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> <i>Media monitoring – staff education</i></p> <p>b) \$354.62. c) Nil. d) N/A.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>a) <i>The Economist</i> <i>Harvard Business Review</i> <i>Pensions and Investments</i> <i>Journal of Portfolio Management</i> <i>Journal of Index Investing</i> <i>Staff education</i></p> <p>b) Approximately \$666.67. c) Nil. d) N/A.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>a) CCH – Weekly Federal Bill Tracker subscription 01/10/13 – 30/09/14 CCH – various loose leaf and electronic business services Staff information, research.</p> <p>b) Approximately \$1,730. c) Nil. d) N/A.</p>
<p>Future Fund Management Agency</p>	<p>1.</p> <p>a) <i>Foxtel</i>. The Future Fund operates in financial markets and we subscribe to Foxtel Business Premium Package to gain access to the business and news channels. b) \$272.72 c) N/A. d) N/A.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>a) <i>The Age</i> <i>The Australian</i> <i>The Australian Financial Review</i> <i>Financial Times</i> We subscribe to access business, economic and financial news and comment. b) \$229.20. c) N/A. d) N/A.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>a) None. b) N/A.</p>

c) N/A.

d) N/A.

4.

a) None.

b) N/A.

c) N/A.

d) N/A.