

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2014-15

Finance Portfolio

Department/Agency: All
Outcome/Program: General
Topic: Media subscriptions

Senator: Ludwig

Question reference number: F87

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Wednesday, 31 December 2014

Number of pages: 7

Question:

Since Budget Estimates in May 2014:

1. What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have?
 - a) Please provide a list of channels and the reason for each channel.
 - b) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
 - c) What is provided to the Minister or their office?
 - d) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
2. What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have?
 - a) Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each.
 - b) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
 - c) What is provided to the Minister or their office?
 - d) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
3. What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have?
 - a) Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each.
 - b) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
 - c) What is provided to the Minister or their office?
 - d) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
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 has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
 - c) What is provided to the Minister or their office?
 - d) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?

Answer:

Department/ Agency	Response
Finance	Refer to <u>Attachment A</u> .
Australian Electoral Commission	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. TV subscription for the House Monitoring System (Parliamentary TV). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The House Monitoring System (Parliamentary TV) to observe the work of the Parliament. b) No charges received for the period 28 May to 31 October 2014. c) Nil. d) N/A. 2. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) – d). The AEC’s financial system does not provide reporting data on newspaper subscriptions. To provide the level of data sought would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources. 3. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) – d). The AEC’s financial system does not provide reporting data on magazine subscriptions. To provide the level of data sought would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources. 4. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) – d). The AEC’s financial system does not provide reporting data on publications purchased. To provide the level of data sought would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.
ComSuper	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nil. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) – d) N/A. 2. ComSuper’s newspaper subscriptions are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Canberra Times. • The Financial Review. • The Australian. <p>The reason for each of ComSuper’s newspaper subscriptions is to keep abreast of current events.</p> b) For the period 28 May to 31 October 2014 - \$1,684.44. c) – d) N/A. 3. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • InDesign e-magazine • Harvard Business Review • Super Review magazine • The Economist magazine. <p>The reason for each of ComSuper’s magazine subscriptions is to keep abreast of current events.</p> b) For the period 28 May to 31 October 2014 - \$147.58. c) – d) N/A. 4. Nil. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) – d) N/A.

Department/ Agency	Response
Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation	<p>1. Foxtel – Business Value Package.</p> <p>a)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bloomberg TV. • Sky News. • Fox News. <p>Purpose is for media monitoring and staff education.</p> <p>b) Cost for the period 28 May to 31 October 2014 - \$603.67.</p> <p>c) Nil.</p> <p>d) N/A.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>a)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Australian. • Canberra Times. • Australian Financial Review. • Sydney Morning Herald. <p>Purpose of all subscriptions is for media monitoring and staff education.</p> <p>b) Cost for the period 28 May to 31 October 2014 - \$2,690.38.</p> <p>c) Nil.</p> <p>d) N/A.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>a)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Economist. • Harvard Business Review. • Pensions and Investments. • Journal of Portfolio Management. • Journal of Index Investing. • The New Yorker. • Institutional Investor Journal. • Geopolitical Risk & Intelligence. • Crikey. <p>Purpose of all subscriptions is for staff education.</p> <p>b) Cost for the period 28 May to 31 October 2014 - \$676.98.</p> <p>c) Nil.</p> <p>d) N/A.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>a)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCH – Weekly Federal Bill Tracker Subscription. • CCH – Superannuation Digest. • CCH – Aus Corporation & Securities Legislation. • CCH – Parliament Political Alert. • CCH – Government News. • CCH – Federal Legal Bill Tracker. <p>Purpose of all subscription is for staff information.</p> <p>b) Cost for the period 28 May to 31 October 2014 - \$2,281.22.</p> <p>c) Nil.</p> <p>d) N/A.</p>
Future Fund Management Agency	<p>For the period 28 May 2014 to 31 October 2014:</p> <p>1.</p> <p>a) Foxtel. The Future Fund operates in financial markets and we subscribe to Foxtel Business Premium Package to gain access to the business and news.</p>

Department/ Agency	Response
	<p>channels.</p> <p>b) \$705. c) Nil. d) Nil.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>a)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Age. • The Australian. • The Australian Financial Review. • Financial Times. • The Business Spectator. • Wall Street Journal. <p>The reason is to keep abreast of current events.</p> <p>b) \$8,889. c) Nil. d) Nil.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>a) The Economist. b) \$832. c) Nil. d) Nil.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>a) – d). Nil.</p>

ATTACHMENT A – Department of Finance

1. Foxtel television subscription and Parliamentary TV subscription.
 - a) Foxtel television subscription informs news, current affairs and world events. Parliamentary TV subscription for monitoring of Parliamentary Question time and Estimates hearings.

Foxtel television subscription channels are:

- A-PAC;
- BBC World News;
- Bloomberg;
- CNBC;
- CNN;
- Fox News;
- Sky News National; and
- Sky News Business.

Parliamentary TV subscription channels are:

- House of Representative;
- Senate;
- Main Committee of the House of Representative; and
- Four Committee Channels.

- b) Foxtel television subscription - \$9,861.
Parliamentary TV subscription - \$2,837.
 - c) Nil.
 - d) N/A.

2.

- a)
 - The Australian;
 - The Australian (Digital Pass);
 - The Canberra Times;
 - Australian Financial Review (AFR);
 - AFR digital;
 - The Daily Telegraph;
 - Sydney Morning Herald;
 - The Age; and
 - Melbourne Herald Sun.

All newspaper subscriptions are for staff to keep abreast of current issues reported by the media to assist with the provision of advice to Government; policy development; and the monitoring of daily financial statistics. These publications also enable Senior Executives to maintain a close watch on current affairs for issues relating to business operations.

- b) \$28, 697.69.

c)

Minister for Finance and Office:

- The Australian;
- The Australian Financial Review;
- Canberra Times;
- The Economist;
- The Melbourne Herald Sun;
- Sydney Morning Herald;
- Daily Telegraph;
- The West Australian;
- Online Financial Review;
- Online The Australian;
- Online Melbourne Age; and
- Online Sydney Morning Herald.

Special Minister of State and office:

Nil.

Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and office:

- The Australian; and
- The Australian Financial Review.

d) For the period 1 June to 31 October 2014:

- Minister for Finance and office – \$6,616.49
- Special Minister of State and office – Nil.
- Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and office – \$638.90.

3.

a)

- Campaign Brief;
- Media Week;
- Super Rating;
- The Economist;
- The Spectator;
- Quarterly Essay;
- Australian Economic Review;
- Australian Journal of Public Administration;
- Public Administration;
- New Scientist;
- OECD Economic Outlook;
- Communications Arts; and
- Desktop.

The magazine subscriptions inform specialist subject matter and inform current research and relevant industry direction and communications and graphic design needs of the department. They assist staff to keep abreast current issues reported by the media to assist with the provision of advise to Government, Policy development and the monitoring of daily financial statistics.

b) \$8,108.23.

c) Nil.

d) N/A.

4.

a)

- Property Daily;
- Engineers Australia;
- Property Council of Australia;
- Macroeconomics;
- Consensus Forecasts – Energy and Metals;
- Consensus Economics – Asia-Pacific consensus forecasts; and
- Australian Bureau of Statistics – WPI Annual Subscription.

These publications assist research in public policy and management, fiscal and economic matters, and provide information that may be used to inform policy development, analyse and provide advice to Government.

b) \$17,175.78.

c) Nil.

d) N/A.