

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO

Program: General

Question No. AE17/111

Senator Bilyk asked the following question at the hearing on 28 February 2017:

1. How much has the Department spent on media monitoring since 1 October 2016 (GST inclusive)?

Can a list of all Contract Notice IDs for the Austender website in relation to media monitoring contracts please be provided?

2. How many media or public relations advisers are employed in the Department?

At what APS level (eg EL2, APS5) is each staff member employed?

Can an organisational chart for the relevant area of the Department please be provided?

What was the total cost of employing relevant staff in calendar year 2016 (please provide a global figure)?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

1. The cost of media monitoring for the department from 1 October 2016 to 31 March 2017 was \$385,673.89 (GST exclusive). It would be an unreasonable diversion of resources to calculate the amount that is GST inclusive.

This cost does not include media monitoring for the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, or the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children in the Northern Territory.

The cost of media monitoring for the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse from 1 October 2016 to 31 March 2017 was \$31,649.40 (GST exclusive).

The cost of media monitoring for the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children in the Northern Territory from 1 October 2016 to 31 March 2017 was \$19,093.39 (GST exclusive).

The Contract Notice ID related to the department's media monitoring contract with iSentia is CN1430632-A5.

This is the same Contract Notice ID related to media monitoring for the above mentioned Royal Commissions.

2. The department has a total of 10 media or public relations advisers:

- 2 x EL2s
- 4 x EL1s
- 4 x APS5-6s.

An organisation chart for the relevant areas of the department is overleaf.

The total cost of employing the department's 10 media or public relations advisers in 2016 was \$965,676.54.

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse has a total of three media or public relations advisers:

- 1 x EL2
- 2 x EL1s

The total cost of employing the Commission's media or public relations advisers in 2016 was \$398,093.06.

Various arrangements have been applicable for the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children in the Northern Territory since its inception in August 2016. At the end of the 2016 calendar year, the Commission had a total of four media or public relations advisers:

- 1 x contractor
- 2 x EL1s
- 1 x APS6

The total cost of employing the Commission's media or public relations advisers in 2016 was \$180,312.09

The total cost of employing the media or public relations advisers for the department and the Commissions in 2016 was \$1,544,081.60

