

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2011-12 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** Cross

**Question No:** 366

**Topic:** Social Media

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator** Boyce asked:

Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and usage of YouTube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since October 2010? Please explain.

**Answer:**

Yes. FaHCSIA's official Social Media Guidelines were released in April 2011. On 15 April 2011, restrictions on the use of social media websites by Departmental staff were lifted.

All staff within FaHCSIA now have access to social media sites including Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, Bebo and Twitter.

All official responses on behalf of FaHCSIA on social media sites are only made by the Communication and Media Branch or relevant Senior Executive Service Officers.