

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Additional Estimates Hearings February 2013
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
Australian Communications and Media Authority

Question No: 194

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: Page 116

Topic: ACMA Website

Senator Ronaldson asked:

What contracts were or are in place relating to any preliminary or ongoing development and design, and what are the contract ID numbers for these contracts.

Answer:

There are 18 contracts related to the ACMA website redevelopment. Details are attached.

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No	Date	Contract Number	AusTender ID	Contractor
1	14-October-2010	10ACMA066	CN345575	Symmetrica Pty Limited
2	26-April-2012	11ACMA052	CN508932	Reading Room Australia Pty Ltd
3	08-November-2011	11ACMA062	CN450945	Gruden Pty Ltd
4	27-September-2011	11ACMA060	CN439617	Brightcove
5	25-May-2012	12ACMA036	CN576111	Optimal Experience Pty Ltd
6	28-May-2012	12ACMA083	CN556832	Aer Design Pty Ltd
7	08-August-2012	12ACMA179	CN829031	Aer Design Pty Ltd
8	27-April-2011	06ACMA107	CN381969	SMS Consulting Group Ltd
9	03-March-2011	06ACMA107	CN369923	Peoplebank Australia Pty Ltd
10	22-September-2010	06ACMA107	CN332844	Clicks Recruit Pty Ltd
11	13-July-2011	06ACMA107	CN408909	Hitech Personnel
12	11-May-2012	12ACMA060	CN509172	Alexander McGregor
13	14-May-2012	09ACMA098	CN512562	DFP Recruitment Services
14	06-December-2012	09ACMA098	CN1076581	DFP Recruitment Services
15	14-March-2012	06ACMA107	CN470216	Candle ICT Recruitment
16	10-October-2012	12ACMA040	CN960641	Candle ICT Recruitment
17	28-June-2012	06ACMA107	CN661891	Hitech Personnel
18	11-May-2012	06ACMA107	CN508832	Candle ICT Recruitment

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Hansard Ref: Page 83

Topic: ACMA Contracts

Senator Ronaldson asked:

If you are going to take it on notice, that is fine. But can ACMA confirm that it has a contract with KIT Digital Australia, formerly Hyro Australia Ltd, for \$276,200, between September 2011 and 19 September 2014? Can you detail what that contract related to. Are you aware that that company has now gone into administration? Can you ascertain for me why the original contract with Hyro Australia was for 12 months—Hyro became KIT Digital—and it was extended to 2014. Can you tell me what parts of the contract KIT Digital have so far performed? Can the contract be completed with a new provider and, if so, who? Can you ascertain what the cost to ACMA will be of this company going into administration?

Answer:

The ACMA can confirm the contract.

The contract was for Cybersmart website support, maintenance and professional services.

The ACMA is aware that Kit Digital Australia has gone into administration.

The initial period of 12 months was set consistent with common practice in contracting for services. The ACMA exercised an option under the contract for a further two years performance, following effective performance in the contract's first 12 months.

Kit Digital Pty Ltd provided support services in accordance with the contract for the period September – 19 December 2012.

No. The ACMA will proceed via a competitive approach to secure the services of a new provider.

The cost cannot be ascertained with precision at the present time because the cost of development and issue of a new work specification together with the evaluation process is unknown.

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Question No: 196

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Digital Radio Maps

Senator Cameron asked:

1. I am not sure if you can access it, but you have got a map on your website. Are you aware of that map that shows the spread of the digital radio? It looks to me as if after you leave the Sydney metropolitan area it becomes really patchy in terms of whether you can access it. For instance, if I am reading this map correctly, areas like Richmond, Wilberforce, Windsor, Mulgoa, Luddenham and Horsley Park—very heavy populated areas—do not have access to digital radio?
2. I may not be reading the map properly at all. It is a 2010 map. The legend does not give me a clear understanding that if the colour I am looking at is for the penetration of digital radio. If it is, there is still a problem. I am not sure whether it has improved since 2010. Are there any plans for repeater stations or booster stations in areas outside of the Sydney metropolitan area?

Answer:

- 1) An extensive search of all documents on the ACMA's website has not disclosed any maps of the digital radio coverage in the Sydney area fitting this description. The digital radio web page contains links to maps of the five licence areas in which digital radio services are provided on an ongoing basis, however these maps do not show coverage. Publicly available information about coverage of digital radio is generally provided by the radio broadcasters themselves. For instance, the ABC provides this information on its website at: http://www.abc.net.au/reception/radio/dr_coverage.htm. The ACMA understands these digital radio coverage estimates are based on desktop modelling.

For the specific locations mentioned by Senator Cameron, the ABC coverage map for digital radio in Sydney indicates either no reception or 'rural coverage'. Rural coverage is described as "*Difficult reception indoors. Possible outdoor or in car reception. This area provides coverage highly dependent on geographic location. Reception may be available in high locations on radios with external antennas. In some cases an external antennas and boosters maybe required on the fringe.*"

The digital radio industry web site also includes information on coverage:

http://www.digitalradioplus.com.au/index.cfm?page_id=1003 and
http://www.digitalradioplus.com.au/index.cfm?page_id=1054.

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- 2) As with other forms of broadcasting, ‘black spots’ in digital radio coverage can result from a range of local factors, including ‘shielding’ (signal obstruction) by buildings or other terrain features. The extent of coverage achieved also depends on whether the receiver is mobile (ie installed in a vehicle), outdoors or indoors. The sensitivity of individual receivers may also vary significantly. The use of on-channel repeater (OCR) technology can potentially resolve these ‘black-spots.

OCR technology is spectrally efficient because it rebroadcasts using the same digital radio channel or channels as the main transmitters. OCRs require careful planning, however, to manage the risk of interference to digital radio or television reception.

The ACMA is in discussions with broadcasters about a list of potential sites for OCRs across the Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth digital radio markets, including western Sydney. At this early stage, the precise technical detail of OCRs under discussion has not been settled, nor whether all multiplexes, or merely some multiplexes, would participate initially. In these circumstances ACMA believes it is premature to raise expectations that any particular black-spot area would be addressed.

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Question No: 197

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Windsor-Blue Mountains area – Digital radio reception

Senator Cameron asked:

- 1) Could you take on notice then as to whether the Windsor-Blue Mountains area will achieve boosters to improve digital radio reception?
- 2) A linked question to that is: could you also advise us what the priorities are for putting booster stations into place? How do you make the determination as to who will get access to booster stations and what areas?

Answer:

- 1) Permanent digital radio services, using DAB+ technology in VHF Band III spectrum, commenced in the metropolitan markets of Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney in July 2009.

Since then, Industry has identified a number of areas within these metropolitan markets, including Windsor and other areas in the wider Sydney market, where existing digital radio coverage may be deficient. The use of on-channel repeaters (OCRs) is one possible way to resolve coverage deficiencies.

The ACMA is in discussions with broadcasters about a list of potential sites for OCRs across the Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth digital radio markets. At this early stage, the precise technical detail, including location, of OCRs under discussion has not been settled, nor whether all multiplexes, or merely some multiplexes, would participate initially. In these circumstances ACMA believes it is premature to raise expectations that any particular black-spot area would be addressed.

While Windsor is contained within the Sydney digital radio market, wider Blue Mountains region is not and is part of a regional licence area. There are no current plans to extend the Sydney digital radio services to the Blue Mountains.

- 2) Decisions as to which areas should gain access to OCRs are made initially by the radio industry, which will be paying for any OCRs. Accordingly, questions about the priority accorded particular black spot solutions should be directed to digital radio broadcasters. Requests to provide OCRs are also subject to ACMA approval, so must meet such general planning criteria as the requirements to avoid interference to other services or excessive overspill beyond the boundaries of the licence area in question.

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Question No: 198

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: Page 85

Topic: Bytecard decision in Federal Court

Senator Campbell asked:

CHAIR: The Federal Court decision was to award \$75,000 in penalties against the company, and \$37,500 against its director. Was this a big company?

Ms McNeill: The company is a modestly sized company.

CHAIR: What sort of turnover do they have—do you have any idea?

Ms McNeill: I do not have the information to hand.

CHAIR: Could you take that on notice, because I would be interested to know what the size of the penalties against both the company and the director are in relation to turnover. I suppose if it were a Telstra-sized company then \$75,000 is not a lot of money, but for a small company it could be quite a significant penalty. I am just trying to get my head around what these Federal Court penalties are.

Answer:

Bytecard and its director neither appeared at the Federal Court hearing nor filed evidence as to their financial circumstances. Accordingly, information as 'turnover' is not available.

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Question No: 199

Program No. ACMA

Hansard Ref: In writing

Topic: Digital dividend spectrum sale

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Before the Minister directed the ACMA to set the reserve price in the 700MHz band at \$1.36 per MHz per head of population, had the ACMA already set or recommended a reserve price for the 700MHz band?
2. If so, what was that price?
3. What work had the ACMA undertaken on setting a reserve auction price for the 700MHz band before the Minister intervened?
4. Can you explain what will happen if none of the bidders bid at the reserve price? Will this not slow down rather than accelerate the roll out of 4G services?
5. Can you explain what will happen if there is only one bidder at the auction?
6. What will happen if there are insufficient bids on each bundle or parcel of spectrum?
7. Given the Combinatorial Clock Auction format was chosen in order to maximise the value of this waterfront property spectrum and ensure bidders pay a competitive price, what will be the value of this auction process when there if there is only one bidder?
8. Do you believe setting the reserve auction price at \$1.36 per MHz per head of population for the 700MHz band and selecting the Combinatorial Clock Auction format will successfully meet the objectives of the Radiocommunications Act 1992 to maximise the “public benefits” of the spectrum?

Answer:

1. No, the ACMA had not set a reserve price for the 700 MHz band before it received the Minister’s direction.
2. Not applicable (see answer #1, above).
3. The ACMA undertook detailed research on international spectrum markets during 2012.
- 4-7. These scenarios did not arise in the bidding process.
8. It is not for the ACMA to comment on Government policy or directions of the Minister.

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Question No: 200

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: 1800 MHz spectrum licence renewal

Senator Birmingham asked:

- 1) Does the ACMA expect all current spectrum licences in the 1800MHz spectrum band to be reissued?
- 2) Does the ACMA expect to resell the two expired spectrum licences prior to the 17 June deadline?
- 3) What plans do the ACMA and the Minister have in place to ensure any spectrum that is not re-allocated before 17 June do not revert to unlicensable and unsaleable assets?
- 4) What are the ACMA's plans for any spectrum that is not re-issued?
- 5) I understand it is the ACMA's expectation that the 10MHz in the 800MHz band may not be sufficient in the event of a major disaster in a big capital city and the public safety agencies will connect to commercial mobile networks. What arrangements will the ACMA put in place to guarantee the PSAs have fast and reliable access to the commercial operators' networks? Will the ACMA be responsible for negotiating and governing the terms on which these arrangements are made?
- 6) Given the recent situation in Queensland where Telstra's network and some of the Optus network went down in the floods, does the ACMA still maintain the commercial networks offer a viable backup in the event of a major disaster?

Answer:

- 1) The ACMA does expect all current spectrum licences in the 1800MHz spectrum band to be re-issued. All incumbent spectrum licensees in the 1800 MHz band have sought reissue of their expiring spectrum licences.
- 2) The two spectrum licences that were returned to the ACMA in January 2010 each had 2.5 MHz of bandwidth and are located in regional areas. Further, there has been limited interest in the allocation of this spectrum. Given the small amount of bandwidth available and the limited demand, the ACMA does not intend to re-allocate the spectrum prior to 17 June 2013.
- 3) The ACMA is currently consulting with industry on a proposal that it recommend to the Minister that he designate for spectrum licensing any spectrum that is not re-issued to incumbent licensees. Such a designation will enable the ACMA to re-allocate the spectrum by a price-based allocation of spectrum licences. If such a designation is not made, the spectrum will continue to be able to be licensed and sold as apparatus licences rather than spectrum licences.

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- 4) The *Radiocommunications Act 1992* provides that spectrum licences that are not reissued to incumbent licensees be reallocated via a price-based allocation process. Any proposed re-allocation activities would be informed by the quantum of spectrum that is not re-issued and the demand for that spectrum. The ACMA would consult with industry to test the demand for that spectrum.

The ACMA referred to reports commissioned by the multi-jurisdiction Public Safety Mobile Broadband (PSMB) Steering Committee in making a decision on spectrum from the 800 MHz band. The reports identified a range of spectrum quantum requirements to support responses to a range of day-to-day, planned, unplanned and emergency scenarios. This analysis noted that with the exception of a major threat in an urban area, 10 MHz of spectrum from the 800 MHz band would be sufficient, including for response to a natural disaster in a regional area.

The major threat scenario was included in the modelling to place an 'upper bound' on the range of possible occurrences. Given the rarity of such an event, the ACMA determined that, rather than permanently reserving additional spectrum for this contingency, it would be better to rely on the range of other spectrum access options available for if/when this type of event were to occur.

Use of commercial networks is one of several other options to increase capacity which may be required in response to a major event in a large capital city. Other options available to provide additional capacity include:

- Use of the 4.9 GHz band
- Deployment of mobile base PSMB stations, or Cells on Wheels (COWs); and
- for the type of inner-metro threat scenario for which the PSMBSC-recommended spectrum demand would exceed the 10 MHz provided, there are provisions in the *Radiocommunications Act, 1992* that would enable access to additional spectrum on a temporary basis.

- 5) Given that the proposed PSA deployment plans do not envisage a build that covers all of Australia, access to commercial networks will need to be negotiated between the Public Safety Agencies (PSAs) and the appropriate commercial operator. The ACMA does not have a role in this process. It should be noted that disasters such as major floods and bush fires typically occur outside the major capital cities and outside the planned coverage areas of the proposed fixed PSMB network. As a result PSAs, in any event, are planning to rely on commercial networks for mobile broadband access in these areas, regardless of how much spectrum is provided for PSMB from the 800 MHz band.

Notwithstanding this, the ACMA believes the use of commercial networks is a viable option for PSAs to increase capacity in areas where the Public Safety Mobile Broadband (PSMB) network exists, and provide coverage in areas where there is no PSMB network coverage. While major incidents such as fire or flood may result in damage to infrastructure supporting commercial cellular networks, there are other options available, such as COWs, for coverage extension in regional and remote areas.

- 6) Yes

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Question No: 201

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Spectrum for Public Safety Agencies

Senator Birmingham asked:

- 1) Can the Minister and the ACMA explain their decision to make available to public safety agencies 10MHz in the 800MHz and 50MHz in the 4.9GHz and not the 20MHz in the 800MHz band as the agencies were calling for and insist is necessary to ensure a robust communications network in the event of a disaster?
- 2) What work is the ACMA undertaking with the states to contribute to an implementation plan to ensure this valuable spectrum is fully utilised?
- 3) Did the ACMA seek any external advice on this issue? If so, from whom?
- 4) The ACMA's offering of 50MHz in the 4.9GHz range has been criticised as being valueless and spectrum that no one else wants. Can the ACMA or the Minister please clarify the usefulness of this spectrum for the public safety agencies in the event of a disaster?

Answer:

- 1) The ACMA's decision to allocate 10 MHz in the 800 MHz band for PSAs is in line with the evidence presented to the Public Safety Mobile Broadband Steering Committee (PSMBSC). The identification of 10 MHz of spectrum is sufficient for day-to-day usage, planned events and regional natural disasters. Although this allocation may not of itself be adequate for large-scale urban scenarios, such as a major terrorist attack in a CBD, the ACMA notes that there are other solutions that would be implemented to provide broadband capacity in such circumstances. Providing an additional 10 MHz of spectrum that would be fully utilised on very rare occasions, if at all, would be inefficient and deny access to this spectrum by the wider Australian community.

In the event that the 800 MHz PSMB capacity is exceeded, any capacity shortfall can be mitigated through other means such as the deployment of Cells on Wheels (COWs), off-loading local traffic to the 4.9 GHz band, or an increased usage of commercial networks.

- 2) The ACMA has been engaged with the PSMBSC throughout its deliberations and has reviewed the National Implementation Plan agreed to by SCPEM. The ACMA has been actively involved in the work of the PSMBSC, which was established by the then Attorney General and the Minister for Broadband Communications and the Digital Economy in May 2011. One of the functions of the PSMBSC was to determine the most efficient and effective means for PSAs to obtain a PSMB capability, which may include the identification of a suitable quantum of 800 MHz band spectrum. Membership of the PSMBSC includes Commonwealth agencies and numerous public safety representative bodies, including:

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- Australia New Zealand Policing Advisory Agency
- Australian Fire and Emergency Authorities Council
- Council of Ambulance Authorities
- Law Enforcement and Security Radio Spectrum Committee
- National Coordinating Committee for Government Radiocommunications
- National Counter Terrorism Committee
- National Emergency Management Committee
- Standing Council on Police and Emergency Management – Senior Offers Group

The ACMA's decision to allocate 10 MHz of spectrum in the 800 MHz band for PSAs is in line with the evidence provided to the PSMBSC in relation to projected usage and throughput requirements, modelled against a range of possible scenarios. The PSMBSC engaged an external contractor, UXC Consulting, to undertake the requirements analysis that led to these recommendations.

- 3) The properties of the 4.9 GHz band lend themselves to high-capacity, short-range communications, they are not a substitute for mobile broadband spectrum in the 800 MHz band rather they complement use of the 800 MHz band in a manner that significantly augments communications capacity local to an incident site; for example, at a siege or as a command support network at a disaster response field headquarters.

Potential applications in the 4.9 GHz band may include WiFi-based Incident Area Networks (IANs), video surveillance links and ad-hoc mesh networks. The band has been harmonised internationally for Public Protection and Disaster Relief, and PSAs in a number of countries, in particular in the United States and Canada, have planned for its use. The Australian technical arrangements mirror international arrangements so as to leverage on existing markets for public safety-specified equipment.

- 4) Refer to answer provided at 1).

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Question No: 202

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Digital Radio

Senator Birmingham asked:

- 1) What planning work has the ACMA undertaken into the rollout of digital radio to regional Australia?
- 2) Has the ACMA been directed by the Minister to concurrently plan for the rollout of digital radio to regional areas while the digital restack is underway?

Answer:

1. The ACMA has undertaken the following planning work into the rollout of digital radio to regional Australia:

In June 2005, in response to a Ministerial direction of December 2004, the Australian Broadcasting Authority (ABA) and the Australian Communications Authority (ACA) (both predecessor agencies to the ACMA) published a study by the joint ABA/ACA Digital Radio Task Group on the availability of spectrum for digital radio services in metropolitan and regional areas.

In September 2007, the ACMA drafted and consulted on planning documents for digital radio in Hobart. Hobart is not considered a metropolitan licence area under the digital radio legislation.

In 2009 the ACMA conducted a case-study examining the spectrum requirements for the provision of DAB+ digital radio services to all regional commercial licence areas on the basis of extant legislative arrangements. The study included consideration of how the spectrum requirement might also be impacted by hypothetical regulatory scenarios, which included a new apparatus licence category and the amalgamation of a small number of regional commercial radio licence areas.

In July 2010, the *Australian Communications and Media Authority (Realising the Digital Dividend) Direction 2010* directed the ACMA that when planning for the restack of digital television, it should make available 14MHz in VHF Band III in each metropolitan licence area for digital radio broadcasting. As a consequence of this direction the ACMA, as part of its planning work on the digital television restack, made provision for spectrum in the range 195 – 209 MHz (corresponding to television channel 9 and an expanded channel 9A (which is currently only 6 MHz until analog switchover)) to be available for digital radio in all areas except for a few remote parts of Australia. This spectrum is expected to be cleared of television services between now and the end of 2014, through the analog television switch-off and digital television restack processes.

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Over the period 2010 to 2012 the ACMA conducted some modelling of the extent of regional roll-out that could be achieved using the 14 MHz allocation. The work consisted of testing the initial feasibility of three models for digital radio roll-out. The work had as its starting premise that it would not be possible to roll out two DAB+ multiplexes in each commercial radio licence area throughout Australia, as contemplated in the current legislation, using only 14 MHz of spectrum.

- a) The first model prioritised regional centres according to population size: that is, it sought to maximise the regional population reach of DAB+ services using only 14 MHz, by rolling out two DAB+ multiplexes to the larger regional centres and any other centres that were not spectrum-constrained. (This presumed that some smaller markets might ultimately require either additional spectrum for DAB+ and/or possibly use of another digital radio technology.)
- b) The second model presumed that only a single multiplex would be rolled out to the smaller regional markets. This multiplex would be shared by all national, commercial and wide-area community services in those markets. (This model would require changes to legislation.)
- c) The third model used a single DAB+ frequency block to operate a state-wide single frequency network (SFN) to carry all national radio services that provided state-based (i.e. no local break-out) programming. The remaining frequency blocks would be used to fit a second multiplex into each market that carried all 'local' national, commercial and community digital services. (This model would also require changes to legislation.)

In 2010, the ACMA commissioned a consultant's report on developments in digital radio technologies. This report provided analysis used in the agency's advice to the Department of Broadband, Communication and the Digital Economy as part of its 2011 statutory review of digital radio technologies for regional Australia.

- 2) No. However, see the answer to question 1 for the ACMA's work identifying and clearing a block of spectrum for regional digital radio and its preliminary work on planning models that might make use of that spectrum.

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Question No: 203

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA)

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Wireless Audio Devices

Senator Birmingham asked:

In regards to the current ACMA discussion paper re proposed variations to the Radiocommunications (Low interference Potential Devices) Class license 200 (IFC 49/2012) and the intent to restrict operation of wireless audio devices to the frequency range 520MHz – 694MHz after 31st December 2014:

- a. How has ACMA given industry and consumers an indication of timing in this regard?
- b. Can industry and consumers purchase a wireless microphone right now in a given range with confidence that it can definitely be used in their city after the cut off date?
- c. What volume of devices are currently being imported at the moment in the 520MHz – 694MHz space?
 - i. Who is importing these devices?
 - ii. Has ACMA communicated these policies to online markets such as eBay?

Answer:

- a. The ACMA has been in consultation with the wireless microphone industry since 2010 and has also conducted several public consultations in regards to the re-allocation of the digital dividend that has led to the proposed changes. The proposed variation provides an additional formal advice of the proposed changes to users and suppliers.
- b. Yes - industry and consumers can purchase a wireless microphone right now in a given range with confidence that it can definitely be used in their city after the cut off date. The ACMA has provided the information on the future availability of frequencies in the range 520 - 694 MHz in cities and other areas through the [restack of digital television services](#) (http://www.acma.gov.au/WEB/STANDARD/pc=PC_312417) indicative restack channel chart available on the ACMA website. Timing of restack can be determined from the [restack channel change timetable](#) available from the Department of Broadband Communications and Digital Economy website (http://www.dbcde.gov.au/television/achieving_the_digital_dividend_-_restack)
- c. The ACMA does not have access to information regarding the volume of devices currently being imported in the 520 – 694 MHz band.
 - i. These devices are imported by a broad range of suppliers and individuals across Australia.
 - ii. The ACMA has not yet directly communicated these policies to online markets.

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Question No: 204

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Wireless Audio Devices

Senator Birmingham asked:

In regards to the possibility of wireless microphones utilising the 700MHz mid-band gap and the ACMA's indicated on several occasions that the so called 700MHz mid band gap (748MHz – 758MHz) will not be included in the upcoming digital dividend auction, it has previously been suggested that this 10MHz of spectrum could be made available to wireless audio devices to partially ease spectrum shortages in congested areas as a result of digital TV restack. However this band was not mentioned in the current LIPD discussion paper.

- a. What are the ACMA's plans for this band?
- b. Will it be made available for wireless audio devices and if so when?
- c. Are tests currently being undertaken to understand the feasibility of utilising this band? If so, when will they be complete?
- d. If this band were made available for wireless audio devices, are you aware of any device manufactured globally which could utilise this band right now?
- e. If manufacturers had to do a special run of product especially for Australia to utilise the 700MHz mid band gap, how long would it take for that product to be designed, manufactured and distributed to Australia consumers?
 - i. Do you believe that it could be designed, placed into production queues, manufactured, shipped to Australia and sold to Australian customers in significant numbers before 1 January 2015?

Answer:

- a. ACMA plans are dependent on the outcome of the current review of the 803-960 MHz band.
- b. If part of the 700 MHz mid-band gap is not required to accommodate other services as a result of the review of the 803-960 MHz band and if the results of the compatibility studies are positive then the ACMA will consider supporting wireless microphones in the 700 MHz mid-band gap. Timing depends on public consultation processes. Depending on the outcome, public consultation on proposals to change the LIPD class licence to include the 700 MHz mid-band gap is anticipated to commence in late 2014.
- c. No tests are being undertaken to understand the feasibility of utilising the 700 MHz mid-band gap.
- d. Yes, several devices have been identified that utilise spectrum in the 700 MHz mid-band gap.

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- e. Equipment is already available in the 700 MHz mid-band gap. The ACMA does not have specific information on manufacturing lead times; typically time frames will depend on quantities ordered from the manufacturer.
- i. The ACMA believes it to be possible for suitable equipment to be available in the 700 MHz mid-band, given that equipment is currently available from suppliers capable of working in the 700 MHz mid-band gap.

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Question No: 205

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Al Manar

Senator Birmingham asked:

- 1) What, if any, processes are in place to stop material encouraging terrorism from being broadcast indefinitely, until a complaint is received?
- 2) Is it possible that Al Manar is broadcasting material that supports terrorism in Australia?
- 3) Have the new anti-terrorism standards been applied to Al Manar Television, if not why not?
- 4) If reasonable suspicion exists that Al Manar or any other broadcaster is broadcasting material likely to encourage terrorism, is there any capacity for ACMA to conduct an investigation in line with the new-anti-terrorism standards prior to the receipt of a complaint?
- 5) Given that ACMA's 2010 finding of breaches by al-Manar led to no material action against al-Manar and that ACMA maintains that al-Manar's broadcasts remain fully legal in Australia despite these findings and the investigation failed to even result in additional subsequent scrutiny of al-Manar's broadcasts by ACMA, what incentive is there for members of the public to go to the trouble of complaining about al-Manar? If there were complaints made against al-Manar which were upheld, are there any prospects that ACMA would be able to take more effective action against incitement to terrorism by the broadcaster?

Answer:

- 1) The ACMA does not pre-vet content, monitor broadcasts or have like processes in place 'to stop material encouraging terrorism from being broadcast'.

The ACMA has published guidelines relating to the Broadcasting Services (Anti-terrorism Requirements for Open Narrowcasting Television Services) Standard 2011 and the Broadcasting Services (Anti-terrorism Requirements for Subscription Television Narrowcasting Services) Standard 2011 (the Anti-terrorism Standards) for the purpose of informing industry and the public about how the Anti-terrorism Standards operate and to assist industry to comply with them. In addition, the ACMA investigates all complaints alleging the broadcast of terrorist content in contravention of the Anti-terrorism Standards.

- 2) The ACMA has not received any complaints alleging the broadcast of terrorist content by the licensee of Al Manar Television in contravention of Anti-terrorism Standards.
- 3) The Anti-terrorism Standards apply to all open and subscription narrowcasting television services, including the licensee of Al Manar Television.

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4) Yes.

Any such investigation would need to relate to a specific program or programs.

5) The ACMA has conducted several investigations concerning Al Manar Television.

The 2010 breach findings were that the licensee of Al Manar Television, Lebanese Communication Group, had breached:

- clause 1.2 of the Open Narrowcast Code by broadcasting the current affairs program, *With the Viewers*, on 15 November 2009, as the program was not presented fairly; and
- clause 1.3 of the Open Narrowcast Code by broadcasting the current affairs program, *With the Event*, on 28 February 2009, as the program was likely to gratuitously vilify a group on the basis of ethnicity and religion.

No breach of the (then applicable) 2008 Anti-Terrorism Standards was found.

In 2011, the (current) Anti-terrorism Standards were made. A person may complain directly to the ACMA if that person believes the Anti-terrorism Standards have been breached.

If such a complaint was made to and upheld by the ACMA, the actions potentially available to the ACMA in response to a breach include:

- giving the narrowcaster a written notice directing the narrowcaster to take action to ensure that it does not breach the Anti-terrorism Standards in the future; and
- applying to the Federal Court for an ordering direct the narrowcaster to cease providing the service.

The action taken in respect of any particular breach would depend on all the relevant facts and circumstances.

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Australian Communications and Media Authority

Question No: 206

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Cyber Safety's High Wire Act

Senator Cameron asked:

Could you please advise what progress has been made in relation to the recommendations from the Joint Select Committee on Cyber Safety's High Wire Act?

Answer:

An update on progress against recommendations 3, 15, 16, 17, 19, 24, 26, 29 is provided in the table attached.

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#	Recommendation	Status
3	That the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy and the Minister for School Education, Early Childhood and Youth work with the Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth and the Australian Communications and Media Authority to investigate the feasibility of developing and introducing a cyber-safety student mentoring program in Australian schools.	A student mentoring module has been developed for the Cybersmart Professional Development program. This module will help teachers develop student action teams, to empower students to be agents of change within their schools and community. The new module is being rolled out nationally as part of a refreshed Professional Development for Educators program from Term 1 2013.
15	That the Minister for School Education, Early Childhood and Youth and the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy consider extending the Australian Communications and Media Authority's Connect-ED program and other training programs to non-administration staff in Australian schools including school librarians, chaplains and counsellors.	<p>The ACMA's online professional development program, <i>Connect.ed</i>, was designed in consultation with cybersafety experts, teachers and students, to specifically meet the needs of practising teachers. <i>Connect.ed</i> currently consists of four modules that guide teachers in how to integrate an effective cybersafety process and policy into their school.</p> <p>The <i>Connect.ed</i> program model could be expanded to economically deliver an additional module addressing the particular needs and roles of non-administrative staff. Likewise, other Outreach presentations could also be expanded to accommodate the needs of counsellors, librarians and other non-teaching staff through separate, tailored presentations. An internal assessment of possible options will take place in 2013.</p> <p>As an interim solution, all non-administrative staff in schools are able to access <i>Connect.ed</i> in its current format along with our other training programs.</p>
16	That the Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Jobs and Workplace Relations and the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy work together to ensure that sufficient funding is available to ensure the Australian Communications and Media Authority can provide the necessary training for professional development of Australian teachers.	Under current funding arrangements, nearly 72,000 teachers in Australian schools have attended a professional development workshop or internet safety awareness presentation run by the ACMA as at the end of February 2013, with 99 per cent rating it as excellent or very good. More than 2,800 teachers have commenced the ACMA's <i>Connect.ed</i> online professional development program, and over 2100 have completed the program.
17	That the Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Jobs and Workplace Relations and the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital	By the end of February 2013 more than 10,000 pre-service teachers across Australia had participated in the Cybersmart Pre-Service Teachers (PST) program, which was launched in June 2010.

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Australian Communications and Media Authority

#	Recommendation	Status
	Economy encourage all Australian universities providing teacher training courses to ensure that cyber-safety material is incorporated in the core units in their curriculums.	The ACMA has recently provided every Australian university with a dedicated faculty or school of education with follow up information about the cybersafety PST. Twenty nine of forty institutions which offer teacher training courses will have had one or more PST presentation by July this year.
19	That the Minister for School Education, Early Childhood and Youth and the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy investigate funding a national, online training program for teachers and students that addresses bullying and cyber-bullying, and is validated by national accreditation.	<p>The ACMA's current online learning program, <i>Connect.ed</i> complements Cybersmart's range of resources, including its face-to-face PD workshops and internet safety presentations, by providing teachers and students with information and effective strategies and resources on a cybersafety issues such as cyberbullying, sexting, privacy, digital reputation management. <i>Connect.ed</i> is accredited or endorsed by State and Territory Education Departments and counts towards continuing professional development for teachers.</p> <p>There have been more than 2,800 commencements and more than 2,100 completions of the <i>Connect.ed</i> program as at the end of February 2013. Nearly 72,000 teachers and 556,000 students have attended a professional development workshop or internet safety awareness presentation. Along with parents (just over 59,000 attendees), there have been almost 687,000 attendees at an ACMA Cybersmart face-to-face presentation or workshop.</p> <p>The ACMA is exploring other innovative ways to extend the scope of the Outreach program. This includes delivery of presentations using Education Department virtual classrooms. On Safer Internet Day 2013 the ACMA presented to over 20,800 students across Victoria and Queensland on the day's theme 'Online rights and responsibilities: connect with respect'. This was an increase of 17,500 over the attendance rate on Safer Internet Day 2012.</p>
24	That the Australian Communications and Media Authority facilitate the development of and promote online self assessment tools to enable young people, parents/carers and teachers to assess their level of awareness and understanding of cyber-safety issues.	<p>The ACMA's Cybersmart program provides a number of self-assessment tools developed for parents, teachers and students. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a students' technology audit in the Schools' area of the Cybersmart website • "How Cybersmart am I" and "Comic Book Caper" quizzes on the Cybersmart kids and teens pages • Your child's online safety' quiz in the parents' area of the Cybersmart site <p>The ACMA has recently launched a new online game for young internet users, Zippep's Astro Circus, which enables children and parents to work together to improve their awareness of cybersafety risks and safety measures. Zippep is available via the Cybersmart site, and as an app for both Apple and Android devices. The game also has lesson plans for classroom use.</p>
26	That the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital	Telstra has launched the Telstra National Crisis Line Initiative, which will make calls from Telstra mobile services to eligible

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#	Recommendation	Status
	<p>Economy negotiate with mobile phone companies to increase affordable access to crisis help lines, with a view to ensuring greater accessibility by young people seeking assistance.</p>	<p>personal crisis lines with an 1800 number free of charge.</p> <p>Following an extensive review and consultation program about Australian telephone numbering arrangements, on 20 December 2012 the ACMA commenced a public consultation process to identify the best way to achieve the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To make calls from mobile phones to freephone (1800) numbers free; • To make calls from mobile phones to local rate (13/1300) numbers cost no more than a caller would pay for a local call from a fixed telephone; and • For these changes to be in effect by 1 January 2015. <p>The consultation paper seeks comment on two specific proposals to achieve this, a regulatory approach developed by the ACMA and a mixed regulatory and market based approach developed by industry. The ACMA is also seeking suggestions about any other approaches which may best achieve its objectives.</p> <p>The closing date for submissions is 28 February 2013.</p>
29	<p>That the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy facilitate a cooperative approach to ensure all material provided on cyber-safety programs is accessible through a central portal, and that a national education campaign be designed and implemented to publicise this portal, especially to young people.</p>	<p>The ACMA's Cybersmart website is a key source of cybersafety advice and information for teachers, parents, librarians and students of all ages, from kindergarten through to university.</p> <p>As well as its own substantial body of resources, this web portal links to other cybersafety program providers such as ThinkUKnow, Stay Smart Online, the Cybersafety Help Button, and state school cybersafety websites and resources. It also links to the Kids Helpline for online counselling advice. The portal has seen large volumes of traffic with more than 2.4 million visits and more than 19.7 million page views as at the end of February 2013.</p> <p>Promotion of the portal is a primary consideration for the ACMA and it will continue to explore mechanisms for expanding its reach to difficult-to-reach audiences, such as young people and people with disabilities. Recent initiatives include 'The Cloud: Dream On' campaign which engages teens through the ACMA's Facebook social media platform and "Cybersmart Access", an online game and teaching resources developed for students with special education needs.</p>

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Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy

Question Nos: 207, 208 & 209

Program No. 1.2

Hansard Ref: In Writing

207 Topic: Cyberbullying education program selection process

Senator McKenzie asked:

Regarding the bCyberwise cyber education module developed by Life Education and McAfee, how was the bCyberwise program provider chosen? Was there a competitive selection process?

208 Topic: Cost of cyberbullying education program

Senator McKenzie asked:

How much is the bCyberwise program costing the government?

209 Topic:

Senator McKenzie asked: Cyberbullying education program

How many schools are participating in the recently announced bCyberwise education program? How many schools in Australia does this leave which are not participating? What proportions of the schools chosen for this program are from regional areas? How did you choose which schools will participate? Could you provide the break down by state of schools chosen for this program which are government, Catholic and independent schools?

207, 208 & 209 Answer:

The bCyberwise cyber education module is an industry funded initiative and has not received any funding from the Australian Government. The bCyberwise cyber education module was developed by McAfee in partnership with Life Education.

McAfee's media release of 16 January 2013 (see **Attachment A**) provides more information about the bCyberwise initiative.



LIFE EDUCATION AND McAfee LAUNCH NEW CYBER EDUCATION PROGRAM TO EMPOWER STUDENTS TO BECOME SAFE AND RESPECTFUL DIGITAL CITIZENS

Prime Minister Julia Gillard unveils the new cyber education module expanding the Life Education Program that currently reaches over 620,000 primary school children across Australia

SYDNEY, Wednesday 16th January 2013: Prime Minister Julia Gillard today officially unveiled a new cyber education module developed by Life Education and McAfee, which will give middle primary school students across Australia the tools to manage the influence of the digital age and support teachers with online resources to educate on cyber safety.

In a timely announcement – as school goes back and the rollout of the National Broadband Network ramps up across Australia – the new cyber safety module, called **bCyberwise**, will help middle primary school students to become safe and respectful digital citizens as they progress through their years of online use.

An extension of the current Life Education program, bCyberwise has been designed in partnership with McAfee using their expertise in security to create relevant content on the real risks students face today in the online world. The module will support teachers and schools to specifically address the knowledge, skills and attitudes children need to ensure their online experiences are safe.

Speaking about the new module, David Ballhausen, CEO of Life Education said, “Life Education is very excited about its partnership with McAfee. It’s enabling us to create new and age appropriate program content that supports schools and teachers in the development of core life skills such as building positive and respectful relationships online, communicating effectively and making decisions in social situations. These are all fundamental to the promotion of cyber safety.”

Discussing the cyber safety need, President, McAfee Asia Pacific, Andrew Littleproud said, “To address risky behaviours in young teens, we need to be educating primary school children in their formative years so they quickly adopt safe online practices. The research we conducted on teens and their online behaviour was very telling about the issues they confront everyday, so we know we have to start the conversations early.”

The McAfee research, called Secret Life of Teens, uncovered that teens are spending more time online than ever before and that 5.8 per cent of those teens have met up with strangers they encountered online¹.

¹ McAfee Research, Secret Life Of Teens

<http://mcafeecybered.com/cybered/files/Secret%20Life%20of%20Teens%20Research%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf>



Consultant for the bCyberwise module, and leading psychologist and educator Dr Helen McGrath has endorsed the relevance of this exciting new development for educating young Australians to become good digital citizens.

“Digital media has become an important and mostly positive aspect of the education, leisure and social lives of today’s children but it also creates some potential risks to their safety and wellbeing. The most harmful of these risks appears to be cyberbullying.

“The provision of this type of cyber safety curriculum in their early learning years will help children to cope safely and respectfully in this new digital environment,” continued Dr. McGrath.

The Life Education program teaches a set of values and skills that promote social and emotional development, positive relationships, pro-social values, self-respect and critical thinking to help combat and minimise the risks youth are facing online. The new bCyberwise module will be taught using engaging presentations, videos, discussion, problem solving and role play and will provide an opportunity for young students to learn and practice core life skills in three categories: cyber safety, cyber security and responsible online behaviour.

“The launch of the module is a great step forward in helping to raise awareness on cyber safety,” said Mr Littleproud. “Now is the time to address cyber safety and work hand-in-hand with the government and technology industry towards a common goal of keeping Australian children safe online,” continued Mr. Littleproud.

Life Education and McAfee have also launched a video to highlight the need for education on cyber safety and the lack of awareness primary school students have about the online world. Supporting the video are leading media figures Ita Buttrose, New South Wales AO, OBE, Channel 7’s Melissa Doyle and Haley and Nathan Bracken. The video can be viewed at www.mcafeecybered.com

In line with Life Education’s current program, the new module will begin to roll out regionally to schools across Australia from February 4th. Schools who wish to find out more and elect the modules can do so by contacting Life Education in their state or territory.

For more information, please visit www.lifeeducation.org.au

-Ends-

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Notes to Editor

About the Module

The bCyberwise module is ideally suited for middle primary students in years 3 – 4 and focuses on common issues experienced by young people. The module will develop core life skills such as building positive and respectful relationships, effective communication and decision making in social situations. New cyber safety content has also been created for the current Life Education module for upper primary students, **It's Your Call.**

bCyberwise and It's Your Call are delivered in schools by Life Education educators in our unique Mobile Learning Centres and are supported by online resources for teachers and students to compliment these sessions.

About McAfee

McAfee, a wholly owned subsidiary of Intel Corporation (NASDAQ:INTC), empowers businesses, the public sector, and home users to safely experience the benefits of the Internet. The company delivers proactive and proven security solutions and services for systems, networks, and mobile devices around the world. With its Security Connected strategy, innovative approach to hardware-enhanced security, and unique Global Threat Intelligence network, McAfee is relentlessly focused on keeping its customers safe. <http://www.mcafee.com>

McAfee provides software that makes it safer for children to be online and develops and shares content for cyber education to help keep individuals, users and families safe. McAfee is continuing its active and influential role in internet security through its partnership with Life Education Australian. Further information available at www.mcafee.com/au

About Life Education Australia

Life Education, as the largest non-government provider of health education to children and young people in Australia, has been a valued partner of Australian schools for over 30 years. It has 100 plus mobile learning centres and qualified educators across the country and reaches 620,000 children nationally. A registered charity, independent of both government and religion, Life Education aims to empower children to make safe and healthy decisions. It continues to do so by expanding its national health and wellbeing program in Australia to include cyber safety content with the support of McAfee. Further information available at www.lifeeducation.org.au

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Australian Communications and Media Authority

Question No: 210

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Staffing

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How many ongoing staff have left the department/agency this financial year to date and what classification were these staff?
2. How many non-ongoing staff left the department/agency this financial year to date and what classification were these staff?
3. How many contract staff left the department/agency this financial year to date and what classification were these staff?

Answer:

1. There were 11 ongoing staff recruited in the financial year to 31 January 2013. Their classifications were:

Classification	No. of staff
APS4	2
APS5	1
APS6	3
EL1	2
EL2	3

2. 31 non-ongoing positions were created in the financial year to 31 January 2013 with 64 non-ongoing positions existing at 31 January 2013.

Classification	No. of non-ongoing positions created 1/7/12 – 31/1/13	No. of non-ongoing positions @ 31/1/13
APS1	0	0
APS2	1	1
APS3	2	2
APS4	2	6
APS5	5	10
APS6	9	22
EL1	11	18
EL2	0	5
SES1	1	0
SES2	0	0

3. The ACMA had 75 employees on contract in the financial year to 31 January 2013. The average length of their non-ongoing contracts was 7.3 months.

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Australian Communications and Media Authority

Question No: 211

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Staffing

Senator Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How many ongoing staff have left the department/agency this financial year to date and what classification were these staff?
2. How many non-ongoing staff left the department/agency this financial year to date and what classification were these staff?
3. How many contract staff left the department/agency this financial year to date and what classification were these staff?

Answer:

1. 17 ongoing staff left the agency in the financial year to 31/1/2013. Their classifications were:

Classification	No. of staff
APS4	2
APS5	4
APS6	2
EL1	4
EL2	5
SES1	0
SES2	0

2. 13 non-ongoing staff left the agency in the financial year to 31/1/2013. Their classifications were:

Classification	No. of staff
APS1	0
APS2	2
APS4	1
APS5	3
APS6	5
EL1	1
EL2	0
SES1	1
SES2	0

3. The ACMA only employs staff under the Public Service Act 1999 as either ongoing or non-ongoing as above.

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Question No: 212

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Staffing

Senator Birmingham asked:

Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please provide details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening?

Answer:

The ACMA will be reducing staff numbers in alignment with the reduction in its new policy proposal funding (as highlighted in the Portfolio Budget Statements). Reductions will be achieved from the cessation of non-ongoing employee contracts and natural attrition relating to the areas experiencing the reduction in new policy funding.

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Question No: 213

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Making the Public Service more efficient

Senator Birmingham asked:

Please provide an update of savings achieved through further efficiencies in the way the public service operates (see media release by the Minister for Finance and Deregulation and the Special Minister of State on 25 September 2012:

http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media/2012/mr_1982012.html).

In addition, please provide the following detail:

1. Can you quantify the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates for reductions in air travel?
2. Has there been a reduction in business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
3. Has there been a reduction in the use of external consultants and contractors? Has this impacted on the Department/agency, and how? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
4. Provide an update of moving recruitment advertising online. Is any recruitment still in printed materials, and if yes, why? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
5. Has the department/agency reduced its printing costs? If no, why not? Have printing costs increased, and if yes why and how much? Has the five per cent savings target been achieved – if yes, how, or if it will not, why not? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

Answer:

The ACMA continues to achieve savings through reduced travel, consultants, contractors, advertising and printing, technology improvements and prioritising the ACMA's activities.

1. The ACMA continues to review and prioritise travel requirements and greater utilisation of video conferencing facilities. The estimated savings for forward estimates cannot be quantified.
2. The ACMA has reviewed its requirement for business class flights by tightening controls and processes for approving business travel. Any business travel must be fully justified and comply with the ACMA's travel policy. The estimated savings for forward estimates cannot be quantified.

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3. The ACMA has minimised the use of consultants and contractors across its activities by greater utilisation of employee expertise. The estimated savings for forward years cannot be quantified.
4. All recruitment advertising is conducted online. The estimated savings per year is \$22,000
5. Printing costs will reduce as a result of the development of the ACMA's digital publishing initiatives which includes a number of publications being made available on-line and increasing the use of online video and other rich media products. The estimated savings cannot be quantified at this stage.

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Question No: 214

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Printing Costs

Senator Birmingham asked:

How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed this financial year to date? How many of these printed documents were also published online?

Answer:

The ACMA has printed three documents to date in 2013-14. All three documents were also published online.

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Question No: 215

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Graduate Recruitment

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How much has been spent on 2014 graduate recruitment to date? Please itemise and detail costs.
2. Has any travel been incurred for 2014 graduate recruitment? Please itemise and detail costs

Answer:

1. Nil.
2. No.

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Question No: 216

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Graduate Training

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How much was spent on 2013 graduate training? Provide details of what training was provided, why and the estimated cost for each.

Answer:

1. Nil.

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Question No: 217

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Government Advertising

Senator Birmingham asked:

- 1) What was the total cost of all advertising for the financial year to date?
- 2) Is the advertising campaign or non-campaign advertising? Provide details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.
- 3) Has the Department of Finance and Deregulation provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.
- 4) Has the Peer Review Group (PRG) and/or Independent Communications Committee (ICC) provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.
- 5) Did the Advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies? Provide the details for each advertising item.
- 6) Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services.
- 7) What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – and other communications programs is the Department/Agency undertaking, or are planning to undertake?

Answer:

1. Total advertising expenses for this financial year to date are \$78,595.
2. These advertising are “Non-Campaign” expenses and including general advertising and programs advertising as table below.

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Supplier	Purpose	Campaign	Non-Campaign
General Advertising			
Facebook	<i>Online Advertising</i>		\$ 3,973.64
Google	<i>Online Advertising</i>		\$ 1,174.72
Recruitment	<i>Recruitment</i>		\$ 6,720.00
AGS (Office of Parliamentary Counsel)	<i>Gazette</i>		\$ 8,320.00
TARFish	<i>General</i>		\$ 300.00
Above Board Magazine	<i>General</i>		\$ 365.00
Adcorp	<i>General</i>		\$ 2,240.33
Commercial Economic Advisory Service of Australia	<i>General</i>		\$ 3,000.00
Radio Release Pty Ltd	<i>General</i>		\$ 995.00
		\$ -	\$ 27,088.69
Advertising for Program			
Flicks Australia	<i>Out of Area Numbers</i>		\$ 42,550.00
Adcorp	<i>Community Broadcasting Licenses</i>		\$ 3,673.94
Adcorp	<i>License Area Plan</i>		\$ 5,282.34
		\$ -	\$ 51,506.28
Grand Total		\$ -	\$ 78,594.97

3. The Department of Finance and Deregulation do not need provide any advice about these advertising, considering that is “Non-Campaign” advertising.
4. Advising from the Peer Review Group (PRG) and / or Independent Communications Committee (ICC) Do Not Apply for above advertising.
5. The above advertising list is not “Advertising Campaigns” and is not applicable for with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by the Australian Government and Agencies.
6. No other program has spent in advertising.
7. Non-campaign advertising: a small online search ad campaign relating to mobile jammers is ongoing. The ACMA has ongoing business as usual communication programs associated with its core activities, including the digital dividend auction, telecommunications consumer protection, investigations and complaints, unsolicited communications, spectrum management and cyber safety.

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Question No: 218

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Hospitality and Entertainment

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will the reductions be achieved and what are the estimated savings over each year of the forward estimates?
2. What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including catering and drinks costs.
3. What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including catering and drinks costs.
4. What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including catering and drinks costs.
5. What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including catering and drinks costs.

Answer:

1. The ACMA continually reviews all areas of expenditure for savings throughout the year, including hospitality and entertainment.
2. Estimate is less than \$0.005m. Specific details are unknown at this stage.
3. Estimate is less than \$0.020m. Specific details are unknown at this stage.
4. Entertainment spend year to date is nil.
5. Hospitality spend year to date is \$0.002m. Please refer to table below for details.

<i>Hospitality from 1 July 2012 to 31 January 2013</i>			
Date	Location	Purpose	Cost
25/07/2012	Sydney	External Audit Committee Members Dinner	602
7/09/2012	Sydney	Stakeholder meeting - Foxtel	1,464
Total			2,066

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Question No: 219

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Meeting Costs

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. What meeting spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including catering and drinks costs.
2. What is the Department/Agency's meeting spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including catering and drinks costs.

Answer:

1. To attempt to provide itemised details of planned external meeting spend, would involve an unreasonable diversion of agency resources.
2. To attempt to provide itemised details of external meeting spend, would involve an unreasonable diversion of agency resources.

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Question No: 220

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Program Launch Costs

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. What is the Department/Agency's program launch spend for 2011-12? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including catering and drinks costs.
2. What program launch spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including catering and drinks costs
3. What is the Department/Agency's program launch spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including catering and drinks costs.

Answer:

1. Not Applicable.
2. Not applicable.
3. Not applicable

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Question No: 221

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Freedom of Information

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Has the department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
2. What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?
3. How many FOI requests has the Department received for this financial year to date? How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted?
4. Has the department failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many and why?
5. Do any of these requests remain outstanding? If so, how many and why?

Answer:

1. No.
2. The ACMA does not have this information readily available, as the data has not been compiled ahead of the regular annual reporting cycle.
3. As at 12 February 2013, the ACMA had received 8 FOI requests during this financial year. Of these requests:
 - 3 resulted in access being granted in full or in part;
 - 1 was refused;
 - 1 resulted, with the applicant's consent, in information being provided outside of the FOI Act; and
 - 3 are ongoing.
4. From 1 July 2012 to 12 February 2013, the ACMA has met the statutory processing times of all requests.
5. As noted above, 3 of the 8 requests received during this financial year are ongoing.

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Question No: 222

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Consultancies

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How many consultancies have been undertaken this financial year to date? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (i.e. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.
2. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.

Answer:

1. There have been 44 consultancies undertaken this financial year to date. Please refer to Austender for details.
2. There are five known consultancies planned for this calendar year. These have not been published in the ACMA Annual Procurement Plan on Austender as consultants are engaged via established procurement panels. The procurement panels are published on AusTender at the time the panel is established. ACMA also publishes details of individual procurements as panels are utilised.

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Question No: 223

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Media Monitoring

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etc provided to the department/agency for this financial year to date?
 - a. Which agency or agencies provided these services?
 - b. What was the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13?
 - c. What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?

Answer:

- a) Media Monitors
Meltwater News
CCH Parliament Political Alerts
- b) \$0.050m (forecast)
- c) \$0.024m

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Australian Communications and Media Authority

Question No: 224

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Social Media

Senator Birmingham asked:

- 1) Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and useage of Youtube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since May 2012 Budget Estimates? If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issue.
- 2) Does the department/agency monitor usage of social media?
 - a. If yes, provide details of the useage (for example details could include average hours per employee, hours when useage peaks).
 - b. Has there been a change to the department/agency protocols due to staff useage?
 - c. If no, why not? Will the department/agency monitor useage in the future?
- 3) Does social media impact on employee productivity? Provide details (details could include increased internet usage in general or increased internet usage in standard business hours)

Answer:

1. No.
2. a) The ACMA has the ability to monitor internet traffic – however, this is primarily limited to what sites are being browsed and thus it is not possible to accurately determine the length of time sites are browsed for and hence the hours of usage for employees.
 - b) No
 - c) The ACMA has no plans to increase usage. See answer 3.
3. The ACMA believes that use of social media has had a positive impact on the agency's productivity. Amongst other things, social media technologies enable more effective collaboration both across the agency and with the agency's stakeholders. In addition and given the agency's remit, providing access to the internet and to social media technologies means that the ACMA staff are more informed about use of and issues associated with using these technologies with this better understanding informing their work.

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Question No: 225

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Internet

Senator Birmingham asked:

Has the Department experienced any internet problems, such as but not limited to slow internet, or internet blackouts? If yes, what was the reason for this? Did it impact the Minister's office?

Answer:

From time to time the ACMA experiences outages from our upstream internet provider, however these are very rare. The ACMA does not provide any services to the Minister's office.

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Question No: 226

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Staff Amenities

Senator Birmingham asked:

What amenities are provided to staff? Please provide a list.

Answer:

The ACMA provides a range of amenities to staff inclusive of restrooms, breakout areas, kitchen facilities and 'end of journey' facilities.

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Question No: 227

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Coffee Machines

Senator Birmingham asked:

- 1) Has the department/agency purchased coffee machines for staff useage? If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased.
- 2) Why were coffee machines purchased?
- 3) Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were purchased? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?
- 4) Where did the funding for the coffee machines come from?
- 5) Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance in this financial year to date, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?
- 6) What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee?
- 7) Does the department/agency rent coffee machines for staff useage? If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased.
- 8) Why are coffee machines rented?
- 9) Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were rented? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?
- 10) Where does the funding for the coffee machines come from?
- 11) Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance in this financial year to date, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?
- 12) What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee?

Answer:

Not applicable

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Question No: 228

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Contractors

Senator Senator Birmingham asked:

For this financial year to date:

- a. Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
- b. Has the department/agency ever employed Shannon's Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon's Way? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
- c. Has the department/agency ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group in any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
- d. Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
- e. Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
- f. Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
- g. Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
- h. Has the department/agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
- i. Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.
- j. What contractors have been employed by the department/agency? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).

Answer:

- a. No
- b. No
- c. No
- d. No
- e. No
- f. No

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- g. No
- h. No
- i. No
- j. Contractors engaged in the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) provide a range of internal audit, information technology, media and administrative services for the agency. The cost of contractors for this financial year to date is \$1.328m.

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Question No: 229

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Grants

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Could the department/agency provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for this financial year to date? Please provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants?
2. Have all grant agreement details been published on its website within the required timeframe? If not, provide details.
3. Provide a list of grants that your department/agency administers that had uncommitted grants funding reduced as per the statement by the Finance Minister on 22 October 2012 (see http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media/2012/mr_2102012.html). How much was funding reduced for grant?

Answer:

Not applicable.

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Question No: 230

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Government payment of Accounts

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. For this financial year to date, has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)?
 - a. If not, why not? Please provide details, including what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.
 - b. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and, if so, how much has been paid by the department/agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?
 - c. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

Answer:

1. 100% of payments have been made within 30 days of receiving a correctly rendered invoice in relation to the Government Policy.

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Question No: 231

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Stationary Requirements

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. What are the department/agency's stationery costs for the financial year to date ?

Answer:

1. \$0.121M

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Question No: 232

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Media Subscriptions

Senator Birmingham asked:

- 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 for this financial year 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 for this financial year 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 for this financial year to date?

Answer:

- 1) The ACMA subscribes to Foxtel.
 - a. The channels included in this package are skyNEWS, World News, CNN, The Weather Channel, Bloomberg, Fox News, CNBC, a-pac, Ajazeera and CCTV News. A number of sports, documentaries and other miscellaneous channels are also included as part of the overall package. The ACMA subscribes to Foxtel to oversee and monitor various content and technical issues whilst also responding to complaints under the Broadcast Services Act, for example, the anti-siphoning rules.
 - b. \$0.009m
- 2) The ACMA subscribes to a number of newspapers.
 - a. The newspapers subscriptions are the Australian, The Age, Financial Review, Canberra Times, Sydney Morning Herald and the Daily Telegraph. The ACMA as a regulator keeps abreast of, and monitors media issues in the industry as they emerge.
 - b. \$0.013m
- 3) The ACMA subscribes to a number of magazines.
 - a. The ACMA subscribes to:
 - national and international technical journals and periodicals;
 - national and international broadcasting and telecommunications journals; and
 - legal journals and periodicals.The subscriptions ensure that ACMA staff are kept informed of current and changing technologies and legal opinions.
 - b. \$0.005m.

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Question No: 233

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Travel Costs

Senator Birmingham asked:

- 1) For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that includes airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
- 2) What travel is planned for the rest of this financial year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
- 3) What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
- 4) Are the Government's Lowest Practical Fare travel policy for Domestic Air Travel (Finance Circular No. 2009/10) and Best Fare of the Day for International Air Travel (Finance Circular No. 2009/11) guidelines being followed?
- 5) How is the department/agency following the advice?
- 6) How is this monitored? If the guidelines are not being followed, please explain why.
- 7) Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the total costs of the lounge memberships.
- 8) When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as an Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel.
- 9) Does the department/agency elect to offset emissions for employees work related travel? If yes, what is the cost?

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Answer:

1) Total travel expenditure for the financial year to date is \$1.522m.

To attempt to provide itemised details of all travel would involve an unreasonable diversion of agency resources.

2) To attempt to provide itemised details of all travel would involve an unreasonable diversion of agency resources.

3) To attempt to provide itemised details of all travel would involve an unreasonable diversion of agency resources.

4) Yes.

5) This is monitored through the Travel Management Contractor.

6) This is monitored through the Travel Management Contractor.

7) Qantas (128)	SES2 – 4	Virgin (5)	SES1– 1
	SES1 – 11		EL2 – 2
	Lawyer – 9		EL1 – 2
	EL2 – 58		
	EL1 – 26		
	APS6 – 13		
	APS5 – 5		
	APS 4 – 2		

Lounge memberships are provided to optimise business requirements and are part of the ACMA's Enterprise Agreement 2011-2014. Total cost year to date is \$0.011m.

8) No.

9) No.

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Question No: 234

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Legal Costs

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
2. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
3. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
4. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

Answer:

1. The agency expenditure on legal services for the financial year to 31 January 2013 within the agency was \$2,385,398.
2. The agency expenditure on legal services for the financial year to 31 January 2013 from the Australian Government Solicitor was \$213,270, for a range of litigation matters and other miscellaneous advice and assistance.
3. The agency expenditure on legal services for the financial year to 31 January 2013 from private firms was \$384,661, for legal advice and assistance.
4. The agency expenditure on legal services for the financial year to 31 January 2013 from other sources was \$53,992, for briefs to Counsel for litigation services and for miscellaneous advice and assistance, and for services from the Office of Parliamentary Counsel.

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Question No: 235

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Education Expenses

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. What is the department/agency's guidelines on study?
2. For this financial year to date, detail all education expenses (i.e. in-house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, the employment classification of each participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). Please also include the reason for the study and how it is beneficial for the department/agency.

Answer:

1. ACMA's studies assistance program provides, in general, up to 5 hours study leave per week and up to 2 days examination leave per unit/subject in an academic period. The actual time taken by each officer varies and is agreed at the commencement of each semester with their delegate. An approved student may be granted financial assistance of up to \$3,000 (excl GST) per academic period, generally by way of reimbursement of study fees and study materials, at the end of the relevant academic period and on successful completion of studies. Studies assistance is only available for studies identified as of particular value to the work section, or the general needs of the ACMA and the Australian Public Service.
2. The ACMA conducted 8 in-house training programs during the period 1 July 2012 to 31 January 2013 broadly covering recruitment and job application. A total of 109 staff attended these internal programs, some attending more than one session. The ACMA had 34 individual employees participating in tertiary studies through the ACMA's studies assistance program. Employees studying through the ACMA's studies assistance program undertake a broad range of courses including legal, management and engineering degrees which contribute to their professional and ongoing development. The total expenditure for the period 1 July 2012 – 31 January 2013 relating to staff training (both internal and external) and studies assistance was \$316,488 (GST exclusive).

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Australian Communications and Media Authority

Question No: 236

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Executive Coaching and Leadership Training

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:
 - a. Total spending on these services
 - b. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification
 - c. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. The names of all service providers engaged
2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (1d), please provide:
 - a. The name and nature of the service purchased
 - b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based
 - c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification
 - d. The total number of hours involved for all employees (please provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - e. The total amount spent on the service
 - f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)
3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the agency's own premises, please provide:
 - a. The location used
 - b. The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - c. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location

Answer:

The total expenditure for the period 1 July 2012 – 31 January 2013 relating to staff training (both internal and external) and studies assistance was \$316,488 (GST exclusive).

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Question No: 237

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Media Training

Senator Senator Birmingham asked:

1. In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:
 - a. Total spending on these services
 - b. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification
 - c. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. The names of all service providers engaged
2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (d), please provide:
 - a. The name and nature of the service purchased
 - b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based
 - c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - e. The total amount spent on the service
 - f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)
3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:
 - a. The location used
 - b. The number of employees who took part on each occasion
 - c. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. Any costs the agency incurred to use the location

Answer:

- 1a. Total expenditure was \$3,096.02 (excl GST) for the financial year to 31/1/2013.
- 1b. 4 employees comprising 3 SOH, 1 SESB2.
- 1c. 4 employees comprising 3 SOH, 1 SESB2.
- 1d. Feneley & Co Pty Ltd.
- 2a. Media training.
- 2b. Group based.
- 2c. Refer 1c above.
- 2d. 4 hours each.
- 2e. Refer 1a above.
- 2f. Complete package.
3. n/a

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Question No: 238

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Paid Parental Leave

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Please list how many staff in each portfolio department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme?
2. For this financial year to date please list which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff and their classification are in receipt of these payments.
3. What is the paid parental scheme offered by each department and agency? How many staff have used the scheme this financial year to date?

Answer:

1. All employees with more than 12 months service who earn less than \$150,000 per annum and are the primary care giver of the child are eligible to receive payment under the government's Paid Parental Leave Scheme. As eligibility is based on primary caring responsibility, the number of eligible staff cannot be identified. The ACMA registered to participate in the scheme and was prepared to receive and make payments from 1 January 2011.
2. At 12 February 2013 there were 4 staff in receipt of these payments and their classifications are APS 4 (1), APS 6 (1) and EL1 (2).
3. (i) Eligible (female) ACMA employees are entitled to Maternity Leave provisions in accordance with the Maternity Leave (Commonwealth Employees) Act 1973 and Division 5, Part 2-2 of the Fair Work Act 2009.

Eligible ACMA employees are entitled to access four weeks paid Parental Leave (Miscellaneous Leave). The leave must be taken within seven months of the birth of the child.

Eligible ACMA employees are entitled to an additional period of supporting partner/paternity leave to care for a child up to a maximum of 52 weeks. This additional leave is without pay and does not count as service.

- ii) 36 staff have used the scheme in the financial year to 12 February 2013.

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Question No: 239

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Corporate Cars

Senator Birmingham asked:

- 1) How many cars are owned by each department agency this financial year to 31/1/2013?
- 2) Where is the car/s located?
- 3) What is the car/s used for?
- 4) What is the cost of each car for this financial year to date?
- 5) How far did each car travel this financial year to date?

Answer:

- 1) 2
- 2) Brisbane and Canberra
- 3) Field Operation duties
- 4) \$0.002m and \$0.003
- 5) 4771 km's and 5996

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Question No: 240

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Taxi Costs

Senator Birmingham asked:

- 1) How much did each department/agency spend on taxis this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.
- 2) What are the reasons for taxi costs?

Answer:

- 1) \$211,020.

Division	Amount
Authority	\$ 25,308
Communications Infrastructure	\$ 47,979
Content, Consumer & Citizen	\$ 20,927
Digital Economy	\$ 29,764
Digital Transition	\$ 40,798
Legal Services	\$ 5,173
Corporate Services & Coordination	\$ 40,773
Leadership Program	\$ 298
	\$211,020

- 2) Taxi expenditure is incurred to support business requirements.

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Question No: 241

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Hire Cars

Senator Birmingham asked:

- 1) How much did each department/agency spend on hire cars this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.
- 2) What are the reasons for hire car costs?

Answer:

1. \$30,126.

Division	Amount
1 - Authority	\$ 4,252
2 - Communications Infrastructure	\$ 17,740
3 - Content, Consumer & Citizen	\$ -
4 - Digital Economy	\$ 494
5 - Digital Transition	\$ 6,878
6 - Legal Services	\$ -
7 - Corporate Services & Coordination	\$ 762
TOTAL	\$ 30,126

2. Hire car expenditure is incurred to support business requirements.

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Question No: 242

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Credit Cards

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Please provide a breakdown for each employment classification that has a corporate credit card.
2. Please update if there have been any changes since Budget Estimates 2012-13 (May 2012):
 - a. What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused?
 - b. How is corporate credit card use monitored?
 - c. What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered?
 - d. Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? Please list staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.
 - e. What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?

Answer:

1. Number of staff and classification in the ACMA holding corporate credit cards are as follows:

ACMA 3	1
ACMA 4	13
ACMA 5	17
ACMA 6	25
EL 1	17
EL 2	21
SES 1	10
SES 2	4
Executive	3
Grand Total	111

2.
 - a. No change.
 - b. No change.
 - c. No change.
 - d. No change.
 - e. No change.

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Question No: 243

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Provision of Equipment

Senator Birmingham asked:

Is electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive) provided to department/agency staff? If yes provide details of what is provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it?

Answer:

Yes, the ACMA provides the following electronic equipment to staff:

- All staff have a PC at an average cost of \$2700-2800
- All staff have a desk telephone at a cost of approximately \$250
- Laptops are available to staff from a loan pool at an average cost of \$1800-2200
- Staff at the EL2 level and above have a smartphone (currently an Apple iPhone) at an average cost of \$900. Some staff below the EL2 level have a phone for specific operational requirements
- Some staff have been issued iPads at an average cost of \$800-900

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Question No: 244

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Electricity Purchasing

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. What are the details of the department/agency electricity purchasing agreement?
2. What are the department/agency electricity costs for this financial year to date?

Answer:

The ACMA has a number of different electricity agreements depending on the location of the office and the amount of electricity consumed by each office annually.

The Canberra and Sydney offices source their electricity through government bulk electricity arrangements – Canberra’s electricity contract is managed by the Department of Defence and Sydney’s electricity contract is managed by the NSW State Government.

There is no government arrangement available in Melbourne. The electricity market in Melbourne is reviewed every 2 years and the ACMA assesses it’s agreement ensuring a best value for money arrangement is put into place.

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Question No: 245

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Briefings for the Australian Greens and Independance

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Have any briefings and/or provision of information been provided to the Australian Greens?
If yes, please include:
 - a. How are briefing requests commissioned?
 - b. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.
 - c. Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information.
 - d. Have any briefing requests been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed.
 - e. How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.

2. Have any briefings and/or provision of information been provided to Independents? If yes, please include:
 - a. How are briefings requests commissioned?
 - b. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.
 - c. Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information.
 - d. Have any briefing requests been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed.
 - e. How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Independents? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.
 - f. Which Independents have requested briefings and/or information?

Answer:

- 1) The ACMA has not provided any briefings to the Australian Greens.
- 2) Yes, the ACMA provided information on 18 February 2013 to the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE) in response to a question from the office of Hon. Bob Katter MP to the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (the Minister) on 5 February 2013.
 - a) How are briefings requests commissioned?

The information was provided to DBCDE in response to a question from the office of Hon. Bob Katter to the Minister.

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- b) What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.

The information was provided using DBCDE's Ministerial briefing template. A copy of the briefing provided is attached.

- c) Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information.

The information provided was in relation to the ACMA having made available radiofrequency spectrum for a temporary community broadcasting service in the Atherton TCBL RA2 licence area. Details are contained in the attached Ministerial briefing.

- d) Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed.

No.

- e) How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Independents? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.

It took three hours to collect the information and draft the Ministerial briefing, including checking details and clearing the briefing. Three staff were involved: 1 x SES1 (0.25 hours), 1 x EL2 (0.25 hours), 1 x APS6 (2.5 hours).

- f) Which Independents have requested briefings and/or information?

This Ministerial briefing is the only request for information from an Independent received by the ACMA in the 2012-2013 financial year.

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Question No: 246

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Shredders

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Has the department/agencies purchased any shredders this financial year? If yes, provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.

Answer:

No.

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Question No: 247

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Protective security policy framework

Senator Birmingham asked:

Provide an update for your department/agency, including what is your current compliance level, what are you doing to manage the risk, what is being done to comply with the mandatory requirements and details of any department/specific policies and procedures.

Answer:

The ACMA is transitioning to the Protective Security Policy Framework within the implementation timeframes. The security risk management methodology outlined in the framework has been adopted by the ACMA, whilst policies and procedures are in place or being developed to meet the security requirements.

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Question No: 248

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Office Locations

Senator Birmingham asked:

Please provide a list of all office locations for all departments and agencies within the portfolio

by:

- a. Department/Agency;
- b. Location;
- c. Leased or Owned;
- d. Size;
- e. Number of Staff at each location and classification;
- f. If rented, the amount and breakdown of rent per square metre;
- g. If owned, the value of the building;
- h. Depreciation of buildings that are owned;
- i. Type of functions and work undertaken.

Answer:

- a. Australian Communications and Media Authority
- b. There are five offices located in Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Brisbane and Parramatta and one manned monitoring site located at Quoin Ridge, Tasmania.
- c.

Sydney	Leased
Melbourne	Leased
Canberra	Leased
Brisbane	Leased
Parramatta	Leased
Quoin Ridge	Owned
- d.

Sydney	3,289 sqm
Melbourne	4,668 sqm
Canberra	5,774 sqm
Brisbane	355 sqm
Parramatta	146 sqm
Quoin Ridge	366 sqm
- e.

Sydney	157
Melbourne	242
Canberra	211
Brisbane	13
Parramatta	10
Quoin Ridge	2

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The classifications of staff at the above locations range from an ACMA Level 2 to Statutory office holders.

- f. The rental charges as at the 31 January 2013 on a per annum basis, and the breakdown of rent per square metre is as follows:

Office	Annual Cost	Cost PSM
Sydney	\$1,744,485	\$ 530
Melbourne	\$ 2,427,360	\$ 520
Canberra	\$ 1,902,104	\$ 329
Brisbane	\$ 134,389	\$ 379
Parramatta	\$ 53,691	\$ 368

- g. Quoin Ridge, Tasmania Asset Cost: \$0.191m
- h. Quoin Ridge, Tasmania Accumulated depreciation: \$0.019m
- i. Please refer to the ACMA Annual Report 2011-12, page 29.

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Question No: 249

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Communications Staff

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following, by department or agency:
 - a. How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location
 - b. How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location
 - c. How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location
 - d. How many are graphic designers?
 - e. How many are media managers?
 - f. How many organise events?
2. Do any departments/agencies have independent media studios? If yes, why? When was it established? What is the set up cost? What is the ongoing cost? How many staff work there and what are their classifications?

Answer:

- 1
 - a. There is a total of 16 ongoing staff employed in positions relating to public relations, communications and media.

Classification	Location	Type of work
EL2	Sydney	Publishing
EL2	Melbourne	Editorial Services
EL2	Sydney	Media Manager
EL2	Sydney	Stakeholder Engagement
EL1	Melbourne	Digital Technology
EL1	Melbourne	Editorial Services
EL1	Sydney	Stakeholder Engagement
EL1	Sydney	Stakeholder Engagement
ACMA6	Canberra	Producer
ACMA6	Melbourne	Producer
ACMA6	Melbourne	Writer and Editor
ACMA6	Sydney	Producer
ACMA6	Melbourne	Producer
ACMA6	Sydney	Social Media Producer
ACMA6	Sydney	Media Liaison
ACMA 4	Melbourne	Administration

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- b. There is a total of 3 non-ongoing staff employed in positions relating to public relations, communications and media.

Classification	Location	Type of work
SES1	Sydney	Manager Media and Communications
ACMA 6	Sydney	Producer
ACMA 6	Sydney	Communications Advisor

- c. Nil
- d. Nil
- e. One
- f. Nil
2. No

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Question No: 250

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Grant Freeze

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How much has grant funding been reduced across the department/agency as a result of the grants freeze?
2. Please detail all variations to grants (ie reductions, rephrasing etc) that have occurred this financial year.
3. Has the department/agency been required to find any other savings in this financial year? Please detail all such savings.

Answer:

Not applicable

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Question No: 251

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Licence Fees

Senator Birmingham asked:

Please provide a full breakdown of license fees paid by commercial television broadcasters and rebates given each year from 2007-08 to 2012-13

Answer:

Broadcasting licence fees (BLF) paid by commercial television broadcasters and rebates given each collection year from 2007-08 to 2012-13 to 28 February 2013 is attached. Note, the collection year differs from the Broadcaster reporting year as fees are collected in arrears

Broadcaster reporting year>		2006-07 ^a	2007-08 ^a	2008-09 ^a	2009-10 ^a	2010-11 ^b	2011-12 ^c
TV	Licence fee (pre-rebate)	\$281,935,288	\$271,297,969	\$276,549,353	\$281,177,024	\$311,292,436	\$300,218,945
	REP rebate	\$23,374,066	\$10,942,609	\$4,267,244	\$4,083,378	\$3,775,055	\$2,284,364
	BLF rebate ^d	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$45,720,438	\$127,613,412	\$148,953,940
Total licence fee (post rebates)		\$258,561,222	\$260,355,360	\$272,282,109	\$231,373,208	\$179,903,970	\$148,980,642

^a 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 figures as assessed by the ACMA

^b 2010-11 figures as assessed by the ACMA

^c 2011-12 figures as self-calculated by licensees (i.e. figures not yet assessed by the ACMA and so may be subject to change)

^d BLF rebate was 16.5% in 2009-10, 41.5% in 2010-11 and 50% in 2011-12