

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Budget Estimates Hearings May 2012

Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio

Australian Communications and Media Authority

Question No: 104

Program No. ACMA

Hansard Ref: Page 128 (23/05/2012)

**Topic: Investigations on media platforms**

**Senator Birmingham asked:**

**Ms McNeill:** Those are the numbers of investigations currently open, but in the period up to 30 April from 1 July last year we have finalised 105 investigations.

**Senator BIRMINGHAM:** How does that mix sit across the media platforms?

**Ms McNeill:** Predominantly they are commercial television, commercial radio and some national broadcaster investigations. I do not have the breakdown at the moment, but I am happy to give you that information on notice.

**Answer:**

In the period 1 July 2011 through to 30 April 2012, the ACMA's Broadcasting Investigations Section completed 105 investigations. However, some broadcasting investigations (such as classification and community broadcasting investigations) are conducted by work groups other than the Broadcasting Investigations Section. Accordingly the answer of '105' given by Ms McNeill is incorrect.

The table below shows the total number of broadcasting investigations completed by the ACMA in the period from 1 July 2011 to 31 May 2012 broken down by broadcaster type.

The table also shows the number investigations current as at 31 May 2012 broken down by broadcaster type.

Type of investigation	Completed between 1 July 2011 and 31 May 2012		Under investigation as at 31 May 2012	
	Licence Condition Matters	Code of Practice Matters	Licence Condition Matters	Code of Practice Matters
ABC Radio	0	14	0	2
ABC TV	0	36	2	7
SBS Radio	0	0	0	0
SBS TV	0	9	1	1
Commercial Radio	8	23	1	4
Commercial TV	44	62	2	19
Community Radio	15	3	1	0
Community TV	1	1	0	0
Subscription Broadcast TV	1	0	0	0
Subscription Narrowcast TV	0	0	0	0
Open Narrowcast Radio	0	0	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>33</b>

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**Question No: 105**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: Pg 132 (23/05/2012)**

**Topic: Outreach Program**

**Senator McKenzie asked:**

**Ms Wright:** With our outreach program, initially when we offered the training to teachers with the day-long workshop it would have four modules in it. Now, because there are different levels of learning in schools and differing levels of sophistication, we are redesigning that package to have a core module and then multiple modules, of which a school can nominate three that they would like on the day to meet their particular needs. So we are building more modules and providing more choice as the needs become more sophisticated in the schools, and indeed the issues facing young people.

**Senator McKENZIE:** Absolutely. And that is part of 5.3?

**Ms Wright:** That is right.

**Senator McKENZIE:** Sorry—is that to go into primary schools as well secondary?

**Ms Wright:** It is open to all teachers.

**Senator McKENZIE:** Thank you. Continue with the list.

**Ms Wright:** We have allocated this financial year \$2.4 million for what we call the outreach program to schools. The remaining \$2.9 million is spread across the development and maintenance of other Cybersmart activities and resources. You may be aware that since January 2009 the ACMA has launched 19 major program initiatives in this area. I suspect we do not have time to take you through them all, but I would like to.

**Senator McKENZIE:** Maybe on notice.

**Answer:**

The suite of cybersmart programs and activities launched since January 2009 includes:

- Interactive learning resources such as the September 2009 release of Cybersmart Detectives, together with resources relevant to social networking, like:

Cybersmart Networking, an online interactive program for children at upper primary or lower secondary levels that was launched in November 2011 and a social networking factsheet launched in July 2010.

- Resources to combat cyberbullying, such as:

Tagged, a video for teens launched in September 2011, Cybersmart Hero, an online interactive program launched in June 2010, Let's Fight it Together, a comprehensive program released in September 2009 and Hector's World, a resource for young children released in August 2009.

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- Teaching resources like:

The Connect.ed online cybersafety professional development program, launched on 16 May 2011, and Cybersmart Access which provides online cybersafety games and teacher resources for students with special education needs. It was launched on 31 August 2011.

- Resources for parents such as:

The Online Parent Guide to Online Safety videos released in October 2010, accompanying parents' information on the Cybersmart site and offering age-based advice and tips, and the Cybersmart Parents updated brochure series released in July 2010.

- Cybersecurity resources such as:

- NetBasics, launched in June 2011 for lower secondary school students, a new Hector's World episode launched in June 2010, plus the Z-card tips on how consumers can increase the security and privacy of their mobile phones, released June 2010, and the postcard resource targeting users of online dating sites released February 2010.

- Communications resources such as the Cybersmart Online Helpline (July 2009), Cyberzine, Cybersmart's e-newsletter, issued 3 times per year, and the Cybersmart website (also July 2009; and Cybersafety videos made by and for young people as part of the national film-making competition Screen It launched for Safer Internet Day in February 2010.

In 2011-12, \$2.9 million has been allocated to these projects with a particular focus on redevelopment and support of the Cybersmart website so that it will continue to resonate with the range of target audiences. That work has included development of a new look and feel for the site, and addition of mobile content and more interactive features, as well as technical enhancements to ensure the site operates to full capacity. The new look site will be launched early in the 2012-13 year.

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**Question No: 106**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: Pg 132-133 (23/05/2012)**

**Topic: Self-help licence holders**

**Senator Birmingham asked:**

**Senator BIRMINGHAM:** How many applications have been received from self-help licence holders seeking to upgrade their facilities since the ACMA guidelines were released on 24 April?

**Mr Chapman:** I am glad you asked that question, because Mr Tanner can get paid for the night.

**Senator Conroy:** We have a very strict rule: if you do not on, no payment!

**Senator BIRMINGHAM:** Can he get some notes from Mr Bean and Ms Cahill just to help them out as well?

**Senator Conroy:** Mr Bean and Ms Cahill are in trouble now!

**Mr Chapman:** He will take that on notice!

**Senator BIRMINGHAM:** Mr Tanner featured in a very amusing tweet by somebody that I saw the other day that suggested he was part of estimates folklore in terms of questions from Senator Macdonald about broadcasts into Townsville. But he is not here tonight.

**Mr Tanner:** I am afraid I was not able to be as helpful to Senator Macdonald as I had hoped to be, so that is a source of sorrow to me. I do not have that statistic. We have actually licensed services at 18 sites and I believe that to be at least a majority of all applications we have received. But I would really have to check what that number of applications we have received is.

**Answer:**

The ACMA finalised its guidelines relating to self-help digital television retransmissions on 23 February 2012, but has been considering licence applications under the draft guidelines since their release for comment on 19 October 2011. Since 19 October 2011 the ACMA has received self-help broadcaster applications to retransmit digital television services at 39 sites (correct as of 18 June 2012).

Details of the applications are provided in the following table.

The licence applications proposed sourcing the digital retransmissions from the Viewer Access Satellite Television services at 29 of these areas.

The government has funded the addition of SBS and/or ABC digital retransmissions to be licensed as retransmissions to self-help operators at sites with SBS and/or ABC analog retransmissions where all other services will be implemented by broadcasters. Areas where applications have been received and licences prepared for SBS and/or ABC retransmission services are flagged with a # in the following list.

A number of the applications are for the provision of all services except the ABC (that is, the ABC digital service would be provided by the ABC itself.) These applications are flagged with an \* in the following list.

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There are also approximately 100 areas which will have digital retransmissions licensed to non self-help broadcaster organisations, Regional Broadcasting Australia and TX Australia.

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Area served</b>	<b>Program source</b>	<b>Application received</b>	<b>Licenses Issued</b>
Tumut Shire Council	<b>Adelong, NSW#</b>	Input feed via satellite	2/05/2012	28/05/2012
Barcaldine Regional Council	<b>Alpha, Qld*</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	27/10/2011	8/02/2012
Barcaldine Regional Council	<b>Aramac, Qld*</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	27/10/2011	8/02/2012
Murweh Shire Council	<b>Augathella, Qld*</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	25/10/2011	8/02/2012
Diamantina Shire Council	<b>Bedourie, Qld*</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	7/02/2012	4/06/2012
Diamantina Shire Council	<b>Birdsville, Qld*</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	7/02/2012	4/06/2012
Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku	<b>Blackstone, WA</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	28/03/2012	processing
Palerang Council	<b>Captains Flat, NSW#</b>	Input feed via satellite	2/05/2012	9/05/2012
Cassowary Coast Regional Council	<b>Cardwell, Qld#</b>	Input feed via satellite	17/11/2011	6/12/2011
Isaac Regional Council	<b>Carmila, Qld</b>	Off-air inputs via Mackay	11/11/2011	29/03/2012
Isaac Regional Council	<b>Clairview, Qld</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	11/11/2011	2/02/2012
Shire of Coolgardie	<b>Coolgardie WA</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	27/04/2012	processing
Cairns Regional Council	<b>Cow Bay, Qld</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	16/02/2012	1/06/2012
ConocoPhillips	<b>CUQ Bayu-Undan, Timor Gap</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	25/10/2011	24/02/2012
Cairns Regional Council	<b>Daintree Village, Qld</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	16/02/2012	1/06/2012
Quilpie Shire Council	<b>Eromanga, Qld</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	7/02/2012	11/05/2012
Paroo Shire Council	<b>Eulo, Qld</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	21/11/2011	5/03/2012
Barcaldine Regional Council	<b>Jericho, Qld*</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	27/10/2011	8/02/2012
Barcoo Shire Council	<b>Jundah, Qld</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	29/11/2011	3/02/2012

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<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Area served</b>	<b>Program source</b>	<b>Application received</b>	<b>Licenses Issued</b>
Mid Western Regional Council	<b>Kandos, NSW#</b>	Input feed via satellite	4/05/2012	25/05/2012
Shire of Laverton	<b>Laverton, WA*</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	7/03/2012	4/06/2012
Shire of Leonora	<b>Leonora, WA</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	15/12/2011	24/04/2012
Scenic Rim Regional Council	<b>Maroon, Qld</b>	Off-air inputs via Brisbane	6/02/2012	processing
Murweh Shire Council	<b>Morven, Qld*</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	25/10/2011	8/02/2012
Barcaldine Regional Council	<b>Muttaburra, Qld*</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	27/10/2011	8/02/2012
Nhulunbuy Corporation Limited	<b>Nhulunbuy, NT*</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	16/02/2012	22/05/2012
Quilpie Shire Council	<b>Quilpie, Qld*</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	30/11/2011	18/04/2012
Richmond Shire Council	<b>Richmond, Qld*</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	23/02/2012	21/05/2012
Central Highlands Regional Council	<b>Springsure, Qld#</b>	Input feed via satellite	15/12/2011	3/02/2012
Isaac Regional Council	<b>St Lawrence, Qld</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	11/11/2011	2/02/2012
Barcoo Shire Council	<b>Stonehenge, Qld</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	29/11/2011	3/02/2012
Tumut Shire Council	<b>Talbingo, NSW#</b>	Input feed via satellite	3/05/2012	27/05/2012
Tumbarumba Shire Council	<b>Tumbarumba, NSW#</b>	Input feed via satellite	2/05/2012	processing
Tumbarumba Shire Council	<b>Walwa/Jingellic, NSW#</b>	Input feed via satellite	19/04/2012	29/05/2012
Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku	<b>Warburton, WA</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	28/03/2012	processing
Barcoo Shire Council	<b>Windorah, Qld</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	29/11/2011	3/02/2012
Shire of Wongan Ballidu	<b>Wongan Hills Town, WA*</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	6/12/2011	24/04/2012
Paroo Shire Council	<b>Wyandra, Qld</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	21/11/2011	5/03/2012
Paroo Shire Council	<b>Yowah, Qld</b>	Input feed via VAST satellite	21/11/2011	5/03/2012

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**Question No: 107**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Spectrum**

**Senator Birmingham asked:**

Please provide an update on the process of allocating spectrum resulting from the digital TV switchover.

**Answer:**

The ACMA is preparing to hold the digital dividend auction, to reallocate parts of the 700 MHz and 2.5 GHz bands by issuing spectrum licences. These bands, which are currently occupied, are being replanned to enable the spectrum to move to its highest value use. The digital dividend auction will be carried out in accordance with the process for reallocation of encumbered spectrum set out in Part 3.6 of the Radiocommunications Act 1992 (the Act).

Following a recommendation from the ACMA, on 1 November 2011 the Minister made a spectrum reallocation declaration under section 153B of the Act for each of the two bands. The declarations set the precise spectrum bands to be auctioned, the applicable licence type and key dates associated with the allocation process.

The next key legislative step is for the ACMA to make the following 'allocation instruments' in relation to the auction:

- an allocation determination, to be made under section 60 of the Act, to set the rules and procedures that will apply to the auction
- two marketing plans (one for each band), to be made under section 39A of the Act, to describe the spectrum products being offered.

Together, these instruments will give legal effect to the auction process. The allocation instruments are accompanied by a set of technical instruments, to be made under section 145 and section 262 of the Act.

The ACMA released draft versions of the instruments in April 2012 for a period of public consultation. A total of 11 submissions were received, providing comments on various aspects of the instruments. In response to those comments, the ACMA now proposes to make a number of changes to the draft allocation instruments, which will be released for a second round of public consultation in July 2012.

The ACMA intends to finalise the allocation instruments in Quarter 3 2012 and release them as part of an 'Applicant Information Package' (AIP). The AIP will provide comprehensive information about the auction process and the spectrum products on offer and will give those people interested in participating in the auction the information they need to decide whether to participate—and, if they choose to participate, how to do so.

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Once the Applicant Information Package has been released, the ACMA will be in a position to invite interested parties to register as bidders for the auction, conduct the auction process, and issue spectrum licences to successful bidders.

The ACMA is now working towards an auction in April 2013, in accordance with the announcement made by the Minister on 19 June 2012.<sup>1</sup> An April auction will help maximise the level of product certainty for potential bidders, and provide sufficient time for bidders to plan and deploy infrastructure to use the spectrum ahead of licence commencement dates.

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<sup>1</sup> See media release at [http://www.minister.dbcde.gov.au/media/media\\_releases/2012/091](http://www.minister.dbcde.gov.au/media/media_releases/2012/091)



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**Question No: 108**

**Program No: ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Spectrum**

**Senator Birmingham asked:**

In setting reserve prices for upcoming spectrum options – why will the ACMA consider which parties might participate in the auction? What parties participating would push up the reserve price?

When will the reserve price be determined?

**Answer:**

In setting reserve prices the ACMA is guided by the objects of the *Radiocommunications Act 1992* to maximise the public benefit for using spectrum by the efficient allocation and use of spectrum. The ACMA considers which parties might participate in the auction in order to judge the likely level of demand for the spectrum to be auctioned. The participation or absence of any particular party would not by itself push up or down the reserve price. However the likely level of overall demand is considered in conjunction with other factors including the results of similar spectrum auctions overseas and the expected value of spectrum to various possible bidders. The ACMA intends to announce reserve prices no later than five working days after it advertises the auction. Publishing the reserve prices at this time will enable:

1. potential bidders to consider the reserve prices before deciding whether participate in the auction
2. the ACMA to ensure that the reserve prices are based on accurate and relevant market information.

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**Question No: 109**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Spectrum**

**Senator Birmingham asked:**

Has the ACMA finalised limits on the amount of spectrum any one participant can purchase?  
What are these limits?

**Answer:**

The auction of 700 MHz (digital dividend) and 2.5 GHz spectrum will be carried out in accordance with the process for reallocation of encumbered spectrum set out in Part 3.6 of the Radiocommunications Act 1992 (the Act). Under subsection 60(9) of the Act, an allocation determination made by the ACMA may only impose competition limits on the allocation of spectrum if the Minister, acting under subsection 60(10) of the Act, directs the ACMA to include such a provision.

On 2 February 2012, the Minister directed the ACMA to include competition limits (or 'spectrum caps') in the allocation determination for the 700 MHz and 2.5 GHz spectrum auction.<sup>1</sup> The competition limits will place a cap on the maximum amount of spectrum that any one bidder can acquire in each band in the DDA. The limits are:

- 2×20 MHz in the 700 MHz band
- 2×40 MHz in the 2.5 GHz band.

In his media release of 9 February 2012,<sup>2</sup> the Minister explained that the limits have been set to ensure a level playing field for the bidders. The allocation determination made by the ACMA will include rules that prevent any bidder from acquiring more spectrum than specified in the Minister's direction.

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<sup>1</sup> See Ministerial direction at: <http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2012L00205>

<sup>2</sup> See media release at: [http://www.minister.dbcde.gov.au/media/media\\_releases/2012/013](http://www.minister.dbcde.gov.au/media/media_releases/2012/013)

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**Question No: 110-113**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Al Manar**

**110. Senator Birmingham asked:**

Given that the new anti terrorism standards commenced on July 1, 2011 - why is ACMA not investigating whether Al Manar Television breaches these new standards?

**111. Senator Birmingham asked:**

How is the ACMA monitoring that Al Manar Television is complying with Australian regulation, given that the 2010 report in its key findings stated that Al Manar Television committed the following regulatory breaches:

- 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;
- breached 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.

**112. Senator Birmingham asked:**

In February, you stated that ACMA had no outstanding complaints against Al Manar - could this be the result of the fact that past complaints, even when upheld, had no real world consequences?

**113. Senator Birmingham asked:**

The 2010 report noted that 'a large volume of programming material assessed during the period under review was dedicated to Hizbullah, its resistance, Shi'a religious teaching and hostility against Israel'. Given that Hizbullah and a number of its associated entities are listed on Australia's terrorist lists, doesn't Al Manar Television's links with and support for Hizbullah and its actions contravene the 2011 anti-terrorism standards?

**110 – 113 Answer:**

As with all broadcasters, the ACMA monitors the compliance of Al Manar Television with its regulatory obligations by reference to complaints.

Under the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*, complaints can be made to the ACMA about possible breaches of the anti-terrorism standards. The ACMA must investigate such complaints.

There are no outstanding complaints against the Al Manar television service.

The ACMA declines to speculate on the reasons for the absence of further complaints.

The anti-terrorism standards prohibit the broadcast programs of particular kinds. They do not prohibit the links between Al Manar Television and Hizbullah noted in the 2010 report.

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**Question No: 114**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: 400 MHz waveband**

**Senator Fischer asked:**

- a. How many operators currently use the 400 MHz waveband?
- b. What is the estimated revenue the government will receive through the proposed increase in apparatus license taxes to \$199 per kHz over the next five years?
- c. How has this decision to increase the tax been communicated to operators on the 400 MHz waveband?
- d. Will the change in pricing affect operators of UHF CB Repeaters?
- e. Is there any plan to introduce a licensing system for all operators of UHF CB equipment?
- f. Will operators who own boats for recreational purposes, and Marine Rescue Groups, incur increased costs as a result of proposals for a new approach to certification contained in the consultation paper: *A new approach for recreational boaters who operate VHF marine radios*?
- g. Can you provide an update on the state of the VHF Recreational Boating Service and its review of the operation on both VHF International Distress Channel 16 and 67- relating to interference in each of the States? Can the Authority confirm that Field Officers have started in Victorian waters?

**Answer:**

- a. Some services within the 400 MHz band (403 to 520 MHz) are class licensed. For class licensed services it is not possible to identify the operators using those services. For apparatus licensed services within the band there are approximately 6,600 licensees. There are no spectrum licences allocated in the band.
- b. The revenue implications of the introduction of opportunity cost pricing (OCP) are difficult to accurately estimate because it is expected that licensees will review their licence holdings due to both the introduction of OCP and the broader review of the 400 MHz band. If the ACMA decides to introduce the proposed increases to the apparatus licence taxes then additional revenue raised in the first of the five years of the staged implementation is estimated to be approximately \$2.2 million.

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The ACMA has not attempted to estimate revenues beyond the first year of implementation as the ACMA expects licence holdings to change as a result of the implementation of the 400 MHz review and OCP.

- c. ACMA commenced consulting on the introduction of opportunity cost pricing as part of its 400MHz band review as far back as 2009. In October 2008, Plum Consulting was commissioned to do a pricing report (“the Plum report”).<sup>1</sup> The 400 MHz band was selected as a case study to explore ways in which pricing could be used to better manage high demand and congestion within this band in Sydney (representative of a high density area) and Perth (representative of a medium density area).

In April 2009, the ACMA released a consultation paper “Opportunity Cost Pricing of Spectrum: Public consultation on administrative pricing for spectrum based on opportunity cost” (The 2009 OC Consultation paper) on administrative pricing for spectrum based on opportunity cost.<sup>2</sup> In this paper the ACMA examined administrative incentive pricing using opportunity cost pricing for administratively allocated spectrum, which is expected to result in more efficient allocation of spectrum. The ACMA also used the Plum report to illustrate how opportunity cost pricing could be used to manage high demand and congestion in the 400 MHz band.

In January 2010, the ACMA provided a response to the submissions made to the 2009 OC Consultation paper, announcing that opportunity cost pricing will be introduced as one of the suite of tools to manage spectrum more efficiently. The paper also noted the ACMA’s intention to further consult on the application of opportunity cost pricing in the 400 MHz band.

In April 2010, the ACMA released the third in a series of four papers concerning the review titled “The Way Ahead – Decisions and Implementation Options for the 400MHz Band” (The Decisions Paper). The Paper reiterated the January 2010 announcement that the ACMA would use opportunity cost pricing as one of its tools to manage spectrum more efficiently, including in the 400 MHz band.

In December 2010, the ACMA released the final in a series of four papers concerning the review titled “The way ahead: Timeframes and implementation plans for the 400MHz band” (The Way Ahead Paper). The ACMA noted in The Way Ahead Paper that the introduction of opportunity cost pricing in the 400 MHz band would be subject to more consideration and consultation.

The ACMA released a consultation paper on April 10, 2012 seeking the views of interested parties on the proposal to introduce opportunity cost pricing to the high density areas of the 400MHz band. The consultation paper was released on the ACMA’s website and a notice of the consultation paper was included in the ACMA’s Bulletin to Accredited Persons. In addition, the ACMA emailed those parties that had responded to the ACMA’s previous

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<sup>1</sup> [www.acma.gov.au/webwr/\\_assets/main/lib310867/ifc12-09\\_app\\_a\\_1\\_plum\\_report\\_to\\_acma.pdf](http://www.acma.gov.au/webwr/_assets/main/lib310867/ifc12-09_app_a_1_plum_report_to_acma.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.acma.gov.au/scripts/nc.dll?WEB/STANDARD/1001/pc=PC\\_311707](http://www.acma.gov.au/scripts/nc.dll?WEB/STANDARD/1001/pc=PC_311707)

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consultation about opportunity cost pricing in 2009 to indicate that a further consultation paper was available for comment.

The ACMA is currently considering the submissions received and the Authority is expected to make a decision on the implementation of opportunity cost pricing in the high density areas of the 400MHz band in July 2012.

- d. If the ACMA decides to implement opportunity cost pricing apparatus licensees operating CBRS repeaters will be affected if the equipment is located in the high density areas of the 400 MHz band, or if the equipment is licensed on a state-wide basis in New South Wales, Victoria or Queensland.
- e. A licensing system already exists for all UHF CB operators which includes both apparatus and class licensing. UHF CB repeater stations require their frequencies to be co-ordinated with the frequencies of other radiocommunications services to prevent interference. Therefore UHF CB repeaters are licensed individually under apparatus licensing arrangements and are subject to licence fees. All other operators of CB radio stations may operate through a CB repeater station in the UHF band under the *Radiocommunications (Citizen Band Radio Stations) Class Licence 2002* (the CB Class Licence). The CB Class Licence sets out the frequencies for use, prescribes equipment standards and any other technical or regulatory conditions that may apply. The CB Class Licence allows all users to operate in the same segment of spectrum on a share basis, subject to the same conditions. Under this arrangement, users do not apply for a licence and no fees are payable.
- f. No. There will be no increase in costs for operators as a result of the proposals contained in the above-mentioned consultation paper.
- g. The ACMA is undertaking a monitoring study of VHF marine radio channels used by recreational boaters including channels 16 and 67. The study is aimed at assessing possible congestion and radio user protocols. During 2012 monitoring has been undertaken in Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne and Brisbane to date. It is proposed to continue further monitoring at sites with a high concentration of recreational boaters along the east coast of Australia as well as Darwin and Tasmania over the remainder of the 2012 calendar year.

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**Question No: 115**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Breaches of the Interactive Gambling Act 2001**

**Senator Xenophon asked:**

- a. How many websites has the ACMA referred to the Australian Federal Police for breaches of the *Interactive Gambling Act 2001*?
- b. How many investigations by the AFP have ended in prosecution?
- c. How much has been collected in fines under the provisions of the Act since 2001?

**Answer:**

- a. For the period 1 July 2011 to 20 June 2012, the ACMA notified 18 overseas-hosted URLs to the Australian Federal Police (AFP) under the *Interactive Gambling Act 2001*. During the same period, the ACMA did not refer any Australian-hosted URLs to the AFP. Details of notifications made in previous financial years can be found in the ACMA's *Annual Reports* available from:  
**[http://www.acma.gov.au/WEB/STANDARD/pc=ACMA\\_PUBS\\_NDX](http://www.acma.gov.au/WEB/STANDARD/pc=ACMA_PUBS_NDX)**.
- b. As the ACMA does not conduct prosecutions under the *Interactive Gambling Act 2001* this question is best directed to the AFP.
- c. As the ACMA does not collect fines under the *Interactive Gambling Act 2001* this question is best directed to the AFP.

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**Question No: 116**

**Program No: ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Staffing**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. How many ongoing staff recruited this financial year to date and what classification are these staff?
- b. How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created this financial year to date and what classification are these staff?
- c. This financial year to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?

**Answer:**

- a. There were 28 ongoing staff recruited in the financial year to 30 April 2012. Their classifications were:

Classification	No. of staff
APS4	2
APS5	2
APS6	12
EL1	12

- b. 28 non-ongoing positions were created in the financial year to 30 April 2012 with 45 non-ongoing positions existing at 30 April 2012. Their classifications were:

Classification	No. of non-ongoing positions created 1/7/11 – 30/4/12	No. of non-ongoing positions at 30/4/12
APS1	2	-
APS2	-	4
APS3	-	-
APS4	3	4
APS5	6	9
APS6	10	15
EL1	5	7
EL2	2	5
SES1	-	1
SES2	-	-

- c. The ACMA employed 28 employees on contract in the financial year to 30 April 2012. The average length of their non-ongoing contracts was 11 months.



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**Question No: 117**

**Program No: ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Staffing**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. Please list the SES positions have you in your department/agency in the years this financial year to date.
- b. Identify the different levels and how many are permanent positions.

**Answer:**

In the financial year to 30 April 2012 the ACMA had 6 SESB2 ongoing positions and 16 SESB1 ongoing positions.

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**Question No: 118**

**Program No: ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Staffing**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

Will there be any training after the 2012 Calendar year for 2012 Graduates? If yes, please details costs and what the training is.

**Answer:**

No

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**Question No: 119**

**Program No: ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Staffing**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

What was the cost for recruiting 2012 Graduates? Please itemise and detail costs.

**Answer:**

Nil

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**Question No: 120**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Government Advertising**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. What was the total cost of all advertising for the financial year to date?
- b. 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.
- c. Has the Department of Finance and Deregulation provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.
- d. Has the Peer Review Group (PRG) and/or Independent Communications Committee (ICC) provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.
- e. 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.
- f. Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services.
- g. What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – and other communications programs is the Department/Agency undertaking, or are planning to undertake?

**Answer:**

- a. The cost of advertising as of 30 April 2012 is \$0.085m.

		<b>Campaign</b>	<b>Non-Campaign</b>
Universal McCann	Do Not Call Register Notices		32,972.00
Universal McCann	Digital search		6,046.00
AGS	Gazette and Public notices		10,852.00
Adcorp	Public notices and general advertising		18,890.00
Adcorp	Recruitment		1,455.00
ABG Pages	On line advertising		10,010.00
Other			4,348.00
		-	84,573.00

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- b. Not applicable
- c. Not applicable
- d. Not applicable
- e. Not applicable
- f. Nil
- g. The 2012/13 internal budget process is currently being undertaken and proposed spending on advertising has not been finalised.

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**Question No: 121**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Hospitality and Entertainment**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
- b. What is the Department's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
- c. What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
- d. What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
- e. Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved?

**Answer:**

- a. \$0.014m. Please refer to table 1 below for details.
- b. \$0.002m. Please refer to table 2 below for details.
- c. Nil.
- d. Nil.
- e. The 2012/13 internal budget process is currently being undertaken and proposed spending on hospitality and entertainment has not been finalised.

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**Table 1**

<i>Hospitality - July 2011 to 30 April 2012</i>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Cost</b>
6/07/2011	Sydney	Stakeholder meeting	1,740
7/07/2011	Sydney	Stakeholder meeting	1,300
25/07/2011	Sydney	Stakeholder meeting	1,751
22/08/2011	Sydney	Luncheon for Official Thai visitor	150
31/08/2011	Melbourne	Cybersmart Access Launch	461
5/09/2011	Sydney	Stakeholder meeting	1,558
29/09/2011	Sydney	Stakeholder meeting	1,974
4/11/2011	Sandy Bay	Cybersmart Networking Launch	1,021
25/11/2011	Sydney	Stakeholder meeting	1,960
23/11/2011	Sydney	Deputy Chair and external stakeholder lunch	100
20/12/2011	Sydney	Stakeholder meeting	1,019
26/01/2012	Adelaide	World Radio Communications Delegates Dinner	843
27/01/2012	Adelaide	World Radio Communications Delegates Dinner	278
1/02/2012	Adelaide	World Radio Communications Delegates Dinner	314
<b>Total</b>			<b>14,469</b>

**Table 2**

<i>Entertainment - July 2011 to 30 April 2012</i>			
21/07/2011	Sydney	Farewell dinner for part-time Members with external stakeholders	1,771
<b>Total</b>			<b>1,771</b>

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**Question No: 122**

**Program No. ACMAA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Freedom of Information**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. Has the Agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
- b. What is the total cost to the Agency to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?
- c. How many FOI requests has the Agency received for this financial year to date? How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted? Has the Agency failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?
- d. How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests for this financial year to date?

**Answer:**

- a. In making any decision under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the FOI Act) the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) has regard to the advice and guidance provided by the Australian Information Commissioner (see subsection 93A(2) of the FOI Act). If the circumstances of the matter require it, the ACMA may also take legal advice about individual requests from internal or external legal advisers.
- b. The ACMA does not have this information readily available, as the data has not been compiled ahead of the regular annual reporting cycle. A figure will be available for this financial year (2011-12) after the year's end.
- c. Between 1 July 2011 and 30 April 2012, the ACMA received 25 valid FOI requests. Of the 25 valid requests received:
  - 12 resulted in access being granted in full or in part
  - 10 were withdrawn
  - 1 was refused (documents did not exist)
  - 2 are ongoing.The ACMA has met the statutory processing times of all those requests to date.
- d. Nil.



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**Question No: 123**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Consultancies**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. 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.
- b. 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:**

- a. 29 consultancies have been undertaken this financial year. Please refer to AusTender for details.
- b. The Annual Procurement Plan (APP) details all currently planned consultancies for the financial year 2011-12. This plan is available on the ACMA's website. The APP for the financial year 2012-13 will be finalised and made available on the ACMA's website from 1 July 2012.

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**Question No: 124**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref. In Writing**

**Topic: Media Monitoring**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for this financial year to date?

- a. Which agency or agencies provided these services?
- b. What is the estimated budget to provide these same services for the year 2012-13?

**Answer:**

As of 30 April 2012 the total cost of media monitoring services is \$0.036m.

- a. Media Monitors  
Meltwater News
- b. The 2012/13 internal budget process is currently being undertaken and proposed spending on Media Monitoring has not been finalised.

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**Question No: 125**

**Program No: ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Social Media**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

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 publication of the Australian Public Service Commission's Circular 2012/1: Revisions to the Commission's guidance on making public comment and participating online? If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issued. If no, please explain why not.

**Answer:**

Yes. The ACMA's Social Media Guidelines have been updated to reflect the Australian Public Service Commission's Revisions to the Commission's guidance on making public comment and participating online, as contained in Circular 2012/1. These guidelines have been promulgated to staff and are attached.

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**Question No: 126**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Contractors**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

For this financial year to date:

1. 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).
2. 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).
3. 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).
4. 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).
5. 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).
6. 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).
7. 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).
8. 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).
9. Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.

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10. What contractors have been employed by the department/agency? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).

**Answer:**

1. No
2. No
3. No
4. No
5. No
6. No
7. No
8. No
9. No

10. Contractors are employed in the ACMA and provide a range of internal audit, finance, information technology, media, service delivery and administrative services for the agency.

The cost of contractors for the 2011-12 financial year to 30 April 2012 is \$3.749m.

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**Question No: 127**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref. In Writing**

**Topic: Government Payment of Accounts**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

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, and 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 portfolio/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:**

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

- a. Not applicable.
- b. Not applicable.
- c. Not applicable.

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**Question No: 128**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Government Stationery Requirements**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

1. What is the department/agency's stationery costs for the financial year to date?
2. What was the department/agency's stationery costs for 2009-10 and 2010-11?

**Answer:**

1. The stationery costs for the financial year to date are \$0.133m.
2. The stationery costs for 2009-10 and 2010-11 are \$0.306m and \$0.074m respectively.

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**Question No: 129**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Media Subscriptions**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

1. Has there been any change to your pay TV subscription since the 2011-12 Additional Estimates (February 2012)?
  - a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.
  - b. What is the cost for this financial year to date?
  
2. Has there been any change to your newspaper subscriptions since the 2011-12 Additional Estimates (February 2012)?
  - a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.
  - b. What is the cost for this financial year to date?
  
3. Has there been any change to your magazine subscriptions since the 2011-12 Additional Estimates (February 2012)?
  - a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.
  - b. What is the cost for this financial year to date?

**Answer:**

1. No
  - a. Not applicable
  - b. \$0.025m
  
2. No
  - a. Not applicable
  - b. \$0.014m
  
3. No
  - a. Not applicable
  - b. \$0.004m



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**Question No: 130**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Travel Costs**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

1. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).
2. 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? How is this monitored? If the guidelines are not being followed, please explain why.
3. 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.
4. 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.

**Answer:**

1. Total travel expenditure for the financial year to date is \$2.553m.

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

2. Yes. This is monitored through the Travel Management Contractor.

3. 

Qantas	SES2 – 2	Virgin	SES2 – 1
	SES1 – 14		SES1 – 5
	Lawyer – 9		EL2 – 9
	EL2 – 62		EL1 – 2
	EL1 – 32		
	APS6 – 15		
	APS5 – 7		
	APS4 – 5		

Lounge memberships are provided to optimise business requirements and are part of the ACMA's Enterprise Agreement 2011-2014. Total cost is \$0.040m.

4. No.

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**Question No: 131**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Legal Costs**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. 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.
- b. 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.
- c. 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.
- d. 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:**

- a. The agency expenditure on legal services for the financial year to 30/04/2012 within the agency was \$3,324,964.
- b. The agency expenditure on legal services for the financial year to 30/04/2012 from the Australian Government Solicitor was \$132,478.30, for a range of litigation matters and other miscellaneous legal advice and assistance.
- c. The agency expenditure on legal services for the financial year to 30/04/12 from private firms was \$171,887.90, for legal advice and assistance.
- d. The agency expenditure on legal services for the financial year to 30/04/12 from other sources was \$3,181.82, for briefs to Counsel for litigation services and for miscellaneous legal advice and assistance.

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**Question No: 132**

**Program No: ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Education Expenses**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. What are the Department/agency's guidelines on study? Please provide details
- b. 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 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). Also include the reason for the study and how it is beneficial for the department/agency.

**Answer:**

- a. 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.
- b. The ACMA conducted a range of in-house training programs for the period 1 July 2011 to 30 April 2012 broadly covering mentoring, management, personal skills development and media training. A total of 151 staff attended these internal programs, some attending more than one session. Staff also attended conferences, seminars and professional skills training provided by external organisations. The ACMA has 46 employees participating in tertiary studies through the ACMA's studies assistance program.

The total expenditure for the period 1 July 2011 – 30 April 2012 relating to staff training (both internal and external) and associated costs, seminars, conferences and studies assistance was \$1,120,576 (GST exclusive).

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**Question No: 133**

**Program No: ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Executive Coaching and Leadership Training**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

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:

1. Total spending on these services
2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification
3. 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)
4. The names of all service providers engaged

For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), 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 (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)

Where a service was provided at any location other than the agency's own premises, please provide:

- i. The location used
- ii. The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
- iii. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
- iv. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location

**Answer:**

1. Total expenditure for the financial year to 30 April 2012 was \$548,500 (excl GST).
2. 56 employees comprising 3 X Statutory Office Holders, 6 X SES2 and 47 X EL2
3. 55 employees comprising 2 X Statutory Office Holders, 6 X SES2 and 47 X EL2
4. Mt Eliza Executive Education, Melbourne Business School

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**Question No: 134**

**Program No: ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Media Training**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:

1. Total spending on these services
2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification
3. 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)
4. The names of all service providers engaged

For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), 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)

Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:

- i. The location used
- ii. The number of employees who took part on each occasion
- iii. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
- iv. Any costs the agency incurred to use the location

**Answer:**

1. Total expenditure was \$11,300.00 (excl GST) in the financial year to 30/4/12
2. 14 employees comprising 1 X SESB1, 4 X EL2, 5 X EL1, 3 X APS6 and 1 X APS5
3. 14 employees comprising 1 X SESB1, 4 X EL2, 5 X EL1, 3 X APS6 and 1 X APS5
4. Clarity Business Solutions
  - a) media training
  - b) group based
  - c) refer 3. above
  - d) 94.5 hours
  - e) refer 1. above
  - f) complete package

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**Question No: 135**

**Program No: ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Paid Parental Leave**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. Please list how many staff in each portfolio department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme?
- b. For this financial year to date 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.

**Answer:**

- a. 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.
- b. The ACMA registered to participate in the scheme and was prepared to receive and make payments from 1 January 2011. At 30 April 2012 there were nine staff in receipt of these payments and their classifications are APS4 (1), APS 5 (1), APS 6 (3), EL1 (4).

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**Question No: 136**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Corporate Cars**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

Please update if there have been any changes since Additional Estimates 2011-12 (February 2012):

- a. How many cars are owned by each department and agency in your portfolio?
- b. Where is the car/s located?
- c. What is the car/s used for?
- d. What is the cost of each car for this financial year to date?
- e. How far did each car travel this financial year to date

**Answer:**

- a. No change
- b. No change
- c. No change
- d. \$0.004m and \$0.012m.
- e. 13,459 kms and 32,435km.

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**Question No: 137**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Taxi Costs**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

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

**Answer:**

a.

**2011/12 YTD Breakdown by Division**

Authority	\$	33,792.39
Communications Infrastructure	\$	69,701.62
Content, Consumer & Citizen	\$	30,574.34
Digital Economy	\$	37,288.30
Digital Transition	\$	51,474.32
Legal Services	\$	8,900.81
Corporate Services & Coordination	\$	53,337.61

**\$ 285,069.39**

- b. Taxi expenditure is incurred to support business requirements.



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**Question No: 138**

**Program No. ACMA**

**In Writing**

**Topic: Credit Cards**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

Provide a breakdown for each employment classification that has a corporate credit card.

Please update if there has been any changes since Additional Estimates 2011-12 (February 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? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.
- e. What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?

**Answer:**

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

ACMA 3	1
ACMA 4	11
ACMA 5	23
ACMA 6	23
ACMA EL 1	16
ACMA EL 2	22
ACMA SES 1	10
ACMA SES 2	5
Principal Lawyer	1
Executive	3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>115</b>

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

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**Question No: 139**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Printing of Documents**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

Does the department/agency print any hard copies of reports/statements/papers they produce? If yes, please list how many copies, where they are delivered and the cost

**Answer:**

The ACMA provides hard copies of its Annual Report, the Communications Report and the National Relay Service Performance Report.

**Printing of reports/statements/papers:**

Item: *Annual report* (details below are for 2010–11 report)

Print run: 1550 copies

Distribution: Tabling copies as required; staff copies; major stakeholders

Print cost: \$9,850.00 (+ gst)

Item: *Communications report* (details below are for 2010–11 report)

Print run: 500 copies

Distribution: Tabling copies as required; major stakeholders

Print cost: \$5,210.00 (+ gst)

Item: *National Relay Service performance report*

Print run: 800 copies

Distribution: Tabling copies as required; major stakeholders

Print cost: \$3,191.00 (+ gst)

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**Question No: 140**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: Written**

**Topic: Provision of Equipment**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

Is electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive (not an inclusive list)) 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:**

The ACMA provides the following 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 an EL2 level and above have a smartphone (currently an Apple iPhone) at an average cost of \$900. Some staff below EL2 levels have a phone for operational requirements.
- Some staff have been issued iPads at an average cost of \$800-900 for operational use.

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**Question No: 141**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Electricity Purchasing**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. Provide an update of the department/agency electricity purchasing agreement. Provide details of when this was entered into and the length of the agreement.
- b. What were the department/agency electricity costs for 2009-10 and 2010-11?
- c. What are the department/agency electricity costs for this financial year to date?

**Answer:**

- a. The ACMA has electricity agreements/arrangements in place for its staffed offices as follows:

<b>Office</b>	<b>Commencement Date</b>	<b>Length of Agreement</b>
Canberra	01/07/2011	4 years
Sydney	01/07/2011	3 years
Melbourne	01/01/2011	3 years
Brisbane	01/12/2010	3 years
Parramatta	03/03/2011	5 years
Quoin Ridge	1970	Ongoing

- b. The ACMA's electricity costs for 2009-10 and 2010-11 were \$0.162m and \$0.244m respectively.
- c. The ACMA's electricity cost for this financial year to date is \$0.281m.

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**Question No: 142**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In writing**

**Topic: Information for the Australian Greens and Independents**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

1. Does the department/agency provide any information and/or undertake any requests for the Australian Greens? If yes, please provide the following information:
  - a. How is such work and/or information requests commissioned?
  - b. What work/information requests have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each work produced.
  - c. Has any such work and/or information requests been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details including what the work and/or information requests were and why it could not be undertaken.
  - d. How long is spent undertaking work and/or information requests for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.
  
2. Does the department/agency provide any information and/or undertake any requests for the Independents? If yes, please provide the following information:
  - a. How is such work and/or information requests commissioned?
  - b. What work/information requests have been undertaken? Provide details, including who the work/information was for and a copy of each work produced.
  - c. Has any such work and/or information requests been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details including what the work and/or information requests were, who they were from, who they were for and why it could not be undertaken.
  - d. How long is spent undertaken work and/or information requests for the Independents? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.

**Answer:**

1. The ACMA has not provided any information or undertaken any requests for the Australian Greens.
  
2. The ACMA has provided information to the Hon Bob Katter MP.
  - a. Mr Katter contacted the Chairman of the ACMA, Mr Chris Chapman, directly on 10 May 2012.
  
  - b. During the conversation, Mr Katter requested information about the localism obligations that apply to regional commercial radio and television broadcasters.

On 22 May 2012, the requested information was provided to Mr Katter (see attached). Subsequently, Mr Chapman (Chairman), Ms Jennifer McNeill (General Manager, Content,

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Consumer and Citizen Division) and a representative from the Minister's Office met with Mr Katter in Canberra on 30 May 2012.

On 21 June 2012, the ACMA provided Mr Katter with requested additional information regarding:

- compliance with localism obligations that apply to regional commercial radio and television broadcasters; and
- community broadcasting services;  
in the electorate of Kennedy (see attached).

c. No.

- d. CCCD estimates that a total of 8 staff hours have been spent on work related to Mr Katter's request, including:
- SES2 2 hours;
  - EL2 4 hours; and
  - EL1 2 hours.

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**Question No: 143**

**Program No. ACMA**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Shredders**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

Has the department/agencies purchased any shredders in the last 12 months? 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:**

Three shredders have been purchased in the last 12 months.

The cost per shredder was \$0.003m.

The shredders were purchased to replace units that had surpassed their useful life.