

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio
Budget Estimates, May 2013

Program: Division: Corporate: PCD **Question No:** 161
Topic: Portfolio Wide - Commissioned Reports
Proof Hansard Page and Date or Written Question: Written

Senator Birmingham asked:

How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your department/agency this financial year to date? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.

- a. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?
- b. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

Answer:

Four.

Key Socio-economic Impacts in Transitioning to Wood Supply Arrangements detailed in the Tasmanian Forest Agreement (TFA)

Commissioned: 8 January 2013.

Handed to Government: 22 February 2013.

Updated version 27 February 2013 with amended text.

Date of Public Release: 27 February 2013.

Terms of reference:

On 8 January 2013, the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities engaged a service provider to provide a report on the socio-economic impacts of the Tasmanian Forest Agreement. This work was designed to determine the regional and state-wide impacts of the proposed new reserves and lower log supply volumes detailed in the Tasmanian Forest Agreement.

Committee members:

- Dr Bob Smith
- Dr Tony O'Hara
- Mr Martin Farley.

a. Estimated cost: \$154,464.50 (GST inclusive).
Departmental staff: 1 x EL2 and 1 x APS5.

b. Current status: Completed.
Response: No government response is planned.

Sustainable Australia Report 2013: Conversations with the Future

Commissioned: 23 October 2012 (announcement of National Sustainability Council).

Handed to Government: 1 May 2013.

Date of Public Release: 9 May 2013.

Terms of reference:

The Council will:

- Deliver a public Sustainable Australia Report every two years, providing information and analysis on key trends and emerging issues as highlighted by the sustainability indicators, the first report to be released within six months of the Council's establishment.
- The Council's key deliverable will be the biennial Sustainable Australia Report (the report). The report will consolidate current national-level data on the indicators and provide analysis and discussion of key trends and emerging issues as an input to policy development and decision making at a range of scales. The report may also include information on community level issues, such as case studies and analysis of issues highlighted by the indicators for different communities and demographic groups. Reports will be presented to the Minister and subsequently released publicly. The first report will be released within six months of the Council's establishment, with subsequent reports produced biennially.

Committee members:

- Professor John Thwaites (Chair)
- Mr Rod Glover
- Dr Tom Hatton
- Professor Graeme Hugo
- Mr Mark Joiner
- Ms Romily Madew
- Ms Sam Mostyn
- Professor Sue Richardson.

a. Estimated cost: \$74, 580.
Departmental staff: 1 x EL2, 2 x EL1, 0.5 x APS6, 0.5 APS5.

b. Current status: Published.
Response: The government does not plan to respond to this report.

The natural attributes for World Heritage nomination of Cape York Peninsula, Australia

Commissioned: 10 October 2012.

Handed to Government: 10 April 2013.

Date of Public Release: 3 May 2013.

Terms of reference:

On 9-10 October 2012, the department convened an independent scientific panel in a workshop to identify potential natural world heritage values of Cape York Peninsula.

Panel members were required to:

- prepare an independent report on the potential outstanding universal values of Cape York Peninsula, including a summary of international comparative places for each value identified and discussion of the integrity of those values; and
- produce maps identifying the potential natural world heritage values and their extent on Cape York Peninsula.

Committee members:

- Brendan Mackey (editor)
- Peter Valentine (editor)
- Peter Hitchcock (editor);
- Bruce Leaver
- Peter Stanton
- John Woinarski
- Bruce Wannan
- Eric Vanderduys
- Warwick Willmott
- Mark Kennard.

a. Estimated cost: \$28,960.
Departmental staff: 1 x EL1; 1 x APS 6.

b. Current status: Published.
Response: The report will contribute to the development of a world heritage nomination for appropriate areas of Cape York Peninsula, subject to Traditional Owner consent.

Report from the Expert Panel on a Declared Commercial Fishing Activity

Commissioned: 11 January 2013.

Handed to Government: *To be provided to the Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (the Minister) by 22 October 2014.*

Date of Public Release: Not specified.

Terms of reference:

The Expert Panel will assess the Declared Commercial Fishing Activity, particularly the potential for the activity to result in adverse environmental impacts.

The Expert Panel will assess and advise on:

- the likely nature and extent of direct interactions of the Declared Commercial Fishing Activity with species protected under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act), particularly seals;
- the potential for any localised depletion of target species (arising from the Declared Commercial Fishing Activity) to result in adverse impacts to the Commonwealth marine environment, including the target species' predators protected under the EPBC Act;
- actions that could be taken by operators of the Declared Commercial Fishing Activity or relevant regulatory authorities to avoid, reduce and mitigate adverse environmental impacts of the activity;
- monitoring or scientific research that would reduce any uncertainties about the potential for adverse environmental impacts resulting from the Declared Commercial Fishing Activity;
- any other matters about the environmental impacts of the Declared Commercial Fishing Activity that the Expert Panel considers relevant to its assessment; and
- other related matters that may be referred to it by the Minister.

Committee members:

- Ms Mary Lack (Chair)
- Professor Peter Harrison
- Dr Cathy Bulman
- Associate Professor Simon Goldsworthy.

- a. Estimated cost: \$865,080.
Departmental staff: 1 x EL1; 1 x APS 6.
- b. Current status: Planning and information gathering stages.
Response: It is yet to be determined whether the government will respond to this report.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**
Answers to questions on notice
Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio
Budget Estimates, May 2013

Program: Division: Corporate: PCD **Question No:** 162
Topic: Portfolio Wide - Printing Costs
Proof Hansard Page and Date Written
or Written Question:

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 Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (the department)

For the purpose of this response, a 'document' is defined as books, booklets, brochures, guides, flyers, and factsheets.

Ninety one documents have been printed in the financial year to date with print quantities ranging from 12 to 7,500. Eighty two of the 91 documents had a printing quantity of 2,000 or less.

All of the department's public documents are published online excluding stationery items such as business cards or promotional materials such as banners.

Bureau of Meteorology

One hundred and seven documents have been printed in the financial year to date, with print quantities for each publication ranging from 50 at the lowest end of the range to 69,000 for the Australian Weather Calendar which is published on a cost recovery basis and is not published online.

As a general policy, most externally-focussed publications are also published online.

Director of National Parks

Twelve documents have been printed in the financial year to date with print quantities ranging from 250 to 200,000. The higher print quantities are of park brochures and guides which are core communication vehicles to inform and educate park visitors on a range of natural and cultural values, walks, and other recreational opportunities in parks.

Ten of the 12 documents have been published online.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

Nine documents have been printed in the financial year to date, with printing quantities ranging from 70 to 126,300. Seven of the nine documents had a print quantity of less than 1000.

The agency publishes all externally available printed material online.

Murray-Darling Basin Authority

Sixteen documents have been printed in the financial year to date with printing quantities ranging from 200 to 5,150.

Twelve of the 16 documents are published online.

National Water Commission

Two documents have been printed in the financial year to date with print quantities of 1,000 and 500. These documents were also published online.

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

Twelve documents have been printed in the financial year to date with quantities ranging from 250 to 40,000. Five of the 12 documents were published online.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**
Answers to questions on notice
Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio
Budget Estimates, May 2013

Program: Division: Corporate: PCD **Question No:** 163
Topic: Portfolio Wide - Advertising
Proof Hansard Page and Date Written
or Written Question:

Senator Birmingham asked:

What was the total cost of all advertising for the financial year to date?

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

Answer:

As of 30 April 2013 the total cost of all advertising undertaken by the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (the department) this financial year was \$886,069.27.

- a. Between 1 July 2012 and 30 April 2013 the department undertook both campaign and non-campaign advertising. The total expenditure on non-campaign advertising for the reporting period was \$645,304.22. This includes gazette and recruitment advertising, public information notices, request for tenders and expressions of interest.

Advertising for the Water Efficiency Labelling (WELS) Scheme during this period was \$37,708.23. Whilst such advertising was classified as operational by the Department of Finance and Deregulation, it falls within the scope of the Guidelines on information and advertising campaigns by Australian Government departments and agencies (March 2010) and is listed in the department's annual report as campaign advertising.

The Recreational Fishers advertising was classed by the Department of Finance and Deregulation as campaign advertising. The campaign was developed to provide

information about the impacts of the final proposed Commonwealth marine reserves. The total amount spent on the Recreational Fishers campaign advertising during this period was \$203,056.82.

The department also consulted the Department of Finance and Deregulation during the initial development of the Recreational Fishers advertising campaign.

- b. Due to new guidelines prohibiting recruitment advertising in print media from 1 July 2012, waivers were sought from the Department of Finance and Deregulation to advertise hard to fill positions in print media: Antarctic project manager (February 2013).
- c. No.
- d. Yes.
- e. Communication strategies are developed for key areas of government business and may include such activities as websites, publications, events, advertising, public relations and media liaison. These activities are not campaign advertising and are undertaken as part of broader stakeholder engagement to communicate the department's policies and programs.

The department utilises panel procurement arrangements for creative and printing services which are managed by the Department of Human Services. The communication activities are procured from various suppliers selected through an AusTender process.

Departmental expenditure on communication related activities for the period 1 July 2012 to 30 April 2013 was \$381,783.68.

- f. The Recreational Fishers advertising campaign ended in March 2013. At the time of writing, there were no further campaign advertising activities planned for the department.

Bureau of Meteorology

\$24,535.68.

- a. Advertising has all been non-campaign and provided by the Australian Public Service Commission for recruitment.
- b. No.
- c. No.
- d. Not applicable.
- e. Not applicable.
- f. Nil.

Director of National Parks

\$41,120.90.

- a. The amount provided at question 1 is for non-campaign advertising. The Director of National Parks primarily uses the Australian Government non-campaign central advertising system provider, AdCorp, to place its advertisements, but may directly place advertisements in local newspapers where AdCorp does not provide this service.

Expenditure on non-campaign advertising includes gazette and recruitment advertising, public information notices, request for tenders and expressions of interest. Providing specific details for each item would involve an extensive manual process.

- b. No.
- c. No.
- d. Not applicable.
- e. The Director of National Parks utilises the department's panel arrangements for creative and printing services which are managed by the Department of Human Services. The communication activities are procured from various suppliers through this centralised arrangement. For the purpose of this response, 'communications program' is defined as: the communication of a government message to the public through a range of possible mediums, including advertising (print, television, radio, etc.), visitor information brochures and the erection of signs and plaques. Director of National Parks expenditure on communication related activities for the reporting period was \$73,689.40.
- f. The Director of National Parks is not undertaking or planning to undertake any campaign advertising.

In relation to other advertising, the Director of National Parks is likely to place notices (print, television, radio etcetera) alerting the public to activities that may occur in the Australian National Botanic Gardens and Commonwealth reserves managed by the Director of National Parks.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)

\$111,782.00.

- a. Non-campaign:
 - Zoning Education: \$18,959.
 - Promotion of Reef HQ Aquarium: \$64,876.
 - Recruitment: \$5,683.
 - Reef Guardians: \$17,730.
 - Other: \$4,534.
- b. Yes. The Department of Finance and Deregulation advised that proposed television and billboard advertising for the Reef Guardian program was regarded as non-campaign.
- c. No.
- d. Yes. The advertising was operational and non-campaign in nature and directly related to the agency educating the public about its programs and services.
- e. Nil. GBRMPA does not outsource implementation of its communication programs.
- f. GBRMPA is planning to undertake non-campaign advertising for:
 - Zoning Education

- Promotion of Reef HQ Aquarium
- Recruitment
- Reef Guardians
- Other: such as advertising proposed plans of management and other public consultations etc.

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (the Authority)

\$8,960.88

- a. Non-campaign. The advertisements were primarily for recruitment and some public notices. The agency managing the advertising is Adcorp.
- b. No.
- c. No.
- d. As the advertising was non-campaign, these guidelines do not apply.
- e. There has been no communications program this financial year.
- f. The Authority has no plans to undertake any advertising or communications programs, other than routine recruitment advertising.

National Water Commission (the Commission)

\$5,615.

- a. Non-campaign.
- b. No.
- c. No.
- d. Yes.
- e. The Commission has no current communication programs.
- f. The Commission has no plans to undertake any advertising or communications programs, other than routine recruitment advertising.

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

a. \$80,091.57.

- a. Non-campaign advertising. Advertising in 2012/13 includes advertising for tenders, general advertising across community, metropolitan and national publications and websites, advertising accommodation offerings, general government listing advertising and advertising for program activity.
- b. No.
- c. No.
- d. Yes.

- e. Not applicable.
- f. The Trust is planning to undertake the following non-campaign advertising and communications:
 - Harbour Trust tender advertising.
 - Cockatoo Island accommodation advertising.
 - Cockatoo Island event advertising.
 - North Head tourism advertising.
 - Public relations and media activities.
 - Online promotion – social media, e-newsletters.
 - Brochures and collateral.
 - Recruitment advertising.
 - Public Notice advertising.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**
Answers to questions on notice
Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio
Budget Estimates, May 2013

Program: Division: Corporate: PCD **Question No:** 164
Topic: Portfolio Wide - Board Appointments
Proof Hansard Page and Date or Written Question: Written

Senator Birmingham asked:

Provide an update of the boards within this portfolio, including: board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members.

- a. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?
- b. Please detail any board appointments for this financial year to date.

Answer:

In accordance with Senate Order 13, the details of the boards within this portfolio, including board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members, are tabled in the Senate prior to each Senate Estimates Hearing. Details for portfolio boards, in accordance with Senate Order 13, were tabled for Budget Estimates May 2013.

- a. The gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio is outlined in the table below.

Board	Gender Ratio F:M
Alligator Rivers Region Advisory Committee	6:24
Alligator Rivers Region Technical Committee	4:9
Antarctic Animal Ethics Committee	5:8
Antarctic Science Advisory Committee	5:13
Australia-Netherlands Committee on Old Dutch Shipwrecks	3:1
Australian Antarctic Names and Medal Committee	2:3
Australian Biological Resources Study Advisory Committee	5:8
Australian Heritage Council	4:3
Basin Officials Committee	2:4
Booderee National Park Board of Management	4:8
Expert Panel on the Declared Commercial Fishing Activity	2:2

Expert Panel for Major Coal Seam Gas Projects	1:3
Fuel Standards Consultative Committee	4:13
Gladstone Independent Review	2:2
Great Artesian Basin Coordinating Committee	3:9
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority	1:4
Hazardous Waste Technical Group	2:6
Iconic Sites Task Force	4:3
Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Coal Mining	4:4
Indigenous Advisory Committee	3:8
Kakadu Board of Management	3:9
Lake Eyre Basin Community Advisory Committee	8:9
Lake Eyre Basin Scientific Advisory Panel	3:4
Land Sector Carbon and Biodiversity Board	2:3
Murray-Darling Basin Authority	3:3
Murray-Darling Basin Authority Basin Community Committee	7:7
National Sustainability Council	3:7
National Water Commission	2:2
Oil Stewardship Advisory Group	5:5
Product Stewardship Advisory Group	5:5
Sydney Harbour Federation Trust	3:2
Threatened Species Scientific Committee	6:4
Uluru-Kata Tjuta Board of Management	3:5
Portfolio	119:200

- b. Board appointments for this financial year to date are reflected in Senate Order 13 tabled in the Senate in May 2013.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
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Answers to questions on notice
Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio
Budget Estimates, May 2013

Program: Division: Corporate: PCD **Question No:** 165

Topic: Portfolio wide - Freedom of Information

Proof Hansard Page and Date Written

or Written Question:

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? Has the department failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many and why? Do any of these requests remain outstanding? If so, how many and why?

Answer:

The Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities includes the Director of National Parks

1. The Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (the department) and its portfolio agencies follow the advice and protocols provided by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (the OAIC) in line with the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the FOI Act) and Freedom of Information (FOI) guidance material. The department also follows the FOI guidance notes provided by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet on 28 July 2011 which are available at: http://www.dpmmc.gov.au/foi/guidance_notes.cfm.
2. For the financial year to date (30 April 2013) the direct cost to the department to process FOI requests (based on the OAIC methodology), was approximately \$208,750. This figure does not factor in charges received from applicants or the department's broader costs of maintaining the systems and processes for the management of FOI work.
3. For the financial year to date (30 April 2013) the department received 91 FOI requests and had 15 FOI requests carried over from the financial year 2011/12 (equating to a total of 106 FOI requests).

Of the total 106 FOI requests, 31 were granted in full, 12 were granted in part, 10 were refused, four were transferred to another agency for processing, 31 were withdrawn and 18 are still being processed.

For the financial year to date (30 April 2013) the department has processed five FOI requests outside the statutory timeframe provided by the FOI Act. All five matters were finalised as at 30 April 2013. In each case departmental delegates did not determine the FOI access decision within the statutory timeframe as provided by section 15 of the FOI Act.

Bureau of Meteorology

1. See departmental answer for all portfolio agencies.
2. For the financial year to date the total cost to the Bureau of Meteorology (the Bureau) to process FOI requests was approximately \$56,830.76.
3. For the financial year to date the Bureau received 18 FOI requests. Of the 18 requests, one was released in full, eight were released in part, two were withdrawn, three were refused as the information was already publicly available and four are still being processed. All requests received were processed or are being processed within the FOI statutory timeframes.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

1. See departmental answer for all portfolio agencies.
2. For the financial year to date the total cost to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority to process FOI requests was approximately \$36,458.00.
3. For the financial year to date the Authority received 18 FOI requests. Of the 18 requests, seven were granted in full or part, two were refused, four were withdrawn and five are still being processed. All requests were finalised within the FOI statutory timeframes.

Murray-Darling Basin Authority

1. See departmental answer for all portfolio agencies.
2. For the financial year to date the total cost to the Authority to process FOI requests was approximately \$26,101.00.
3. For the financial year to date the Authority received eight FOI requests. Of the eight requests, one was granted in full, five were granted in part, one was withdrawn and one was still being processed. In addition, three requests received in the financial year 2011-12 were finalised in this financial year, of which all were granted in part. No requests failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act.

National Water Commission

1. See departmental answer for all portfolio agencies.
2. Nil.
3. Nil.

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

1. See departmental answer for all portfolio agencies.
2. For the financial year to date the total cost to the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust to process FOI requests was approximately \$431.00.
3. For the financial year to date the Trust received two FOI request. One request was granted in part and one is still being processed.

The Trust did not meet the timeframe for acknowledging the receipt of requests for one matter. This was due to a technical problem where emails were not diverting to the secondary FOI officer whilst the primary FOI officer was on leave. This problem has now been resolved to prevent a reoccurrence. This matter was finalised as of 30 April 2013.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio
Budget Estimates, May 2013

Program: Division: Corporate: PCD **Question No:** 166
Topic: Portfolio Wide - Community Cabinet Meetings
Proof Hansard Page and Date or Written Question: Written

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Provide an update of how many Community Cabinet meetings has the Minister attended this financial year to date? List date and location.
2. How many departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? List travel type, accommodate and any other expenses. Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Departmental Officers attend? List date and location.
3. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date?

Answer:

1. The Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (the Minister) attended five Community Cabinet meetings this financial year to date (30 April 2013): Ipswich, Queensland, 10 July 2012; Brand, Western Australia, 5 September 2012; Bass, Tasmania, 3 October 2012; Petrie, Queensland 14 November 2012, and Boothby, South Australia, 20 February 2013.
2. A total of four departmental officers from the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (the department) attended Community Cabinet meetings to support the Minister in this financial year to date (30 April 2013). The total cost of the travel, including airfares, accommodation, taxis and travelling allowance, was \$9,629.27. Departmental staff attended four Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date (30 April 2013): Ipswich, Queensland, 10 July 2012; Brand, Western Australia, 5 September 2012; Bass, Tasmania, 3 October 2012, and Boothby, South Australia, 20 February 2013.
3. The total travel cost to the department and the Minister's office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date (30 April 2013) was \$44,579.53. This includes airfares and travelling allowance (including Motor Vehicle Allowance) claims. It does not include travel by taxis (due to the difficulties determining exact destinations using the electronic information as provided by Cabcharge), COMCAR (which is charged directly to portfolio agencies), or travel on Special Purpose Aircraft (which is administered by the Department of Defence).

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Answers to questions on notice
Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio
Budget Estimates, May 2013

Program: Division: Corporate: PCD **Question No:** 167
Topic: Portfolio Wide - Reviews
Proof Hansard Page and Date or Written Question: Written

Senator Birmingham asked:

For this financial year to date:

- a. How many Reviews are being undertaken?
- b. What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be concluded?
- c. Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?
- d. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
- e. Has the Government responded to all reviews within the timeframe? If not, why not?
- f. What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?
- g. What reviews are planned?
- h. When will each of these reviews be concluded?

Answer:

For this financial year to date:

Consolidated responses to questions a. through f. are given in the table below:

Name of Review	Estimated completion date	Provided to Government	Government Response	Estimated cost
Mid-term Review of Phase 3 of the Great Artesian Basin (GAB) Sustainability Initiative (commenced June 2012).	The Review was concluded on 12 March 2013.	Provided on 12 March 2013.	Further review in response to the Mid-term Review recommendations will be undertaken shortly, prior to consideration by Government.	\$74,102.

Name of Review	Estimated completion date	Provided to Government	Government Response	Estimated cost
Review of the Great Artesian Basin Co-ordinating Committee.	The Review was concluded on 6 March 2013.	Provided on 6 March 2013.	The Water Thematic Oversight Group (under the Standing Council on Environment and Water) has accepted the Review's main recommendation that the Committee be retained in its current form until a Review of the GAB Strategic Management Plan is undertaken by 2015. It has asked jurisdictions to consider how other interim recommendations might be implemented without adverse impact on the Committee's operating budget.	\$79,192.
Independent Peer Review of the Draft Revised Guidelines for Groundwater Protection in Australia (commenced May 2013).	Completed 14 June 2013.	Provided on 14 June 2013.	No formal government response is planned. The Independent Peer Review forms part of a wider targeted stakeholder consultation on the revision of the Guidelines for Groundwater Protection.	\$15,000.
The Review of the <i>Hazardous Waste (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1989</i> and its associated regulations.	Second half 2013 (conclusion of the public phase of review).	Proposed second half 2013.	To be determined.	\$44,400.

Name of Review	Estimated completion date	Provided to Government	Government Response	Estimated cost
Independent review of the <i>Product Stewardship (Oil) Act 2000</i> .	July 2013.	Proposed August 2013.	To be determined.	\$232,995.
Independent Review of the Port of Gladstone.	To be determined by review panel.	No	To be determined.	\$500,000.
Independent Review of Australian Government Environmental Information Activity.	The Review was concluded in November 2012.	December 2012.	No formal government response is planned. The review will inform the long term strategic direction of environmental information management.	\$129,805.

g. No reviews are currently planned.

h. Not applicable.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
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Answers to questions on notice
Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio
Budget Estimates, May 2013

Program: Division or Agency: Corporate: CSD **Question No:** 168
Topic: Portfolio Wide - Media Subscriptions
Proof Hansard Page and Date or Written Question: Written

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:

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities

1. The Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (the department) has Foxtel pay TV Subscriptions.
 - a. The basic business package includes BBC World, CNBC, Fox News, Fox Sports 1, 2 and 3, A-PAC, Sky News Australia, Sky News for Business and Sky. These channels are included in the standard Business Information Package and are used to assist with identifying and tracking issues relevant to the portfolio.
 - b. The cost for this financial year to 30 April 2013 is \$5,710.26 GST exclusive.
2. Please refer to **Attachment A**.
 - a. The department subscribes to a number of newspapers to assist with identifying and tracking issues relevant to the portfolio and issues impacting on key stakeholders.
 - b. The cost for this financial year to 30 April 2013 is \$37,674.72 GST exclusive.

3. The department subscribes to a range of professional and scientific journals in the course of delivering its programs and business. Where possible management of the subscriptions is undertaken through a central information service to ensure discounts are achieved and the subscriptions are managed in a cost effective manner. Based on this process a list of current subscriptions for the department is at **Attachment B**.
 - a. As outlined above the list of managed subscriptions is at **Attachment B**.
Subscription services for professional and scientific journals have been used within the department for more than 10 years, with the provision of these services being streamlined significantly over the course of recent years. The journals provide information relevant to the identification and tracking of issues relevant to the portfolio. Most of these items form part of the technical information service provided to staff across the department.
 - b. The cost for this financial year to 30 April 2013 is \$235,044.83 GST exclusive.

National Water Commission

1. The National Water Commission has no pay tv subscriptions.
 - a. Not applicable.
 - b. Not applicable.
2. The National Water Commission subscribes to The Australian, Canberra Times, Sydney Morning Herald, Financial Review, The Land, and Weekly Times.
 - a. The National Water Commission subscribes to the newspapers to assist with identifying emerging issues and track areas of national, regional and local interest relevant to the Commission.
 - b. The cost for this financial year to 30 April 2013 is \$3,840.90 GST exclusive.
3. The National Water Commission has no magazine subscriptions.
 - a. Not applicable.
 - b. Not applicable.

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

1. Not applicable.
 - a. Not applicable.
 - b. Not applicable.
2. Sydney Morning Herald, the Daily Telegraph and the Australian.
 - a. The Sydney Harbour Federation Trust's newspaper subscriptions are crucial for the organisation to be aware of important political, social and economic issues and specific events that could affect the work of the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust.
 - b. The cost for this financial year to 30 April 2013 is \$1,125.45 GST exclusive.
3. Not applicable.
 - a. Not applicable.
 - b. Not applicable.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

1. Not applicable.
 - a. Not applicable.
 - b. Not applicable.
2. Townsville Bulletin, the Courier Mail and the Australian.
 - a. Townsville Bulletin – media monitoring and keeping abreast of local and regional events that may impact on the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

The Courier Mail – media monitoring and keeping abreast of local and regional events that may impact on the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

The Australian – media monitoring and keeping abreast of national events that may impact on the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.
 - b. The cost for this financial year to 30 April 2013 is \$2,905 GST exclusive.
3. The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority subscribes to scientific and specialist journals and periodicals.
 - a. The library subscribes to these periodicals to enable staff to keep abreast of the latest information. Please refer to **Attachment B**.
 - b. The cost for this financial year to 30 April 2013 is \$56,689 GST exclusive.

Murray-Darling Basin Authority

At the time of preparation of this response it was identified that the response provided in QON Q13/182 from Additional Budget Estimates in February 2013 included a discrepancy in figures in response to MDBA questions 6 and 9. The following are the correct figures which should have been included for Q6 - \$1,318 and Q9 - \$17,001.

1. Not applicable.
 - a. Not applicable.
 - b. Not applicable.
2. The Murray-Darling Basin Authority (the Authority) cancelled all newspaper subscriptions effective September 2012.
 - a. Not applicable.
 - b. The cost for this financial year to 30 April 2013 is \$1,573.64 GST exclusive.
3. The Authority utilises scientific and social economic journal and magazine compilers (Academic Search Complete, Environment Complete and the Australia/NZ reference centre) to access a large number of professional journals and magazines.
 - a. Access to the above is to address the information needs for ecological, social, economic and hydrological science and policy needs of the Authority.
 - b. The cost for this financial year to 30 April 2013 \$25,843.64 GST exclusive.

Director of National Parks

1. Not applicable.
 - a. Not applicable.
 - b. Not applicable.
2. Director of National Parks subscribes to the NT News, the South Coast Register, the Indigenous Times and the Koori Mail.
 - a. These papers commonly have articles that are of interest to, related to or specifically about the work undertaken by the Director of National Parks.
 - b. The cost for this financial year to 30 April 2013 is \$903.10 GST exclusive.
3. Director of National Parks subscribes to the Australian National Geographic magazine, Gardening Australia, Pluming Connections and the TAXON journal.
 - a. These papers commonly have articles that are of interest to, related to or specifically about the work undertaken by the Director of National Parks.
 - b. The cost for this financial year to 30 April 2013 is \$485.45 GST exclusive.

Bureau of Meteorology

1. The National Meteorological and Oceanographic Centre in Melbourne subscribe to the Foxtel Business Package including news, weather and standard sports channels, the Regional Forecasting Centre in Brisbane subscribe to the standard Foxtel package including news and weather, the Giles Meteorological Office subscribe to the Foxtel standard package including news, weather, free to air and extra movie channels while the Willis Island Meteorological Office subscribes to Austar Entertainment + movies, Sci Fi, TV1, Discovery, History, Lifestyle, Food, National Geographic and free to air channels.
 - a. The Bureau of Meteorology subscribes to keep across the situational awareness for routine media broadcasts during extreme weather events and entertainment for staff based at a very remote locality.
 - b. The cost for this financial year to 30 April 2013 is \$4,439.56 GST exclusive.
2. The Bureau of Meteorology subscribes to the Age, the Herald Sun, the Australian, the Australian Financial Review, The West Australian, the NT News and Townsville Bulletin.
 - a. They subscribe for current awareness and post production weather graphics monitoring.
 - b. The cost for this financial year to 30 April 2013 is \$4,783.86 GST exclusive.
3. Please refer to **Attachment B**.
 - a. The Bureau of Meteorology subscribes to these periodicals to enable staff to keep abreast of the latest information.
 - b. The cost for this financial year to April 2013 is \$7,368.14 GST exclusive.

***Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities
newspaper subscriptions***

Australian Financial Review

Barrier Daily Truth

Canberra Times

Deniliquin Pastoral Times

National Indigenous Times

Northern Territory News

Stock Journal

Sunday Territorian

Sydney Morning Herald

Tasmanian Country

Territory Regional Weekly

The Australian

The Guardian

The Land

The Mercury

Weekend Australian

Weekly times

***Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities
magazine/journal subscriptions***

AJM: Alpine gardener

Ambio

American fern journal

Annals

Annals Geophysicae

Annals of Glaciology

Annals of the International Commission on Radiological Protection

Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden

Antarctic

Antarctic Record

Antarctic Science

Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy

Applied and Environmental Microbiology

Aquatic conservation

Aquatic Microbial Ecology

Archaeology in Oceania

Arctic

Arctic Antarctic & Alpine Research

Ardea

Art antiquity and law

Asia Pacific journal of environmental law

Auk

Ausmarine

Austral ecology

Australasian Journal of Environmental Management

Australasian journal of natural resources law and policy

Australasian Ornithologists Union

Australasian parks & leisure

Australasian Science
Australasian science incorporating Search
Australian Aboriginal studies
Australian archaeology
Australian aviary life
Australian birdlife
Australian bird keeper
Australian Conservation Foundation
Australian Construction Handbook
Australian Cotton Grower
Australian entomologist
Australian environment review
Australian Financial Review
Australian forestry
Australian garden history
Australian geographer
Australian Geographic
Australian historical studies
Australian journal of botany
Australian journal of entomology
Australian Journal of Maritime & Ocean Affairs
Australian journal of mining
Australian journal of public administration
Australian journal of water resources
Australian journal of zoology
Australian law journal
Australian Mammalogy
Australian Marine Science Bulletin
Australian maritime digest
Australian Meteorological and oceanographic Journal
Australian orchid review

Australian Personal Computer
Australian planner
Australian systematic botany
Australian zoologist
Australia's mining monthly
Automotive Engineering
Bibliography of systematic mycology
Biodiversity and conservation
Biological conservation
Biological invasions
BioScience
Blumea
British Medical Journal
Boletin Antartico Chileno
Botanical review
Bryological times
Bulletin of Glaciological Research
Bulletin of zoological nomenclature
C&EN: Chemical & engineering news
Canberra historical journal
Chain Reaction
Capture Commercial Photography
CE Daily
Choice
Choice: journal of the Australian Consumers' Association
Climbing
Clinical and Diagnostic Laboratory Immunology
Clinical Microbiology Reviews
Cold Regions Science & Technology
Colong bulletin
Condor

Conservation biology
Conservation letters
Coral reefs
Cosmos
Cryptogamie mycolgie
Curtis's botanical magazine
Deep Sea Research Part 1 & Part 2
Desktop Magazine
Ecography
Ecolibrium
Ecological economics
Ecological Management & Restoration
Economist
Ecos
Ecotoxicology
Ecotoxicology & environmental safety
Electronics World
Emu
Encephalartos
EnviroInfo Premium
Environment: science and policy for sustainable development
Environmental and planning law journal
Environmental conservation
Environmental impact assessment review
Environmental management
Environmental manager
Environmental policy and law
Environmental science and technology
Environmental toxicology
Environmental toxicology and chemistry
Estuarine Coastal & Shelf Science

Europolitics environment
Explorations, Scripps Inst. Of Oceanography
Fast Company
Fern gazette
Fiddlehead forum
Field bryology
Fish & fisheries
Fishery Bulletin
Fishing News International
Food magazine
Forest Ecology & Management
Freshwater Science
Fungimap news
Gardening Australia
Geographical
Geophysical Institute Quarterly
Global Change Magazine
Globe Aus
Global environmental politics
Gold & minerals gazette
Eukaryotic Cell
Habitat
Habitat Australia
Harvard business review
Hattoria
Heritage living
Historic environment
History
History Australia
Hikobia
Historical records of Australian science

HR monthly

IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations

Ibis

Ice

Ice Breaker

Ices Journal of Marine Science

IMDG Code (International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code)

Impact Assessment & Management Appraisal

Impact assessment and project appraisal

Incite

Index of fungi

Infection and Immunity

Injury

Inside Knowledge

International environment reporter

International Journal of Circumpolar Health

International journal of heritage studies

International newsletter on rock art

Invertebrate systematics

JARN Magazine (Japan Air Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration News) (hardcopy)

Journal of Animal Ecology

Journal of Applied Ecology

Journal of Atmospheric & Solar Terrestrial Physics

Journal of Atmospheric Sciences

Journal of Bacteriology

Journal of bryology

Journal of Business Continuity & Emergency Planning

Journal of Cetacean Research & Management

Journal of cleaner production

Journal of Clinical Microbiology

Journal of environment and development

Journal of environmental economics and management

Journal of environmental quality

Journal of Geophysical Research (7 parts online)

Journal of Glaciology

Journal of industrial ecology

Journal of Industrial Relations

Journal of international wildlife law & policy

Journal of Mammalogy

Journal of Plankton Research

Journal of the Air & Waste Management Association

Journal of the Marine Biological Association UK'

Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society

Journal of the Royal Society of New Zealand

Journal of the Royal Society of Western Australia

Journal of Virology

Kew

Kew bulletin

Koori mail

Landscape architecture

Landscape architecture Australia

Landscape ecology

Landscape (WA)

Legacy

Lichenologist

Limnology & Oceanography

Lloyd's List DCN (Daily Commercial News)

Mammalia

Margaret Gee's Australian media guide

Marine & Coastal Fisheries: Dynamics, Management & Ecosystem Science (online)

Marine & freshwater research

Marine Biology

Marine Ecology
Marine Ecology Progress Series
Marine Mammal Science
Marine Ornithology
Marine policy
Marine Pollution Bulletin
Master Builder
Microbiology and Molecular Biology Reviews
MIMS Annual & Bi-Monthly Supplements
Molecular and Cellular Biology
Nature
Nature Biotechnology
National environmental law review
National Geographic
National Trust Magazine (NSW)
Natural Heritage
Natural History
Nature
Nature climate change
Nature Nanotechnology
Nature New South Wales
Nautical Almanac
New Scientist (e-news)
New Scientist Australasian
New Zealand journal of botany
New Zealand native orchid journal
Nordic journal of botany
Norfolk Islander
Northern Territory Naturalist
Notornis
Novon

NPA bulletin

Ocean & coastal management

Oceanography

OECD Observer

Oil & gas gazette

Old Machinery Magazine

Old news: Canberra Archaeological Society newsletter

Online currents

Orchadian

Orchidee

Orchid Digest

Orchid review

Orchids South Africa

Ornithological Monographs, (incl Southern Bird & State of NZ Birds)

Outlooks on pest management

Pacific conservation biology

Pacific horticulture

Palms & cycads

Palms: journal of the International Palm Society

Papers & Proceedings of the Royal Society of Tasmania

Park watch

Pesticide news

Phytologia

Plant protection quarterly

Planetary & Space Science

Plantsman

Plumbing connection

Polar Bioscience

Polar Geography

Polar Record

Polar Research Norwegian Polar Institute

Polar Science

Policy

Print

Position magazine

Potoroo review

Proceedings of the National Academy of Science (e-news)

Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA

Proceedings of the Royal Society of Queensland

Pteridologist

Public garden: the journal of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta

Queensland naturalist

Rangeland Journal

Recycling international

Renewable & Sustainable Energy Reviews

Renew: technology for a sustainable future

Resource and energy projects service (REPS)

Resource recycling

Reviews of Geophysics

Richardiana

River research and application

Rock & Ice

Rock art research

Science

Scientific American

Seed Science & Technology

Seed science research

Seed testing International

Selbyana

Ships & Shipping

Signals

Silicon Chip

South African journal of botany
South Australian Naturalist
Standards Premium Subscription
Star Almanac
Sydney Morning Herald
T + D: better performance through workplace learning
Tasmania, Forty Degrees South
Tasmanian Historical Research Association: papers & proceedings
Tasmanian naturalist
Taxon
Technical Rescue
Terra Antarctica
The Australian
The Canberra Times
The Economist
The Land
The Lichenologist
Transactions of the Royal Society of South Australia
Trends in ecology & evolution
Total environment
Training and development in Australia
Turning the tide
Urban ecosystems
Victorian naturalist
Waste Management & Environment
Waste disposal & water management in Australia
Water: official journal of the Australian Water & Wastewater Association
Web Designer
Weekly Times
West Australian naturalist
Wild

Wilderness & Environmental Medicine

Wildlife Australia

Wildlife Research

Wingspan

Wired Magazine

WME: Waste management and environment

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority subscriptions

Administrative Appeals Tribunals practice

Ambio

Austral Ecology

Australasian Journal of Environmental Management

Australasian Journal of Natural Resources Law and Policy

Australian Aboriginal Studies: Journal of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies

Australian Administrative law service and bulletin

Australian Contract Law Reporter

Australian Corporations Law – principles and practice

Australian Encyclopaedia of forms and precedents

Australian Journal of Public Administration

Australian Labour Law Reporter

Casebase

Coastal Management

Conservation

Conservation Biology

Coral

Coral Reefs

Court forms, precedents and pleadings

Ecological Applications

Ecos - Australia

Environmental and planning law journal

Environmental Conservation

Environmental Impact Assessment Review

Environmental Management

Federal civil litigation precedents

Federal criminal law

Fish and Fisheries

Ford's principles of corporation law

Global Aquaculture Advocate

Globe – Australia

Halsbury's laws of Australia

Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal

Indigenous Law Bulletin

Intellectual property precedents

International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law

Journal of Cetacean Research and Management

Journal of contract law

Kelly and Ball principles of insurance law

Lang's Commercial Leasing in Australia

Law of Intellectual Property

Marine and Freshwater Research

Marine Mammal Science

Marine Ornithology

Marine Policy

Marine Pollution Bulletin

Marine Resource Economics

Naga: the Worldfish Center Quarterly

Native Title service

New Scientist - Australasian ed

New Scientist Archive

Ocean and Coastal Management

Pacific Conservation Biology

Public Administration Today

Queensland Archaeological Research

Society & Natural Resources

Torres News

Tourism in Marine Environments

Tourism Management

Workplace relations Australia

World Heritage Review - English Ed

Bureau of Meteorology subscriptions

Australasian Science

Australian PC User

Australian Aviation

Aviation Week and Space Technology

Buoyweather

CADalyst

Choice

Choice Computer

Council Leader

Crikey

Desktop Magazine

EDN

Electronics World

Government News

Harvard Business Review Magazine

IPAA – Public Administration

Law Institute Journal

MacFormat

National Weather Digest

New Scientist

PC

PC & Tech Authority

Policy

Public Administration Today

QST

Risk Management (International)

Risk Management Today (Australian)

Scientific American

Silicon Chip

Technometrics

The Economist

The Skeptic

T & D: Training & Development

Weather (UK)

Wellness at Work

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**
Answers to questions on notice
Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio
Budget Estimates, May 2013

Program: Division: Corporate: PCD **Question No:** 169
Topic: Portfolio Wide – legal costs
Proof Hansard Page and Date or Written Question: Written

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:

The Australian Government does not disclose the content of its legal advice without fully considering the implications of disclosure from a legal professional privilege perspective. It is important for any government to be able to make fully informed decisions based on comprehensive and confidential legal advice. As such, only total figures for legal services paid for have been provided.

Figures have been provided for the complete 2012/2013 financial year.

Question 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.

The total sum spent on legal services within the department/agency for the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities and portfolio agencies for the 2012-13 financial year is set out in the table below.

Department/Agency	Total spent on legal services within the Department/Agency from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013 (GST exclusive)
Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities	\$2,965,058.50
Director of National Parks	\$255,061.83

Murray-Darling Basin Authority	\$336 778.00
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority	\$551,088.00
National Water Commission	\$2,064.00
Sydney Harbour Federation Trust	\$173,096.00
Bureau of Meteorology	\$342,224.00

Question 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.

The amounts spent on legal services from the Australian Government Solicitor by the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities and portfolio agencies for the 2012-13 financial year are set out in the table below.

Department/Agency	Total spent on legal services from the Australian Government Solicitor from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013 (GST exclusive)
Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities	\$2,821,743.90
Director of National Parks	\$65,141.39
Murray-Darling Basin Authority	\$726,710.00
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority	\$168,409.00
National Water Commission	\$2,064
Sydney Harbour Federation Trust	\$17,213.00
Bureau of Meteorology	\$385,153

Question 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.

The amount spent on legal services from private firms by the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities and portfolio agencies for the 2012-13 financial year is set out in the table below.

Department/Agency	Total spent on legal services from private firms from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013 (GST exclusive)
Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities	\$4,731,587.57
Director of National Parks	Nil
Murray-Darling Basin Authority	\$56,454.55
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority	Nil
National Water Commission	Nil
Sydney Harbour Federation Trust	\$152,443.00

Bureau of Meteorology	\$21,984.00
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Question 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.

The amount spent on legal services from other sources by the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities and portfolio agencies for the 2012-13 financial year are set out in the table below.

Department/Agency	Total spent on legal services from other sources from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013 (GST exclusive)
Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities	\$2727.27
Director of National Parks	Nil
Murray-Darling Basin Authority	\$2,136.36
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority	\$426.00
National Water Commission	Nil
Sydney Harbour Federation Trust	\$3,440.00
Bureau of Meteorology	Nil

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio
Budget Estimates, May 2013

Program: Division: Corporate: PCD **Question No:** 170
Topic: Portfolio Wide - Media Training
Proof Hansard Page and Date Written
or Written Question:

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)

2. 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

3. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)

- a. The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
- b. The total amount spent on the service
- c. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)

4. 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 department or agency's incurred to use the location

Other than the Australian Antarctic Division the department did not purchase media training services in this financial year. Media training services were also purchased by Parks Australia.

Parks Australia

- 1 a. \$2,220 (GST inclusive)
 - b. Six. 1 x A/g Exec Level 2, 4 x Exec Level 1, 1 x APS 4
 - c. Six. 1 x A/g Exec Level 2, 4 x Exec Level 1, 1 x APS 4. No study leave was granted as the training was conducted during work hours.
2. Ken Begg and Associates
 - a. Ken Begg and Associates. Media training.
 - b. Group based
3. Six. 1 x A/g Exec Level 2, 4 x Exec Level 1, 1 x APS 4
 - a. 36 hours in total – made up of 6 hours per day for each participant.
 - b. \$2,200 (GST inclusive)
 - c. Complete package
4. The training was conducted at a departmental office during work hours.
 - a. n/a
 - b. n/a
 - c. n/a
 - d. n/a

Australian Antarctic Division

- 1 a. \$8,294
 - b. Eleven. 4 x Exec Level 2 – 2 Principal Research Scientist (PRS), 2 Senior Research Scientists, 5 x Exec Level 1 - 1 Operations Officer, 3 Research Scientists (RS), 1 Engineer, 1 x APS 6 – Research Scientist, 1 x APS 5(A/g EL1) - Chemist
 - c. Eleven employees used the media training services. Ten spent one full day at a course provided by the trainers on site at the Australian Antarctic Division. Their classifications are as above. One employee (EL2) attended an off-site course in Melbourne.
2. Econnect Communication
 - a. Econnect Communication which specialises in training scientists to interact with the media
 - b. Group based

3. Eleven. 4 x Exec Level 2 – 2 Principal Research Scientist (PRS), 2 Senior Research Scientists, 5 x Exec Level 1 - 1 Operations Officer, 3 Research Scientists (RS), 1 Engineer, 1 x APS 6 – Research Scientist, 1 x APS 5(A/g EL1) - Chemist
 - a. One full day – all participants
 - b. \$8,294 (GST inclusive)
 - c. Complete package
4.
 - a. Melbourne Cafe-Conference centre
 - b. One employee for one full day
 - c. One full day
 - d. None

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio
Budget Estimates, May 2013

Program: Division: Corporate: PCD **Question No:** 171

Topic: Portfolio Wide - Briefings for the Australian Greens and Independents

Proof Hansard Page and Date or Written Question: Written

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Have any briefings and/or provision of information s been provided to the Australian Greens? 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 briefings request 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 briefings request 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 department (Australian Antarctic Division) provided assistance to the Australian Greens on one occasion.
 - a. The request came from Senator Milne's office and was agreed to by Minister Burke's office.

- b. No briefing was undertaken. The division provided the following assistance:

In January 2013 Senator Christine Milne requested assistance from the Australian Antarctic Division to organise a meeting between herself and Dr Qu Tanzhou, the Director of the Chinese Arctic and Antarctic Administration, who was visiting Hobart. At the request of Dr Qu Tanzhou, Dr Tony Fleming, Director Australian Antarctic Division attended the meeting.

- a. No information was provided.
- b. No.
- c. No briefing was prepared. The meeting involved one First Assistant Secretary (Dr Tony Fleming, Director Australian Antarctic Division) attending for 30 minutes duration.

- 2. No briefings and/or provision of information have been provided to Independents.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**
Answers to questions on notice
Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio
Budget Estimates, May 2013

Program: Division: Corporate: PCD **Question No:** 172
Topic: Portfolio Wide - Communications Staff
Proof Hansard Page and Date or Written Question: Written

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:
 - a. By Department or agency:
 - b. How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.
 - c. How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location
 - d. How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location
 - e. How many are graphic designers?
 - f. How many are media managers?
 - g. 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?
 - a. How many staff work there and what are their classifications?

Answer:

- a. Departmental and agency communications staff provide a range of internal and external communications services.

These skills contribute to the presentation and communication of policy and program materials. The work of communications staff includes the development of material to communicate policies and programs, the development of communication strategies and plans, stakeholder engagement activities, media and social media liaison, monitoring and engagement, liaison with the offices of the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary, public relations, issues management, events management, sponsorship management, publication development and advertising advice.

The Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities' (the department) public relations work is undertaken by Public Affairs Officers in the Public Affairs Unit, Communications and Ministerial Services Branch. Portfolio agency staff have

a combination of Public Affairs Officers and APS classified staff to deliver public affairs support.

- b. Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent ongoing staff and are current as at April 2013.

The department (Canberra): 31

Senior Public Affairs Director Grade 2:	1
Senior Public Affairs Director Grade 1:	4
Public Affairs Officer Grade 3 (6 part-time):	14
Public Affairs Officer Grade 2 (1 part-time):	8
Public Affairs Officer Grade 1:	4

The department (Darwin/Jabiru): 4

Executive Level 1:	1
APS 6 (part-time):	1
APS 5 (part-time):	2

Australian Antarctic Division (Tasmania): 9

Executive Level 2*:	1
Public Affairs Officer Grade 3:	1
Public Affairs Officer Grade 2:	1
APS 6:	3
APS 5:	1
APS 4:	2

* EL 2 position manages other staff not directly involved in public relations and media.

Parks Australia [Director of National Parks] (Canberra): 5

Senior Public Affairs Director Grade 1:	1
Public Affairs Officer Grade 3:	2
Public Affairs Officer Grade 2:	1
APS 6:	1

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 9

Executive Level 2:	1
Executive Level 1:	2
APS 6:	1
APS 5:	3
APS 4:	2

Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): 17

Executive Level 2 (2 acting):	4
Executive Level 1:	7
APS 6:	4
APS 5:	2

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 0

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 8

Executive Level 2:	1
Executive Level 2 (part time):	1
Executive Level 1:	4
APS 6:	2

National Water Commission (Canberra): 2

Executive Level 2:	1
Public Affairs Officer Grade 3:	1

- c. Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent non-ongoing staff and are current as at April 2013.

The department (Canberra): 0

The department (Darwin/Jabiru): 1

APS 6 (9 months only):	1
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Australian Antarctic Division (Tasmania): 1

APS 4:	1
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Parks Australia (Canberra): 1

APS 6: 1

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 3

APS 6: 2

APS 3: 1

Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): 6

Executive Level 1: 3

APS5: 2

APS4: 1

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 1

APS 6: 1

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 0

National Water Commission (Canberra): 0

- d. Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent contractors and are current as at April 2013.

The department: 0

Australian Antarctic Division (Tasmania): 0

Parks Australia (Canberra): 0

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 0

Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): 5

Executive Level 1: 2

APS 6: 2

APS 5: 1

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 0

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 0

National Water Commission (Canberra): 0

- e. Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent graphic designers and are current as at April 2013.

The department (Canberra): 1

Australian Antarctic Division (Tasmania): 1

This is not additional to the positions provided in question 1.

Parks Australia (Canberra): 0

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 1*

* This position is not additional to the figures provided in response to questions 1b.

Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): 2*

* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to questions 1b and 1c. Graphic design is considered to be a communication function.

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 0

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 1

National Water Commission (Canberra): 0

- f. Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent media managers whose core responsibility is media management. These figures are current as at April 2013.

The department (Canberra)

Departmental communication staff provide a range of internal and external communications services, which may include media management and liaison as part of their duties. The figures for departmental communications staff are provided in the response to question 1b.

Australian Antarctic Division (Tasmania): 2

These positions are not additional to the figures provided in question 1b.

Parks Australia

The figures for communication staff are provided in the response to question 1b. In addition, Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park has one APS 5 and one APS 4 processing film and photography permits and accompanying film crews on the ground and Kakadu National Park has a part time APS 4 who processes media permits and facilitates film crews on the ground.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 0

Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): 3*

* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in question 1b and 1c. Media management is considered to be part of their overall duties.

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 0

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 1

National Water Commission (Canberra): 1*

* This position is not additional to the figures provided in question 1b. Media management is a subset of their overall duties.

- g. Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent event managers whose only responsibility is event management. These figures are current as at April 2013.

The department: 0

Departmental communication staff provide a range of internal and external communications services, which may include event management as part of their duties. The figures for departmental communication staff are provided in the response to question 1b.

Australian Antarctic Division (Tasmania): 1

Parks Australia (Canberra)

The figures for communication staff are provided in the response to question 1.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 2*

* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to questions 1b.

Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): 1.5*

* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to questions 1b and 1c. Event management is considered part of responsibilities for seven staff. The actual commitment varies between 10 and 30 per cent of their total duties.

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 0

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 0

National Water Commission (Canberra): 0

* There are no positions in the Commission that have event management as a core responsibility, however, communication and other staff may be involved in organising events from time to time.

2. The department does not have an independent media studio, but has an in-house resource for video graphic work.
 - a. The department has an APS 6 level officer whose responsibilities include filming and editing videos.

Australian Antarctic Division (Tasmania): No

Parks Australia (Canberra): No

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): No

Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): No

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): No

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): No

National Water Commission (Canberra): No

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**
Answers to questions on notice
Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio
Budget Estimates, May 2013

Program: Division:	Corporate: PCD	Question No:	173
Topic:	Portfolio Wide - Alternative Policy Costings		
Proof Hansard Page and Date or Written Question:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

Has the Department undertaken any alternative policy costings or advice? If yes, provide details of what these costings or advice were, including provision of costings or advice documents and assumptions used, and who made the request and when.

Answer:

The Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities undertakes a range of costings in the course of preparing policy advice to the Minister and the Government. Information about the details of the department's policy advice would usually not be disclosed.

The Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) undertakes the costing of policy proposals for members of parliament. Under the agreed governance arrangements around the operation of the PBO, the department provides information on a confidential basis to the PBO to assist it in performing this work.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**
Answers to questions on notice
Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio
Budget Estimates, May 2013

Program: Division:	Corporate: PCD	Question No: 174
Topic:	Portfolio Wide - Pre-election appointments	
Proof Hansard Page and Date or Written Question:	Written	

Senator Birmingham asked:

Provide a list of any appointments made in your portfolio that will commence after the announced election date of 14 September 2013. Provide details of the appointment including position and length.

Answer:

There have been no appointments made in the portfolio that will commence after the election.