

Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2010
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy

Question No: 115

Program No. Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Departmental Travel

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How many Departmental staff travelled overseas in the past financial year? Please detail by staff member, including their name and position, their total travel expenses.
2. How many staff travelled first class? How many travelled business class?
3. What was the total cost of overseas travel for the Department in the past financial year? Please include a list of all international travel itemised by trip, detailing the cost of each trip including the total amounts spent on accommodation and meals, cities or other destinations visited, the purpose of the travel and any specific outcomes achieved.
4. How many future overseas trips is the Department currently planning?
5. How many staff travelled interstate in the past financial year? What was the total accommodation and meals bill for staff travelling interstate over the past financial year?

ANSWER:

1. In the 2009-10 financial year, 54 overseas visits were undertaken by 27 departmental officials and one official contracted as a special envoy by the Department. Detailing each overseas visit would involve significant effort and an unwarranted diversion of resources.
2. The Department's policy is for overseas travel to be undertaken using business class fares.
3. It is not possible, without the diversion of significant resources to itemise individual expenses per visit. From available financial management records the total cost of overseas travel was \$512,977 (excluding GST) in the 2009-10 financial year.
4. In the current financial year up to 19 October 2010, 14 individual overseas visits have been undertaken by 10 departmental officials. As at 19 October 2010, future travel has been approved for four officials.
5. In the 2009-10 financial year 308 staff members made one or more interstate trips. During 2009-10, the Department's domestic accommodation and meals spend was \$1,882,981. This figure includes all travel related expenditure, excluding airfares.

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Question No: 116

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Hospitality Expenditure

Senator Birmingham asked:

- a) What was the Department's hospitality spend for the past financial year?
- b) Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
- c) For each Minister/Parliamentary Secretary's office, please detail total hospitality spend for the past financial year.
- d) Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.

Answer:

- a) & b)

Details of the Department's hospitality expenditure from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 are in the table below:

Date	Location	Purpose	Total Cost (GST excl)
14/7/2009	Sydney	Official launch of the Australia's Digital Economy: Future Directions paper by the Minister	\$3,944
17/8/2009	Canberra	Working dinner to discuss International broadband issues.	\$1,182
19/4/2010	Switzerland	Reception for current ITU Council Member States during ITU Council 2010.	\$2,500
25/6/2010	Canberra	Gifts for delegates attending the ITU Council re-election process.	\$898

- c) & d)

There is no hospitality expenditure attributed to the Minister's Office for the period 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010.

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Question No: 117

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Hospitality Spend

Senator Birmingham asked:

- a) What was the Department's hospitality spend since Budget Estimates 2010?
- b) Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
- c) For each Minister/Parliamentary Secretary's office, please detail total hospitality spend for the past financial year.
- d) Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.

Answer:

- a) & b)

Details of the Department's hospitality expenditure from 1 July 2010 to 30 September 2010 are in the table below:

Date	Location	Purpose	Total Cost (GST excl)
17/8/10	Canberra	Guided tour of parliament house for Indonesian representatives of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.	\$ 72.72

- c) & d)

There is no hospitality expenditure attributed to the Minister's Office for the period 1 July 2010 to 30 September 2010.

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Question No: 118

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Contractors - DBCDE

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details.
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.
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.
4. Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details.
5. Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details.
6. Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details.
7. Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details.
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.
9. Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.

Answer:

1. The Department has not engaged, nor is considering the employment of Hawker Britton as of 19 October 2010.
2. Yes, the Department engaged Shannon's Way in 2009 to produce a graduate recruitment video at the total cost of \$7,231.82 (excluding GST). The Department is not planning further employment of Shannon's Way at this time.
3. The Department has not engaged, nor is considering the employment of John Utting & UMR Research Group as of 19 October 2010.
4. The Department has not engaged, nor is considering the employment of McCann-Erickson as of 19 October 2010.

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5. The Department has not engaged, nor is considering the employment of Cutting Edge as of 19 October 2010.
6. The Department has not engaged, nor is considering the employment of Ikon Communications as of 19 October 2010.
7. The Department has not engaged, nor is considering the employment of CMAX Communications as of 19 October 2010.
8. The Department has not engaged, nor is considering the employment of Boston Consulting Group as of 19 October 2010.
9. Yes, the Department engaged McKinsey & Company in 2009 for NBN lead advisory services with a contract value of \$22,799,700 (excluding GST). In 2010, the services of McKinsey & Company have been used to provide advice in relation to the establishment of USO Co at a value of \$4,524,000 (excluding GST).

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Question No: 119

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Consultants

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How many consultants has the Department engaged in the past financial year?
2. What is the total value of the consultancies the Department has engaged in over the past financial year?
3. In each case, please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the contract, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc).
4. Please also include total value for all consultancies, including figures for total spending on consultancies and also value of contracts awarded?
5. How many consultants does the Department anticipate it will require in the future and what is the total amount it has allocated for this?
6. Is the Department/agency up to date with its reporting requirements on the Government's tenders and contacts website? Are the figures available on that site correct?
7. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar and/or financial 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, projected cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.

Answer:

All agencies subject to the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* are required to report procurement contracts awarded where the contract value is \$10 000 or more on AusTender, the government's tender and procurement reporting system. From 3 September 2007 departments and agencies have been required to include on AusTender details of those contracts which are consultancies, and the justification for each consultancy. The information sought in relation to DBCDE consultancies valued at \$10 000 or more, is available on the AusTender website www.tenders.gov.au

Please note that departments have six weeks to report procurement contracts on AusTender.

Further details on consultancy expenditure is available in the Department's annual report.

While AusTender and the Annual Report contain details of contracts valued at \$10 000 or more, it is considered to be an unreasonable diversion of resources for the Department to provide details of consultancies valued at less than \$10 000.

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The entries on AusTender for DBCDE represent a true and accurate depiction of our contractual arrangements.

As a result of transitioning to a new internal system for the creation of Purchase Orders, some data components such as total contract values, end dates and consultancy flags require amending on AusTender.

The Department has prepared its Annual Procurement Plan for 2010-11 available at www.tenders.gov.au

This plan identifies 16 expected contract opportunities within this period. This plan was developed on the best information available at the time and is subject to change. The Annual Procurement Plan has been published on AusTender.

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Question No: 120

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Consultancies

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How much has the Department spent on consultancy services since Budget Estimates 2010? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the contract, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc).
2. How can the department justify this expenditure?
3. How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway since Budget Estimates 2010? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the contract, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Please also include total value for all consultancies, including figures for total spending on consultancies and also value of contracts awarded? Provide total figures since Budget Estimates 2010 and a breakdown on these figures for FY 2008/09 and 2009/10 FYTD.
4. Is the Department/agency up to date with its reporting requirements on the Government's tenders and contacts website? Are the figures available on that site correct?
5. Has there been any changes in the consultancies are planned for this calendar year since Budget Estimates 2010? If yes, 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, projected cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.
6. Could the Department provide a complete list of current consultancy services. For each consultancy, please indicate the rationale for the project and its intended use. For each consultancy, please indicate why the Department or its agencies could not have undertaken the work themselves.

Answer:

All agencies subject to the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* are required to report procurement contracts awarded where the contract value is \$10 000 or more on AusTender, the government's tender and procurement reporting system. From 3 September 2007 departments and agencies have been required to include on AusTender details of those contracts which are consultancies, and the justification for each consultancy. The information sought in relation to DBCDE consultancies valued at \$10 000 or more, is available on the AusTender website www.tenders.gov.au

Please note that departments have six weeks to report procurement contracts on AusTender.

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Further details on consultancy expenditure are available in the Department's annual report. Details of the Department's expenditure on consultancies in prior financial years are available in the Annual Reports for those years.

While AusTender and the Annual Report contain details of contracts valued at \$10 000 or more, it is considered to be an unreasonable diversion of resources for the Department to provide details of consultancies valued at less than \$10 000.

The entries on AusTender for DBCDE represent a true and accurate depiction of our contractual arrangements.

The Department has prepared its Annual Procurement Plan for 2010-11 available at www.tenders.gov.au

This plan identifies 16 expected contract opportunities within this period. This plan was developed on the best information available at the time and is subject to change. The Annual Procurement Plan has been published on AusTender.

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Question No: 121

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Staff Training Programmes

Senator Birmingham asked:

How many staff training programmes has the Department conducted in the past financial year and at what cost? How many of these staff training programmes were held outside Canberra? How many staff attended these programmes and where were they held?

Answer:

The Department conducted 102 staff training programs in the 2009-10 financial year at a cost of \$473,179. Of the 102 programs, seven were held in Sydney.

The 95 programs in Canberra had 1052 participants, 122 participants attended the Sydney programs.

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Question No: 122

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Media Subscriptions - DBCDE

Senator Birmingham asked:

Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.

Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to newspapers? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.

Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to magazines? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.

Answer:

The Department subscribes to pay TV business, current affairs and news channels (including Foxtel). The total annual cost is \$7,360.

The Department subscribes to relevant daily newspapers to keep across major policy and media issues, including The Age, The Australian, Canberra Times, The Financial Review, Sydney Morning Herald and relevant regional publications. Based on current delivery schedules, the total annual cost is \$17,755.

The Department's library subscribes to magazines (relevant journals) so staff are informed and have access to information and relevant research to develop policy. The total cost of library journal subscriptions for the 2009-10 financial year was \$29,668.

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Question No: 123

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Government Stationery requirements

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. a) What are the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (ie. special type of paper, envelopes)?
- b) What are the costs of these items?
- c) Is the Department/portfolio agencies paying for these?

Answer:

1. a) The Minister's stationery requirements for the 2010-11 financial year are:
 - Letterhead 90 gsm (Minister Conroy)
 - Letterhead 90 gsm (Office of Minister Conroy)
 - Envelopes (sizes DL, C5 and C4)
 - 'With Compliment' slips
 - A4 blank paper 90 gsm
 - Business cards
- b) The cost of each stationery item is:

Stationery	Cost per unit (GST exclusive)
Letterhead 90 gsm (Minister Conroy)	\$0.04
Letterhead 90 gsm (Office of Minister Conroy)	\$0.04
Envelopes DL	\$0.08
Envelopes C5	\$0.27
Envelopes C4	\$0.29
'With Compliment' slips	\$0.46
A4 blank paper 90 gsm	\$0.02
Business cards	\$0.66

- c) Yes

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Question No: 124

Program No. Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Travel Cost

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. The 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook detailed a whole-of-government coordinated procurement arrangements for travel and related services. How has this applied to your department and portfolio agencies? Please explain the changes that have occurred to your department and portfolio agencies in relation to its travel and related services.
2. Is purchasing of travel and related services less expensive under the new arrangements?
3. Is purchasing of travel and related services more efficient under the new arrangements?
4. Have savings been achieved in your portfolio because of the new arrangements?
5. How much did your department and portfolio agencies spend on travel in 2008-09, 2009-10 and to date this financial year?
6. How have staff within your department and portfolio agencies found the new arrangements? For example is it more efficient to arrange travel?

Answer:

1. The Department has entered into an interim arrangement for the delivery of travel services in preparation for moving to the new whole-of-government arrangements.
2. The Department's interim arrangements are less expensive.
3. Efficiencies are expected to occur once the Department transitions fully to the new arrangements in terms of its travel management processes.
4. The Department is beginning to realise savings as a result of interim arrangements.
5. The Department's staff travel spend for 2008-09 was \$1,997,422; for 2009-10 it was \$2,631,930; and in the current financial year through to 31 October 2010, \$690,567.
6. As the Department is still in transition to the new arrangements, it is too early to make comment on changes resulting from the new arrangements.

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Question No:125

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Outstanding Questions on Notice

Senator Birmingham asked:

If there are any outstanding questions on notice from Budget Estimates 2010:

Please explain why there are still some outstanding questions on notice from Budget Estimates 2010.

Answer:

There are no outstanding questions on notice from Budget Estimates 2010.

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Question No: 126

Program No. Corporate & Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Media Monitoring

Senator Birmingham asked:

What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etc, provided to the Minister's office in the 2009/10 financial year? Which agency or agencies provided these services.

What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etc, provided to the Department and its agencies in the 2009/10 financial year? Which agency or agencies provided these services.

Answer:

For the 2009/10 financial year, the total cost of media monitoring, transcripts and press clipping services for the Department and the Minister's office was \$218,875 (ex GST). Weekday media monitoring reports were also provided to the Shadow Minister's office. These services were provided by Media Monitors, AAP Information Services, and Factiva.

Australian Communications and Media Authority

For the 2009/10 financial year, the total cost of media monitoring, transcripts and press clipping services for the Agency was \$128,227 (ex GST). These services were provided by Media Monitoring and the Meltwater Group.

Australia Post

For the 2009/10 financial year, the total cost of media monitoring, transcripts and press clipping services for the Agency was \$272,357 (ex GST). These services were provided by Media Monitors.

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

For the 2009/10 financial year, the total cost of media monitoring, transcripts and press clipping services for the Agency was \$175,428 (ex GST). These services were provided by Media Monitors.

Special Broadcasting Service

For the 2009/10 financial year, the total cost of media monitoring, transcripts and press clipping services for the Agency was \$143,000 (ex GST). These services were provided by Media Monitors and Medial Link.

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NBN Co Ltd

For the 2009/10 financial year, the total cost of media monitoring, transcripts and press clipping services for the company was \$23,235.70 (ex GST). These services were provided by Media Monitors. As a new organisation, NBN Co's monitoring was for the period March to June inclusive.

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Question No: 127

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Social Media

Senator Birmingham asked:

Has the department instituted any policies or protocols that restrict or deny staff the use of You Tube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs? If yes, please explain what restrictions have been put in place. Why were these restrictions put in place?

IF NO:

Why not? (for example there may be legitimate reasons for some staff to access these sites for legitimate purposes).

Are staff utilising these sites during work hours? If yes, how many hours are spent on these sites? What time are these sites most accessed (i.e. lunch time?).

Will measures be introduced to restrict access to these sites?

Answer:

The Department has taken the view that reasonable personal use of the Internet, including associated social media, should be available to staff. In doing so, we have encouraged staff to keep in mind any negative impact on productivity and ensure that their personal use is in keeping with the APS Values and the Code of Conduct.

In April 2010, the Department published its social media policy which guides staff in relation to the use of Web 2.0.

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Question No: 128

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Advertising and Marketing- DBCDE

Senator Birmingham asked:

How much has the Department and portfolio agencies spent on advertising and marketing since Budget Estimates? Ask for justification of expenditure.

Could the Department provide a complete list of current contracts. Please indicate the rationale for each service provided and its intended use.

What communication programs have the Department and portfolio agencies undertaken since additional estimates and what communications programs are planned to be undertaken? For each program, what is the total spend?

Answer:

Digital Switchover communication

The Department continues the Digital Switchover communication campaign which was launched in April 2009. This involves an advertising campaign which includes a multiregional (national) and a local advertising component. Both of these components are based on key retail periods to ensure maximum cut through of messaging. The local component is based on advertising bursts that occur 6 months, 3 months, 3 weeks, 2 weeks, 1 week before switch off in a region and two weeks post. Since February 2010 local bursts have occurred in Mildura, regional South Australia and Broken Hill and Victoria. There have been two multiregional bursts of activity in March and September 2010. The communication campaign also involves a public relations component. The Department has engaged the consultancy n2n to conduct public relations / media activities. The Department has also engaged a Non-English Speaking Background and Indigenous consultant to reach these special audiences. The communication campaign budget for this financial year is **\$25.4 million** (excluding GST). This includes the National Call centre and campaign website. The campaign is anticipated to continue until all of Australia has switched to digital TV (December 2013).

NBN communication

An information and awareness campaign to inform Australians about the National Broadband Network initiative and provide information on the value of broadband to Australian society and the economy was launched on Sunday 13 June 2010. This involved a three week national advertising burst. The campaign uses television, online, press and indigenous radio advertisements and a website which provides more detailed information. In addition, community forum information sessions have been hosted across Australia to provide information in a more localised, interactive manner. The campaign has been allocated **\$15.9 million** (excluding GST) over two financial years (2009 - 10 and 2010 - 11).

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Cyber Security Awareness

The National Cyber Security Awareness Week this year took place from 6–11 June. The Department underwent a select tender process to engage the services of a public relations consultancy (Quay Connections) for the National Cyber Security Awareness Week 2010. The total cost of the event was **\$438,756 (excluding GST)** that includes public relations consultancy, market research, stakeholder events and marketing products.

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Question No: 129

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Election Commitments

Senator Birmingham asked:

Were any of the government's election promises in your portfolio costed before the election was called by the department or Treasury or Finance? If so, which ones? Provide details of what work was done.

Had your department or any agency in your portfolio provided information on any of the government's election promises in your portfolio to the Government before the election was called? Was any work done on formulating any of the Government's election commitments? If so, which ones? Provide details of what work was done.

What is the status of each election commitment from the 2007 election within the portfolio?

Which 2007 election commitments are experiencing slippages? Why? Where relevant, what are the revised implementation dates? What are the implications of this slippage?

Are there any 2007 election commitments that will not be implemented? If yes, please provide details. Were departmental resources provided to implement these commitments? How much? What will happen to the funding now?

What is the status of each election commitment from the 2010 election within the portfolio? Please provide a list.

Has implementation of the 2010 election commitments within the portfolio commenced? If yes, provide details. If no, why not?

Will additional departmental resources be required to implement 2010 election commitments within your portfolio? If yes, provide details. If no, why not? If unable to provide an answer please explain why.

How will the election commitments in your portfolio be offset? Will your portfolio be required to offset the new spending in your portfolio?

Answer:

2010 Election

During the election the Government indicated it would proceed with auctioning the use of the 2.5 GHz band (2500-2690 MHz) spectrum in 2012-13. The Government expected to raise at least \$200 million that will be returned to the budget to help fund other government priorities.

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As part of its work on spectrum management and allocation, ACMA had estimated that auction of the 2.5GHz band could generate \$200m. This was based on ACMA research on earlier international auction results for the band, and was provided to the Minister's Office in mid-2009.

The ACMA released a discussion paper in January 2010 outlining its proposed views on pricing, planning and licensing arrangements for the 2.5GHz band, and calling for comment. In October 2010, the ACMA published its response to the 42 submissions received to the discussion paper. ACMA's response and the submissions are available on its website. The discussion paper is the first stage in the process to prepare for the auction of the 2.5GHz spectrum with detailed implementation arrangements subject to ongoing consultation.

The Department is unable to comment on resources and spending as these issues are currently being considered within the Government's Budgetary processes.

2007 Election

The status of the ten 2007 election commitments is as follows:

1. Cyber Safety (significantly progressed)
2. National Broadband Network. (significantly progressed)
3. Digital Television Switchover. (significantly progressed)
4. Abolition of Digital Australia. (delivered)
5. Ensure adequate funding of ABC and SBS. (delivered)
6. Establish a new ABC Board selection process for appointment of board members. (delivered)
7. "Do not call" register funding. (delivered)
8. Improve digital TV reception in Broadford (Vic), Currie on King Island (including improvement of ABC Local radio) (Tas) and in the Para Escarpment from Craigmore to Ingle Farm in outer metropolitan Adelaide (SA). (delivered)
9. Cultural diplomacy: a rebuild of Radio Australia. (significantly progressed)
10. Amend the ABC charter to mandate minimum levels of Australian drama. (Alternative Approach Taken:) The Government provided additional funding in the 2009-10 budget to the ABC to produce more Australian programs, news, and local information and will provide ongoing funding on a triennial basis for the ABC.). Amending the Charter of the ABC to require local content production is a matter the Government will address at an appropriate time.

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Question No: 130

Corporate and Business
Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: 2010 Election

Senator Birmingham asked:

What type of work did your portfolio engage in during the campaign?

Did you receive any requests for information from the Government, your portfolio Ministers or any other Ministers?

Will the Department be releasing its Incoming Government Brief ('Red Book')? If yes, when and why? If no, why not?

Will the Department be releasing its Incoming Government Brief ('Blue Book')? If yes, when and why? If no, why not?

Answer:

During the election campaign the Department undertook work that was consistent with the requirements of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's Guidance on Caretaker Conventions 2010. The Department also ensured the portfolio agencies were advised of the requirements. Consistent with the section 6.5 of the caretaker conventions, the Department received and responded to requests for factual information from the Minister.

The Department released a redacted version of the Incoming Government Brief on 16 November and it is available on the website at

http://www.dbcde.gov.au/about_us/the_department/incoming_government_brief

No. The Department's normal administrative practice, consistent across previous elections, is to only retain the final Incoming Government Briefing folder. Consistent with this practice, once the election outcome was clear the Department recalled all briefs, including drafts prepared for alternative election outcomes, for secure destruction.

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Question No: 131

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Post Election Brief

Senator Fielding asked:

1. Did the department prepare a post-election brief for a returned Labor Government (the so-called 'Red Book')?
2. Can the department provide the committee with a copy of this brief?
3. If not, can the department outline its reasons for refusing to provide a copy of this brief?
4. If the department will not provide a copy of this brief because it contains confidential or sensitive information, can the department provide a redacted copy of this brief as was done by the Treasury Department?
5. Has the Minister given any instructions to the department regarding the release of this brief and if so, what were these instructions?
6. Did the department prepare a post-election brief for a newly elected Coalition Government (the 'Blue Book')?
7. Can the department provide the committee with a copy of this brief?
8. If not, can the department outline its reasons for refusing to provide a copy of this brief?
9. If the department will not provide a copy of this brief because it contains confidential or sensitive information, can the department provide a redacted copy of this brief as was done by the Treasury Department?
10. Has the Minister given any instructions to the department regarding the release of this brief and if so, what were these instructions?

Answer:

1. Yes.

2 - 4. The Department released a redacted version of the Incoming Government Brief on 16 November and it is available at

http://www.dbcde.gov.au/about_us/the_department/incoming_government_brief .

5. The release was undertaken in consultation with the Minister's office.

6 - 9. The Department's normal administrative practice, consistent across previous elections, is to only retain the final Incoming Government Briefing folder. Consistent with this practice, once the election outcome was clear the Department recalled all briefs, including drafts prepared for alternative election outcomes, for secure destruction.

10. No.

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Question No: 132

Hansard Ref: Written

Topic: Ministerial Submissions

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Did the Government, Minister or his office return any documents to the Department once the caretaker conventions began?
2. Did these documents include Ministerial submissions, briefs or notes?
3. How many unread, unsigned or undealt with Ministerial submissions, briefs or notes were sent back?
4. What was the date of the earliest such document that was sent back from the Minister's office and the date of the last?
5. Did the Minister or his office request prior to the calling of the election that no more submissions, briefs or notes be sent?

Answer:

1. Yes.
2. Yes.
3. 24 briefs and 63 ministerial submissions.
4. The first document returned to the Department from the Minister's office once the caretaker conventions commenced was a brief on 20 July 2010. The last document returned from the Minister's office to the Department was a ministerial submission on 24 August 2010.
5. No. The Department issued advice to staff immediately following the commencement of the caretaker conventions that only information of a factual nature was to be provided to the Minister's office.

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Question No: 133

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Commonwealth Property Management Framework

Senator Birmingham asked:

The 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook detailed the establishment of Commonwealth Property Management Framework. How has this applied to your department and portfolio agencies?

Has the implementation of this Framework lead to savings in your portfolio? Please provide details.

Answer:

The Department undertook an internal review of its property holdings in 2008 and proceeded with fitout rearrangements to meet the Department's objective of consolidating its three ACT tenancies into two tenancies in mid 2010. The Department's other office tenancy is located in Sydney's central business district.

The Department vacated one of its Canberra tenancies (the Burns Centre) in July 2010 upon expiry of the lease and sub-leased a smaller area adjacent to an existing tenancy completing its consolidation in Canberra into two tenancies; this enabled a move in the Department's occupational density toward the 16 square metres per occupied work point target; which aligns with the Governments direction on property and density targets.

The consolidation of leases has enabled a net savings to the Department in the order of \$500,000 per annum.

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Question No: 134

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Staffing Levels - DBCDE

Senator Birmingham asked:

- a) What is the total expenditure on staffing for the Department and for all portfolio agencies?
What is the SES and non-SES breakdown?
- b) What are the current staffing levels for SES and non-SES officers?
- c) How many SES were employed in your Department and portfolio agencies on 18 October 2010?
- d) How many SES were employed in your Department and portfolio agencies as of today?
- e) What is the breakdown by each level (each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band)?
- f) What is the gender breakdown by each level (each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band)?
- g) What is the breakdown by location for each level (each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band)?
- h) What is the breakdown by each level of ongoing staff and non ongoing staff (each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band)?
- i) What has been the general staffing trend in your department and portfolio agencies since the 2007 election (for example SES numbers and recruitment has increased by X per cent because of Y).
- j) What have been the changes in staffing levels since Budget Estimates 2010? Why have these changes occurred? What have been the Budgetary implications? In the case of reductions in staff numbers, how have these reductions been absorbed by the Department? What functions these staff performed have been sacrificed and why?
- k) Are there expected changes to current staffing levels over the next 12 months? If yes, provide details including a breakdown of each level staff (each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band) detailing the changes. Will this be different to what was reported in the 2010-11 Budget?

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- l) Has there been a target for staff reductions to achieve savings? What is that target and what strategy is being implemented to achieve this? Will staff reductions be used to achieve the Government's election commitment to maintain the 1.25 per cent efficiency dividend?
- m) Have any voluntary or involuntary redundancies been offered to staff? If so, how have staff been identified for such offers? Are there such plans for the future?
- n) How many permanent staff recruited since Budget Estimates 2010? What level are these staff? Where is their location?
- o) Since Budget Estimates 2010, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?
- p) Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the current efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts since Budget Estimate s2010? If so, where and at what level?
- q) Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details i.e. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.
- r) If your Department/agency has been identified in the 2010 election as delivering efficiencies (savings), how will these be delivered? (for example, savings commitments included reducing program funding, rationalising grants etc how will these impact the department and staffing)
- s) What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions or increases are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.

Answer:

- a) Please refer to the Financial Statements (pages 146 and 163) of the Department's 2009-10 Annual Report for the information requested. The Department has not included data relating to portfolio agencies as those agencies will respond on their own behalf.
- b) Please refer to Table 4.4, Staffing Statistics at Appendix 5 (page 102) of the Department's 2009-10 Annual Report.
- c) As at 18 October 2010, the Department employed 39 substantive SES staff.
- d) As at 19 October 2010, the Department employed 39 substantive SES staff.
- e) Please refer to Table 4.4, Staffing Statistics at Appendix 5 (page 102) of the Department's 2009-10 Annual Report.
- f) Please refer to the Staffing Statistics at Appendix 5 (page 102) of the Department's 2009-10 Annual Report.

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- g) Please refer to Table 4.4, Staffing Statistics at Appendix 5 (page 102) of the Department's 2009-10 Annual Report.
- h) Please refer to the Staffing Statistics at Appendix 5 (page 102) of the Department's 2009-10 Annual Report.
- i) Over the period 30 November 2007 to 31 October 2010, the Department's staffing has fallen from 874.4 full time equivalent (FTE) employees to 650.83 FTE employees. This movement reflects the impact of the December 2007 Machinery of Government changes to the former Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts and also reflects the impact of government decisions over the period.
- j) The Department's aggregate staffing levels fluctuate over time, due to some programs reducing and other programs being introduced.
- k) The Department's aggregate staffing levels have fluctuated due to some programs reducing and other programs being introduced by the Government. It is not possible to forecast staffing levels for 2011-12 until the budget process for next financial year is settled.
- l) The Department does not have a target for staff reductions.
- m) Yes. Staff have been identified in areas where there have been fluctuations in workloads or changes in administrative support needs in the Department. It is not possible to forecast staffing levels for future years until budget processes are settled for each year.
- n) The number, level and location of permanent staff recruited since budget Estimates 2010 is as follows:

	Canberra	Sydney	Total
APS 1	0	0	0
APS 2	0	0	0
APS 3	0	0	0
APS 4	1	0	1
APS 5	1	0	1
APS 6	10	2	12
EL 1	10	0	10
EL 2	3	0	3
SES B1	1	0	1
SES B2	0	0	0
SES B3	0	0	0
Total	26	2	28

- o) Since Budget Estimates 2010, 39 employees have been employed on non-ongoing contracts. The average length of their non-ongoing employment period is 0.72 years (8.8 months).

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- p) The impact of the efficiency dividend, together with all other budget measures, are taken into consideration in developing the annual budget for the Department. In aggregate, since its formation, the Department's staffing levels have grown.
- q) The Department's aggregate staffing levels have fluctuated due to some programs reducing and other programs being introduced by the Government. It is not possible to forecast staffing levels for 2011-12 until the budget process for next financial year is settled.
- r) Not applicable.
- s) As advised in May, the Department's graduate and school leaver programs are being reduced, so that the intake better reflects the Department's ongoing needs.

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Question No: 135

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Electoral Reports

Senator Birmingham asked:

Are there plans to publish a full suite of electoral reports on the Department's website? If not, why not? If so, when? What data will be included?

Did the Department prepare electorate level reports for the Government Ministers for the 2010 election? What data is included in these reports? How often is this updated? Why is this material not publicly available? Please provide copy of latest reports.

Has electoral specific data been used by the current Government in any grants scheme since November 2007?

Answer:

The Department's website displays an interactive map that details digital and communications initiatives rolled out by the Department. This map allows a search by co-ordinates, address, school, town name or postcode. Data is displayed as a map or a text view. Clicking on the icon brings up information on the program and where applicable, number of customers, subsidies and funding. This information is updated depending on changes to the data in the program area. The last update to the website was in October 2010. A link is available at <http://data.dbcde.gov.au/map/>

Prior to the Caretaker period, the Department prepared high level electorate information sheets. An electronic version has been provided to the Senate Committee. There are no current plans to update the electorate information sheets.

Details about the Department's funding programs are available on its website. There is a requirement for agencies to publish details of all grants on their website within seven days of the signing of the grant agreement which provides information about grant funding locations. Electoral specific data is not part of the assessment criteria of any grants program administered by the Department.

Schools participating in the ACMA's Cybersafety Outreach events since the program's launch in January 2009

State	Internet Safety Awareness presentations (One hour presentations - teachers, students, and parents)		Professional Development workshops (Full day workshop for Educators)	
	Total of schools that have hosted ISAP events	Total attendees at ISAP events	Total of schools that have sent teachers to the PD workshop	Total attendees at PD events
ACT	13	3203	44	173
NSW	152	36171	382	1151
NT	6	1473	36	58
QLD	79	18495	325	840
SA	66	12447	220	467
TAS	31	5890	58	169
VIC	142	39101	423	1847
WA	73	15122	187	448
TOTAL	562	131902	1675	5153

A total of 2237 schools have participated in the Cybersafety Outreach program

Schools that have consented to the release of their names are set out below:

- [ISAPs](#) = 69
- [PD](#) = 152

School that have hosted an Internet Safety Awareness Presentation	
State	School Name
ACT	Burgmann Anglican School
ACT	Canberra Girls Grammar
ACT	Marist College
ACT	Red Hill Primary
ACT	St Francis of Assisi
NSW	Catherine McAuley Westmead
NSW	Coolamon Central School
NSW	Damascus College
NSW	Hambleton Primary School
NSW	Liverpool Girls High
NSW	Parramatta West Public School
NSW	Sceggs
NSW	St Michael's Catholic Primary School
NSW	Sydney Distance Education High School
NSW	Sydney Secondary College
NSW	Tara Anglican School for Girls
NSW	The Entrance Primary School
NSW	Trinity Anglican College
NSW	Tumut High School and others
NSW	William Carey Christian School

QLD	Burpengary Primary School
QLD	Forest Hill State School
QLD	St Joseph's PS
QLD	St Patrick's Primary School
QLD	The Lakes College
SA	Allenby Gardens
SA	Encounter Lutheran School, Victor Harbor
SA	Kildare College
SA	Marrara Christian College
SA	Marymount College
SA	Murraylands Christian College
SA	Nazareth College
SA	North Albany Senior High School
SA	Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College
SA	Playford McAuley Campus
SA	Port Lincoln High School
SA	St Anthony's Catholic Primary School
SA	St Joseph's Payneham
SA	Trinity Gardens Primary School
SA	Woodend Primary School
TAS	Snug Primary School
VIC	Brentwood Secondary College
VIC	Brighton Secondary College
VIC	Cheltenham Primary School
VIC	Eltham North Primary School
VIC	Geelong Lutheran College
VIC	Gleneagles Secondary College
VIC	Lara Lake Primary School
VIC	Lyndhurst Secondary College
VIC	Marist-Sion College
VIC	Mowbray College
VIC	Overnewton Anglican Community College
VIC	Regency Park Primary School
VIC	St John Vianney School
VIC	St Monica's College
VIC	Staughton College
WA	Beldon Primary School
WA	Canning Vale College
WA	Carnarvon School of the Air
WA	John Wollaston - Anglican Community School
WA	Kalgoorlie Boulder Community High
WA	Narrogin Primary School
WA	Ocean Reef Primary School
WA	PLC - Armidale
WA	PLC Perth
WA	Rossmoyne Primary School
WA	Sacred Heart High School
WA	St Andrews Catholic Primary
WA	John Paul College

Schools that have sent teachers to the PD workshop	
State	School Name
ACT	Daramalan College
ACT	Hawker Primary
ACT	Trinity Christian School
NSW	Adelong Public School
NSW	Albury High School
NSW	Barker College
NSW	Batemans Bay High School
NSW	Cardiff South Public School
NSW	Caroline Chisholm College
NSW	Cerdon College Merrylands
NSW	Coffs Harbour Bible Church School
NSW	Dubbo Christian School
NSW	Emanuel School
NSW	Engadine High School
NSW	Erina Heights Public
NSW	Holy Family
NSW	Holy Name Primary School
NSW	Meriden
NSW	New Lambton South Primary
NSW	Our Lady of Lebanon College
NSW	Raleigh Public
NSW	Redeemer Baptist School
NSW	Regina Coeli
NSW	St Columbans Primary School
NSW	St Joseph the Worker
NSW	St Mary's Cathedral College
NSW	Tumut High School
NSW	Woolgoolga High School
NT	Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College
QLD	Bell State School
QLD	Brookfield State School
QLD	Bundaberg State High School
QLD	Bundekin Catholic High School
QLD	Heatley Primary School
QLD	Holy Spirit College
QLD	Isabella State School
QLD	Loreto College
QLD	Maryborough SHS
QLD	Merrimac SMTE School
QLD	Miami High School
QLD	Rochedale South State School
QLD	Siena Catholic College
QLD	Smithfield High School
QLD	St Anthony's Catholic College
QLD	St Augustines Primary School

QLD	St Francis Xavier's Primary School
QLD	St John Fischer College
QLD	St Joseph's Tobruk Memorial School
QLD	Suncoast Christian College
QLD	Tannum Sands SHS
QLD	Trinity Lutheran College
QLD	Tully State High School
QLD	Worongary State School
SA	All Saints CPS
SA	Blackfriars Primary School
SA	Caritas College
SA	Eynesbury Senior College
SA	Fairview Park Primary
SA	Faith Lutheran College
SA	Gawler High School
SA	Gleeson College
SA	Loreto College
SA	Mercedes College
SA	Nailsworth Primary School
SA	Nurioopta High School
SA	Playford Primary School
SA	Port Noarlunga Primary School
SA	Richmond PS
SA	Sacred Heart College Middle School
SA	Sacred Heart College Senior
SA	Saint Aloysius College
SA	Saint David's Parish School
SA	Saint Francis Xaviers Regional Catholic School
SA	Samaritan College
SA	Seaford 6-12 School
SA	Seaton High School
SA	St Brigid's Catholic School
SA	St Gabriels
SA	St George College
SA	St James Primary School
SA	St John's Lutheran School
SA	St Joseph's School
SA	St Joseph's school - Hectorville
SA	St Margaret Mary's School
SA	St Martin De Porres
SA	St Mary's College
SA	St Pauls Colllege
SA	Tenison Woods College
SA	Thomas More College
SA	Trinity College
SA	Trinity Gardens School
SA	Upper Sturt Primary School
SA	Urrbrae Agricultural High School
SA	West Beach Primary School
TAS	Huonville High School

TAS	Lindisfarne North Primary School
TAS	Riverside High School
TAS	St Joseph's Catholic School
TAS	Tarremah Steiner School
VIC	Apollo Parkway Primary School
VIC	Ballarat Christian College
VIC	Ballarat Grammar
VIC	Bendigo Senior Secondary College
VIC	Catholic College Sale - Sion Campus
VIC	Caulfield Junior College
VIC	Cohuna Consolidated School
VIC	Corryong College
VIC	Creek Street Christian College
VIC	Daramalan College
VIC	Distance Education Centre
VIC	Glen Eira College
VIC	Highview College
VIC	Kaniva College
VIC	Lalor North Secondary College
VIC	Lethbridge PS
VIC	Lowanna College
VIC	Manor Lakes
VIC	Melton South Primary School
VIC	Moreland Primary School
VIC	Morwell Park Primary School
VIC	OLPH Ringwood
VIC	Rolling Hills Primary School
VIC	Scoresby PS
VIC	Sebastopol College
VIC	Somerville Secondary College
VIC	St Albans Meadows Primary School
VIC	St Brigid's Primary
VIC	St Mary's
VIC	St Pauls Anglican Grammar School
VIC	St Thomas Aquinas
VIC	Staughton College
VIC	Strathfieldsaye PS
VIC	Village School
VIC	Welshpool and District PS
VIC	Wesburn Primary
VIC	Whitefriars College
VIC	Woodleigh School
WA	Beverley District High School
WA	Carmel School
WA	East Manjimup
WA	Hocking Primary School
WA	Iona Presentation College
WA	John Willcock College
WA	Katanning Senior High School
WA	Lesmurdie Senior High School

WA	MackillopCollege
WA	St Gerard's Primary School
WA	St Joseph's Primary School
WA	Toodyay District High School
WA	Tranby College
WA	Wickepin Primary School
WA	York District High School

CLEVER NETWORKS PROJECTS

PROJECT NAME	SERVICE
Bush Medivac WA	Delivering improved communication networks for Western Australia health and emergency service organisations
Bush Schools Network	Delivering ICT services to 87 schools in WA
CDM-Net	Providing a network of chronic disease management applications, particularly for Type 2 diabetes
Clever Health	Delivering improved patient care to communities in the Grampians region of Victoria via wireless videoconferencing technologies
ConnectCare	Providing aged care facilities with financial, communication and management tools through broadband technologies
Connecting Victorian Rural Independent Schools	Providing an educational network for 120 independent schools across rural and regional Victoria.
Cooeenet@qld	Improving health care and emergency services in remote and regional North Queensland
Cooroy Knowledge Precinct	Delivering high-speed broadband access to Sunshine Coast residents, schools, universities and businesses.
Ehealth for Remote Australia	Enabling the implementation of electronic medical records for patients in all Royal Flying Doctor Service operating sections in regional and remote Australia
Emergency Connect WA	Enhancing the operational efficiency of volunteer and emergency service communication systems across Western Australia.
Enhancement of Tele-Health in Western Australia	Improving health service delivery for regional, rural and remote communities across Western Australia.
Greater Southern Area Health Service Clinical Outreach Program	Upgrading broadband infrastructure and access to clinical applications in public hospitals and health facilities across the Greater Southern area of New South Wales.

Greater Western Area Health Service Clinical Outreach Program	Upgrading broadband infrastructure and access to clinical applications in public hospitals and health facilities across the Greater Western area of New South Wales.
High Speed Broadband Infrastructure and Services Project For Berri, Murray Bridge and Port Pirie	Improved internet delivery of government services at Berri, Murray Bridge and Port Pirie through high speed broadband infrastructure and services.
Hunter New England Clinical Outreach Program	Upgrading networks and provision of access to advanced clinical applications in hospitals and health facilities in the Hunter New England region of New South Wales
KnowledgeBank: Next Generation	Delivering new internet tools and online content within a secure education network to schools in Victoria.
Livewire	Connecting young Australians with a serious, chronic illness and/or disability to one another, as well as family and friends, through a safe online environment.
Loddon Mallee Virtual Trauma and Critical Care Unit	Delivering specialist trauma and critical care support from major Melbourne hospitals and Bendigo Health to Victorian regional hospitals in Echuca, Mildura and Swan Hill.
Maroochy Clever Networks Project	Delivering high-speed broadband access to Sunshine Coast residents, schools, universities and businesses.
North Coast Area Health Services Clinical Outreach Program	Upgrading broadband infrastructure and roll out of clinical applications to public hospitals and health care facilities in the North Coast area of New South Wales.
Scope Connect	Delivering more efficient and effective services through fixed and mobile broadband technology, to people with disabilities in regional Victoria.
Shires Net	Providing shared computing and telecommunications management infrastructure to Territory Shire Councils.

STARS	Providing education and health services delivered via a satellite network to remote communities and homesteads in the Northern Territory.
TAFE @ Your PC	Providing videoconference classes accessible by students at their home or business, using either a computer or 3G videophone in regional South Australia
The Learning Place Access Enhancement Project	Improved broadband telecommunications infrastructure at 106 schools in remote Queensland to provide access to "The Learning Place" a suite of online education resources, courses, tools and Web 2.0.
Virtual Care @ TAS Program	Improving the delivery of health services in rural and regional communities of Tasmania through mobile broadband and video conferencing technology.

DIGITAL REGIONS INITIATIVE

Project	Funding Recipient	Coverage Region/Towns Benefitting
Ambulance Mobile Connect in South Australia will provide vehicles with mobile computing terminals connected via a high speed mobile network (\$2.3 million).	SA Ambulance	All region, rural and remote South Australian Ambulances
Health e-Towns in the Northern Territory will deliver ICT enabled health, education and training services for 17 remote towns (\$7 million).	NT Department of Health and Families	Gunbalanya Maningrida Millingimbi Gapuwiyak Ramingining Yirkala Numbulwar Ngukurr Borrooloola Dagaragu Kalkarindji Lajamanu Elliot Ali Curung Hermansberg Yuendumu Papunya
Bushfire Spotting and Response technologies in North East Victoria will use remote cameras, telemetry and video conferencing to enhance fire detection, management and response capability (\$500,000).	Shire of Towong	Towong Shire East Gippsland Shire Alpine Shire Greater Hume Shire Tumbarumba Shire
Chronic Disease Management systems in the Hunter New England region in NSW will increase coverage of facility based telehealth services (\$5 million).	Hunter New England Health	All Hunter New England Health Area Service facilities in the Hunter New England region.
Bushfire prediction technology project In Western Australia will provide communities with bushfire alerts and access to simulation maps (\$2.8 million).	Landgate (The Western Australian Land Information Authority)	Nation-wide
Connected – Any Student, Any School project in Tasmania will deliver practical, hands on global e-learning programs to schools (\$4.9 million).	Tasmanian Department of Education	Tasmania-wide
The CDM-Net health project in Barwon, Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania and Western Australia will assist in developing and managing a chronic disease care plan for patients (\$4 million).	Barwon Health	Region, rural and remote areas in Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania.

<p>Justice Health – Clinical Outreach Program Phase II . Using telehealth systems to enhance health outcomes and wellbeing for people in custody and for their families in NSW. \$1.265 million in funding.</p>	<p>Justice Health NSW</p>	<p>2340 2820 2795 2577 2839 2880 2325 2630 2370 2580 2460 2878 2663 2790 2795 2653 2440 2333 2787</p>
<p><u>HEALNet – Online Professional Development for Health Professionals</u></p> <p>HEALNet is an online interactive professional development program for health professionals around Australia.</p>	<p>TAFENSW - North Coast Institute</p>	<p>Australia wide</p>
<p>Clinical Outreach Program Phase II – Ambulance Service of NSW</p> <p>the Ambulance Service of NSW will rollout an Ambulance Electronic Medical Record system, upgrade its current network to support eLearning for paramedics, install electronic drug safe monitoring systems, implement an on-line staff rostering system, upgrade telehealth systems, and implement remote station secure access systems.</p>	<p>Ambulance Service of NSW</p>	<p>Regional, rural and remote NSW Ambulance stations.</p>
<p><u>South Australian Digital Telehealth Network</u></p> <p><i>The South Australian Digital Telehealth Network</i> project will rollout a telehealth network across regional, rural and remote South Australia in order to deliver vital health services to those usually not able to access it in times of need.</p>	<p>South Australian Health</p>	<p>Across most regional, rural and remote SA hospital and health facilities.</p>

BROADBAND, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY – OVERVIEW OF KEY PROGRAMS AND FUNDING/GRANT PROGRAMS

(www.dbcde.gov.au)
as at 15 July 2010

The Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy is working to develop a vibrant, sustainable and internationally competitive broadband, broadcasting and communications sector which promotes the digital economy for all Australians. A summary of two major programs - National Broadband Network and Digital Switchover as well as an overview of Funding Programs available during the lifetime of the current Government, is set out in the table below.

Locational data on key programs and funding/grant programs is held by program areas and has recently been centrally collated for an upcoming project to provide an online mapping resource. Where it has been possible, this data has been allocated on an electorate basis and summary details have been provided in the attached Electorate Information Sheets. Of course, many projects benefit multiple regions and electorates.

Grants listing on Departmental website From December 2007 the Government required agencies to publish the details of their individual discretionary grants on their websites within 48 hours of the announcement or awarding of the grant. From 1 January 2009 this has been replaced with a requirement for agencies to publish details of all grants on their website within seven days of the signing of the grant agreement. A grant is a sum of money given to organisations or individuals for a specified purpose directed at achieving goals and objectives consistent with government policy. The latter listing includes the grant funding location. These listings can be found at www.dbcde.gov.au/about_us/governance_and_administration/reporting_requirements_and_reviews.

KEY PROGRAMS	DESCRIPTION & CONTACT DETAILS
<i>NOTE: those programs marked with an asterisk* have entries on an electorate basis in the attached sheets, where relevant.</i>	
National Broadband Network <i>*Rollout areas to date</i>	<p>Faster broadband will affect us all. The NBN will deliver much faster broadband to all Australians. The national rollout of the network will take some eight years to complete and the lessons learned from the first release sites, scheduled for completion in early 2011, will assist in finalising the National Broadband Network Company's (NBN Co) rollout plan. The rollout for the first communities in Tasmania is nearly complete with retail services to commence on the network in July 2010. On 20 June 2010, NBN Co and Telstra announced that they had entered into a Financial Heads of Agreement which means that Telstra will become a participant in the rollout of the NBN, and is likely to become NBN Co's largest customer.</p> <p>www.nbn.gov.au , www.dbcde.gov.au , www.nbnco.com.au</p>
Digital Television Switchover Date <i>*Switch-over timetable</i>	<p>Digital television switchover has begun in Australia – the Mildura-Sunraysia region became the first Australian broadcasting market to receive only digital television signals when analog services were turned off on 30 June 2010, and this will be followed by regional South Australia on 15 December 2010. A new satellite service to provide services in signal blackspots and to remote viewers commenced operation in mid 2010. Switchover is planned to be completed across Australia by the end of 2013. To find out when your area will switch from analog to digital television transmission go to the website (details also in attached Electorate information sheets).</p> <p>Digital Ready Information Line 1800 201 013</p> <p>www.digitalready.gov.au</p>
Digital Radio	<p>Digital radio has the potential to deliver a range of new and innovative services to listeners. Commercial and national (ABC and SBS) broadcasters formally commenced digital radio services in the five mainland state capitals—Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney—on 1 July 2009. It is expected that community broadcasters will commence services in these markets in the second half of 2010. Policy arrangements for the roll out of digital radio in regional Australia are still to be determined, although a trial service is expected to commence in Canberra in July 2010.</p> <p>www.dbcde.gov.au/radio/digital_radio</p>
Handheld Mobile Phone Coverage <i>* Maps</i>	<p>Estimated handheld mobile phone coverage maps showing all carriers (where known) are provided for each electorate. The maps also show the location of mobile towers in the electorate.</p>

FUNDING PROGRAMS	DESCRIPTION & CONTACT DETAILS
<i>NOTE: those programs marked with an asterisk* have entries on an electorate basis in the attached sheets, where relevant.</i>	
BROADBAND	
Backhaul Link Regional Backbone Blackspots Program * passes through electorate Y/N	<p>The Regional Backbone Blackspots Program (RBBP) is funding the roll out of transmission links (also known as backbone links) connecting cities, major regional centres and rural towns. Nextgen Networks has commenced construction of almost 6000 km of new fibre optic backbone transmission links, as part of the Government's \$250 million investment in the Regional Backbone Blackspots Program to connect over 100 regional locations along the routes to the six priority areas of Geraldton, Darwin, Emerald and Longreach, Broken Hill, Victor Harbor and South West Gippsland.</p> <p>www.dbcde.gov.au/broadband/national_broadband_network/national_broadband_network_Regional_Backbone_Blackspots_Program</p>
Australian Broadband Guarantee * No of subsidised connections	<p>The ABG program offers financial incentives to registered internet service providers to supply high quality, reasonably priced broadband services to small businesses, residential premises and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Councils, where such services would not otherwise be available.</p> <p>1800 883 488 www.dbcde.gov.au (Broadband Service Locator)</p>
COMMUNICATIONS	
Satellite Phone Subsidy Scheme * No of subsidies	<p>The Satellite Phone Subsidy Scheme improves the affordability of mobile communications for people living and working in areas without terrestrial mobile coverage, by providing subsidies for the purchase of satellite phone handsets.</p> <p>1800 674 058 www.dbcde.gov.au/satphone</p>
Digital Regions Initiative Not yet finalised – list of projects attached	<p>The four year \$60 million Digital Regions Initiative co-funds innovative digital enablement projects with state, territory and local governments. It takes a collaborative approach to improve the delivery of education, health and/or emergency services in regional, rural and remote communities. The Initiative will conclude in 2013.</p> <p>www.dbcde.gov.au/funding_and_programs/digital_regions_initiative</p>
Clever Networks (CLOSED) * Project location and a list of project descriptions attached	<p>The \$118.6 million Clever Networks Program improved the delivery of services that use broadband technologies in rural, regional and remote areas, particularly in the education, health, government and emergency services sectors. The program concluded in June 2010.</p> <p>www.dbcde.gov.au/digital_economy/clever_networks</p>
Indigenous Communications Program * Communities benefiting, phones, internet & training	<p>The four year \$31 million Indigenous Communications Program provides improved telecommunications for Australians living in remote Indigenous communities, so they are able to take full advantage of the economic, educational, social and cultural opportunities offered by the digital economy. The program provides funding to install and maintain community phones and, in partnership with the States and Territories (excluding Victoria and the ACT), improve access to basic public internet facilities and computer training, in remote Indigenous communities.</p> <p>1800 355 014 www.dbcde.gov.au/icp</p>
Cyber Safety and Cyber Security * ACMA outreach activities – list attached	<p><u>Cybersafety Outreach Program</u> (schools identified in the attached summary sheets are those that have consented to the release of their names).</p> <p>The ACMA's Cybersafety Outreach Programs include accredited professional development workshops for educators that cover a diverse range of issues including cyber-bullying, safe social networking, identity theft and exposure to inappropriate content and contact. A pre-service teacher program for student teachers in their final year at university was launched in June 2010, aimed at giving pre-service teachers the skills</p>

<p>* * *</p>	<p>and knowledge to educate their future students about cyber-safety issues. The Outreach Program also includes general Internet Safety Awareness Presentations for teachers, students and parents. To date, 5153 teachers from 1675 schools have attended Professional Development workshops, and 562 schools have hosted Internet Safety and Awareness Presentations for almost 132 000 people.</p> <p><u>Youth Advisory Group on Cybersafety</u> The Youth Advisory Group (YAG) on Cybersafety is part of the Australian Government's comprehensive Cybersafety Plan. The YAG consists of some 500 primary and secondary school members aged 8 to 17 years from 30 schools nationally who talk directly to the Government about cyber-safety issues and possible solutions. Established in 2009, advice provided by YAG members has informed a range of important Government programs and initiatives aimed at keeping young Australians safe online.</p> <p><i>www.dbcde.gov.au/online_safety_and_security/cybersafety_plan/youth_advisory_group</i></p> <p><u>National Cyber Security Awareness Week</u> (formerly National E-security Awareness Week) is an annual initiative held in partnership with industry, community and consumer groups and state and territory governments. The Week aims to help Australians understand cyber security risks and educate home and small business users on the simple steps they can take to protect their personal and financial information online.</p> <p>The Government's cyber-security website, <u>Stay Smart Online</u>, provides information for Australian internet users on cyber security issues and the simple measures they can take to help protect themselves and their families online. The website also hosts a free subscription based alert service that provides information about the latest cyber security threats and how to address them.</p> <p><u>The Budd:e education package</u> comprises modules for both primary and secondary school students designed to help students adopt secure online practices and behaviours' in a fun way. The modules are available through the Stay Smart Online website or via a CD-ROM that can be ordered online.</p> <p><i>www.staysmartonline.gov.au</i> email: <i>onlinesecurity@dbcde.gov.au</i></p>
<p>Mobile Connect – Terrestrial (CLOSED)</p>	<p>To extend terrestrial mobile phone coverage to a series of priority locations that had no coverage. Priority locations comprised the following towns and stretches of highways:</p> <p><u>Towns</u> WA - Warburton, Looma and Yungngora NT - Ampilatwatja, Docker River, Kintore, Umbakumba, Alpurrurulam, Palumpa and Minjilang</p> <p><u>Highways</u> Landsborough Highway in QLD between Cloncurry and Winton Stuart Highway in SA between Port Augusta and Marla North West Coastal Highway in WA between Roebourne and Port Hedland Great Northern Highway in WA between Broome and Kununurra Monaro Highway between Cann River VIC and Bombala NSW Brand Highway in WA between Eneabba and Dongara</p> <p><i>www.dbcde.gov.au/mobile_services/previous_mobile_services</i></p>
<p>Consumer Representation Grants Program</p>	<p>Section 593 of the <i>Telecommunications Act 1997</i> provides for the Minister to make grants of financial assistance to facilitate consumer representation and research activities related to telecommunications. From 2009-10, funding has been allocated to the newly formed national peak body, the Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (ACCAN).</p>
BROADCASTING AND DIGITAL TELEVISION	
<p>Digital Switchover – Household Assistance Scheme</p>	<p>The Household Assistance Scheme will, at no cost to eligible households, supply, install and demonstrate a set-top box specifically chosen to meet the needs of the elderly or those with a disability and conduct any cabling and antenna work where necessary.</p> <p>A household may be eligible for assistance under the Scheme where they own a functioning TV, do not already have access to digital TV and at least one resident is receiving a maximum rate Age Pension, Disability Support Pension, Carer Payment, Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) service pension or the DVA income support supplement.</p> <p>Eligible households in regional South Australia can now opt in to receive assistance by contacting Centrelink, and the scheme will be rolled out approximately 6 months in advance of switchover in each area.</p> <p>1800 201 013 <i>www.digitalready.gov.au</i></p>
<p>Digital Switchover Satellite</p>	<p>The Satellite Household Subsidy Scheme will provide a financial subsidy to eligible households that rely on self-help retransmission towers not converted to digital by the broadcasters or by the local council, to assist them to transition from analog to digital television.</p>

Household Subsidy Scheme	<p>The subsidy will vary depending on the location, commencing at \$400 per household. Installations will be overseen by Government-contracted suppliers. The Scheme will initially be available at certain self help sites in regional South Australia from around August 2010, and will be rolled out in other areas in advance of switchover.</p> <p>1800 201 013 www.digitalready.gov.au</p>
Digital Switchover Liaison Officer Program	<p>Digital Switchover Liaison Officers (DSLOs) are being appointed in collaboration with local organisations to engage with local residents, organisations and institutions at the community level about digital switchover. DSLOs, supported by their funded organisation and the Department, will help and encourage local residents to convert to digital television. They will target groups within the community who may face particular difficulties in switching over to digital television.</p> <p>The first DSLO was appointed in Mildura from November 2009 – July 2010 and was hosted by the Mildura Rural City Council. Five DSLOs were appointed in the Regional South Australia and Broken Hill switchover region in early July. For the Regional Victorian switchover region, expressions of interest have been called from host organisations for four Liaison Officers. Program Guidelines and related information are available on the website: www.dbcde.gov.au/television/digital_television_switchover/digital_switchover_liason_officer_program See also www.digitalready.gov.au</p>
TV Towers	<p>Three commitments were made in the 2007 election campaign to improve digital television reception in Broadford (VIC) and the Ingle Farm to Craigmare area of the Para Escarpment in outer metropolitan Adelaide (SA), and to improve digital television reception and the reception of ABC Local Radio in Currie on King Island (TAS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Broadford – ABC, SBS and commercial digital television services commenced during June 2009; ○ Para Escarpment (Craigmare/Hillbank area) – ABC, SBS and commercial digital television services commenced during June 2010; and ○ Currie – ABC and SBS digital television services and ABC Local Radio commenced during April 2010 (commercial digital television services to commence at a later date). <p>www.minister.dbcde.gov.au/media/media_releases/2009/040/ www.minister.dbcde.gov.au/media/media_releases/2010/047 www.dbcde.gov.au/television/television_towers</p>
Viewer Access Satellite Television (VAST)	<p>On 5 January 2010, the Government announced that it will fund a satellite service to deliver digital television to any viewer who cannot access digital television via terrestrial means. This will give people living in regional and remote areas access to the same number of television channels as people in cities. The service also provides a dedicated news channel which will provide local regional news to satellite viewers. \$375.4 million was provided for the service in the 2010 Budget, including for the Satellite Subsidy Scheme.</p> <p>The VAST service commenced in the Mildura/Sunraysia area on 8 June 2010 in test mode and became fully operational on 30 June 2010.</p> <p>Access to the VAST service will be available for viewers in remote areas, viewers in regional and metropolitan areas who are not able to get reception of their local television services, and viewers currently served by Council or community operated ‘self help’ services which are not converted to digital.</p> <p>Under an agreement reached with all television broadcasters across Australia, broadcasters will upgrade a substantial number of existing regional and metropolitan analog ‘self-help’ retransmission facilities to operate in digital, with the agreement of the current operators.</p> <p>www.digitalready.gov.au/satellite-tv.aspx</p>
Community Broadcasting Grants Digital Community TV	<p>The Government provides funding to the Community Broadcasting Foundation (CBF) to support community broadcasting in Australia. The CBF is an independent not for profit organisation that distributes Commonwealth funds to licensed community broadcasters; including specialist services for Ethnic, Indigenous and Radio for the Print Handicapped audiences. Details can be found at: www.cbf.com.au/grantfinder.asp</p> <p>The Government has delivered a pathway for community broadcasters to begin digital transmission. The Government's support includes a temporary allocation of spectrum and funding support totalling \$2.6 million to community television stations in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane and Perth. As a result of this support, TVS in Sydney, West TV in Perth, QCTV in Brisbane and C31 in Melbourne are already providing digital services and C31 Adelaide will provide a digital service before the end of 2010.</p>

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Question No: 136

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Commissioned Reports

Senator Birmingham asked:

How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio since Budget Estimates 2010? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.

How much did each report cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?

What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

Answer:

Nil.

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Question No: 137

Corporate and Business
Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Reviews

Senator Birmingham asked:

- (a) What is the total number of Reviews both completed and ongoing in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency since Budget Estimates 2010?
- (b) Please provide a breakdown of reviews completed since Budget Estimates 2010 including:
 - i. when those reviews were provided to Government,
 - ii. estimated cost of producing each review (and total cost) and
 - iii. if the Government has responded to the review or information about when the Government has indicated it will/will not respond to the review.
- (c) How many reviews are ongoing?
- (d) How many reviews have been completed since additional estimates?
- (e) What further reviews are planned in the portfolio/agency?
- (f) Will any of these reviews cease due to the 2010 Election?

Answer:

- (a) 10
- (b) See attached table.
- (c) 8
- (d) 2
- (e) See attached table.
- (f) No.

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Completed and planned in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio/agency since Budget Estimates 2010 (as at 19 October 2010, unless otherwise specified)

Name of Review	Specified timelines/duration	Cost (GST exclusive)
Completed Reviews		
Statutory Reviews is defined as an exercise conducted and/or paid for by the Department/Agency that has been undertaken, or is being undertaken, in response to a statutory requirement (i.e. specified by legislation).		
<p>Review of the Do Not Call Register</p>	<p>The <i>Do Not Call Register Act 2006</i> requires the Minister to cause to be conducted a review of the legislation and relevant provisions of the <i>Telecommunications Act 1997</i> before or as soon as practicable after 31 May 2010.</p> <p>A report of the review must be tabled in each House of Parliament within 15 sittings days of that House after the completion of the report.</p> <p>The report was tabled on 29 September 2010.</p>	<p>The review was conducted as part of the normal business of the Department. There were no staff solely allocated to the review.</p> <p>Associated costs of advertising the discussion paper were \$19,943.31.</p>
<p>Review of Submarine Cable legislation (Schedule 3A <i>Telecommunications Act 1997</i>)</p>	<p>Part 5, Clause 89 of the <i>Telecommunications Act 1997</i> requires that Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) is to report to the Minister on the operation of Schedule 3A to the Telecommunications Act 1997 within 5 years of the day it commenced. This required a report to be provided by September 2010.</p> <p>The report was tabled on 18 November 2010.</p>	<p>The review was conducted as part of the normal business of the ACMA. There were no staff solely allocated to the review. No additional resources were allocated to the review.</p>

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Name of Review	Specified timelines/duration
Planned Reviews (may commence in 2010 – 11 FY)	
Statutory Reviews is defined as an exercise conducted and/or paid for by the Department/Agency that has been undertaken, or is being undertaken, in response to a statutory requirement (i.e. specified by legislation).	
Review of regional digital radio technologies	Section 215A of the <i>Broadcasting Services Act 1992</i> requires the Minister to cause to be conducted a review of regional digital radio technologies before 1 January 2011. A report of the review must be tabled in each House of Parliament within 15 sittings days of that House after the completion of the report.
Review of Schedule 7 to the <i>Broadcasting Services Act 1992</i> (BSA)	Subclause 118(1) of Schedule 7 to the BSA provides that within three years after commencement of the Schedule, the Minister must cause to be conducted a review of the operation of the Schedule and consider whether it should be amended or repealed. There is no restricted timeframe for the review, other than it must commence by 20 January 2011.

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Question No: 138

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Board Appointments

Senator Birmingham asked:

What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?

What is the gender ratio of appointments made to boards since Budget Estimates 2010?

Are you implementing the Government target of 40 per cent women appointed to Boards?

Answer:

The following table reflects the gender ratio of portfolio boards as at 19 October 2010.

The table includes the following non-Government appointed board members.

Australian Broadcasting Corporation - One male Managing Director

Australia Post - One male Managing Director; and

Special Broadcasting Service - One male Managing Director.

Board	Gender Ratio
Australian Broadcasting Corporation	2 Female: 5 Male
Australian Communications and Media Authority	2 Female: 8 Male
Australian Postal Corporation	2 Female: 6 Male
NBN Co Limited	2 Female: 7 Male
Regional Telecommunications Independent Review Committee	2 Female: 3 Male
Special Broadcasting Service	3 Female: 6 Male*

* One person holds two appointments to the SBS board and is counted once for gender ratio.

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The following table below reflects the gender ratio of portfolio board appointments made by the Government between Budget Estimates (24 May 2010) and Supplementary Budget Estimates (19 October 2010).

Board	Gender Ratio
Australian Broadcasting Corporation	1 Female
Australian Communications and Media Authority	1 Female: 4 Male
Australian Postal Corporation	2 Female: 1 Male
Special Broadcasting Service	2 Male

Gender Targets Election Commitment

The Department is aware of the gender targets as announced by the previous Minister for the Status of Women, the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP on 29 July 2010. The Department will provide input to the publication 'Women on Australian Government Boards'. Gender balance will continue to be a factor considered in recommending appointments for approval by Cabinet.

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Question No: 139

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Community Cabinet

Senator Birmingham asked:

What was the cost of Minister's travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held since Budget Estimates 2010?

How many Ministerial Staff and Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meeting?

What was the total cost of this travel?

What was the total cost to the Department and the Minister's office?

Answer:

The table below outlines details of the one Community Cabinet meeting held between 24 May 2010 and 19 October 2010 in relation to the attendance by the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, Ministerial and departmental staff.

Location	Minister	Ministerial staff	Departmental staff
Perth WA 09/06/2010	Fares - \$2,515.33* T/A - \$850.00 Total - \$3,365.33	Advisor Fares - \$1,278.72 T/A - \$88.00 Total - \$1,366.72	Assistant Secretary Fares - \$1,957.84 T/A - \$221.88 Total - \$2,179.72

Notes – All acquitted costings are GST exclusive

Minister and Ministerial Staff: Unless otherwise indicated, reconciled costings for commercial travel and travel allowance are provided by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (DOFD).

- The figures include airfares and Travelling Allowance (including Motor Vehicle Allowance) claims. They do not include travel by taxis (due to the difficulties determining exact destinations using the electronic information as provided by Cabcharge) or travel on Special Purpose Aircraft (which is administered by the Department of Defence).
- * The financial information provided in the above table includes additional destinations for the Minister. Given the nature of the flight bookings, the costs of the additional destinations are not able to be disaggregated from the cost of travel to attend the Community Cabinet meeting.

Departmental Staff: Costings provided by the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy are those that are attributable to attendance at Community Cabinet meetings (including airfare, travelling allowance and Comcar/taxis).

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Question No: 140

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Cabinet and Sub-Cabinet Committee Meetings

Senator Birmingham asked:

How much time is spent preparing papers/submissions for Cabinet and Sub-Cabinet Committee meetings?

How often must papers/submissions for Cabinet and Sub-Cabinet Committee Meetings be redrafted or relodged? Please provide example of why this would happen. (i.e. last minute policy changes or redate papers due to items not being discussed when initially scheduled).

Answer:

Preparing papers/submissions for Cabinet and Sub-Cabinet Committee meetings is part of the Department's core business. The amount of time invested in this activity varies depending on the level of consultation and the complexity of the issues being addressed.

The Department's normal administrative practice, consistent across previous Governments, is not to provide comment on the preparation of Cabinet or Sub-Cabinet Committee papers/submissions.

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Question No: 141

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: FOI requests

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Has the Department/agency received any advice from the Government or any other source on how to respond to FOI requests?
2. How many FOI requests has the Department received?
3. How many have been granted or denied?
4. How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?
5. Has the Department/agency received any FOI requests for its Incoming Government Brief ('Red Book')? If yes, when and will it be released?
6. Has the Department/agency received any FOI requests for its Incoming Government Brief ('Blue Book')? If yes, when and will it be released?

Answer:

1. No.
2. The Department received eleven FOI requests between 1 June and 31 October 2010.
3. Of the eleven requests received, the Department refused access on one request; granted access in part on two requests; and two requests were taken to be withdrawn. As at 31 October, the Department was processing the remaining six requests.
4. The Department has not issued any conclusive certificates in relation to FOI requests.
5. Yes. As at 4 November 2010 the Department had received four FOI requests for its full Incoming Government Brief ('Red Book') and one request for part of the Incoming Government Brief. A decision on the request for the partial Incoming Government Brief was made on 29 October 2010 and documents were released to the applicant on 1 November 2010. The Department released a redacted version of the Incoming Government Brief on 16 November. It is available at http://www.dbcde.gov.au/about_us/the_department/incoming_government_brief
6. Yes. Applicants have been advised that the 'Blue Book' is no longer a document in the possession of the Department. Consistent with the Department's normal administrative practice, once the election outcome was clear the Department recalled all briefs, including drafts prepared for alternative election outcomes, for secure destruction.

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Question No: 142

Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Administrative Arrangements Orders

Senator Birmingham asked:

Can you detail what changes have occurred in your portfolio as a result of the Administrative Arrangements Orders published on 14 September 2010.

Were there any costs associated with these changes (for example changes to departmental signage or whether refurbishment or additional space will need to be leased to accommodate new staff. Alternatively, will agencies be left with empty office space due to loss of staff). Please provide details

Were there any staff changes as a result (staff transferring to or from your agency)? If yes, please detail what the staff changes were, including a breakdown of changes to each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band.

Were there any changes in your portfolio as a result of the Administrative Arrangements Orders published on 14 October 2010.

Were there any costs associated with these changes (for example changes to departmental signage). Please provide details.

Were there any staff changes as a result (staff transferring to or from your agency)? If yes, please detail what the staff changes were, including a breakdown of changes to each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band.

Can you describe what, if any, Administrative Arrangements Orders occurred in your portfolio between November 2007 and July 2010? Please detail the costs associated with these.

Answer:

No changes occurred in the portfolio as a result of the Administrative Arrangements Orders published on 14 September and 14 October 2010 and therefore there was no resultant cost nor staff changes.

The Administrative Arrangements Orders of 3 December 2007 abolished the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts and transferred its functions to the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts; the Department of Health and Ageing; the Department of Innovation, Science and Research; and the newly established Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy. For details relating to costs associated with these changes, please refer to Appendix 14 (pp 157-162) of the *Annual Report 2007-08 for the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy*.

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Question No: 143

Program No. Corporate and Business

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Discretionary Grants

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants since Budget Estimates 2010? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.
2. Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?

Answer:

1. From 1 January 2009, all grants, discretionary and non-discretionary, made by the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE) are published on the departmental website at www.dbcde.gov.au.
2. The Department has complied with the interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants. All grants undertaken by the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE) are published on the departmental website at www.dbcde.gov.au.