

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**  
**Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings October 2011**  
**Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio**  
**Australian Broadcasting Corporation**

**Question No: 222**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Contractors**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

Since May 2011:

1. Has the agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details.
2. Has the agency ever employed Shannon's Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon's Way? If yes, provide details.
3. Has the 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 agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details.
5. Has the agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details.
6. Has the agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details.
7. Has the agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details.
8. Has the agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details.
9. Has the agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey and Company? If yes, provide details.

**Answer:**

1. The ABC engaged Hawker Britton in March 2008, for services related to the commercial issue of rights and/or royalties. At present, there are no plans to use Hawker Britton in the future.
2. No.
3. No.
4. No.
5. The ABC has engaged Cutting Edge for equipment hire and for outside broadcast contract labour since 1998. The ABC has also engaged a company called Cutting Edge Sports for contract labour related to outside broadcasts of the WNBL and VFL over the past three years. It is possible that the ABC will continue to use Cutting Edge and/or Cutting Edge Sports again.

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6. No.

7. No.

8. The ABC has used the Boston Consulting Group a number of times in the past for advisory and consulting services since 2007. These reviews undertaken by Boston Consulting Group related to the review of the ABC's program production in 2007 and a review of the ABC's administrative and support functions in 2009.

9. No.

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**Question No: 223**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Government Payment of Accounts**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. For the year 2010-11, did the agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)? If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.)
- b. For accounts not paid within 30 days, was interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?
- c. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

**Answer:**

- a. As noted in response to previous Questions on Notice asked, the ABC's standard payment terms are 30 days Commercial as stated on the ABC internet site under the section "Doing business with the ABC". 30 Days Commercial means 30 days after the end of the month the tax invoice was rendered. An exception to this is payments to businesses that meet the Government's definition of a "small business" in *Finance Circular 2008/10 "Procurement 30 Day Payment Policy for Small Business"*, which are paid 30 days after the date the tax invoice is rendered. (A small business is defined as having less than 20 full time equivalent employees).

Between 1 July 2010 and 30 June 2011 (inclusive) the ABC made 1637 payments to consultants and contractors of which 1,056 transactions were paid on or before the due date.

Those invoices not paid by the due date were most likely paid late because the invoice was in dispute or because the supplier had not provided sufficient details to facilitate the payment by the due date (ABN, bank account details etc).

- b. The ABC does not pay interest on overdue invoices unless a tax invoice for the interest is received from a supplier. It is extremely rare for interest to be charged by a supplier as the reason for deferred payment is typically due to a mutual understanding (ie disputed charges etc). Interest paid on overdue invoices YTD is insignificant.

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In very rare circumstances, an invoice may be received by a business unit and there may be a time lag between it being received and it being sent to accounts payable for processing. This is rare and the ABC's Shared Services department functions very efficiently.

- c. Interest would theoretically be calculated in accordance with section 8AAD of the Taxation Administration Act 1953 and would be based on the relevant daily general interest charge rate quoted for the relevant day. However, as stated above, the ABC rarely is charged interest by its suppliers. An example of how interest is to be calculated is provided in Finance Circular 2008-10.

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**Question No: 224**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Government Payment of Accounts**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

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

**Answer:**

- a. As noted in response to past Questions on Notice, the ABC's standard payment terms are 30 days Commercial as stated on the ABC internet site under the section "Doing business with the ABC". 30 Days Commercial means 30 days after the end of the month the tax invoice was rendered. An exception to this is payments to businesses that meet the Government's definition of a "small business" in *Finance Circular 2008/10 "Procurement 30 Day Payment Policy for Small Business"*, which are paid 30 days after the date the tax invoice is rendered. (A small business is defined as having less than 20 full time equivalent employees)

Between 1 July 2011 and 31 October 2011 (inclusive) the ABC made 260 payments to consultants and contractors, of which 209 transactions were paid on or before the due date.

Those invoices not paid by the due date were most likely paid late because the invoice was in dispute or because the supplier had not provided sufficient details to facilitate the payment by the due date (ABN, bank account details etc).

- b. The ABC does not pay interest on overdue invoices unless a tax invoice for the interest is received from a supplier. It is extremely rare for interest to be charged by a supplier as the reason for deferred payment is typically due to a mutual understanding (ie disputed charges etc). Interest paid on overdue invoices YTD is insignificant.

In very rare circumstances, an invoice may be received by a business unit and there may be a time lag between it being received and it being sent to accounts payable for processing. This is rare and the ABC's Shared Services department functions very efficiently.

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- c. Interest would theoretically be calculated in accordance with section 8AAD of the *Taxation Administration Act 1953* and would be based on the relevant daily general interest charge rate quoted for the relevant day. However, as stated above, the ABC rarely is charged interest by its suppliers. An example of how interest is to be calculated is provided in *Finance Circular 2008/10*.

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**Question No: 225**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Government Stationery Requirements**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. How much was spent by the agency on the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. paper, envelopes, with compliments slips) in 2010-11
- b. What is the estimated cost for 2011-12.

**Answer:**

Not applicable.

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**Question No: 226**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Media Subscriptions**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. Does the agency subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)?
- b. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.
- c. What was the cost for 2010-11?
- d. What is the estimated cost for 2011 -12?

**Answer:**

- a. Yes.
- b. The ABC subscribes to Pay TV for a number of reasons including:
  - Monitoring of other sources of News such as CNN and BBC World News for breaking stories and updates
  - Provision of international Sports results
  - Reviewing programming that might be suitable for the ABC to acquire
  - Keeping up to date on emerging bands and worldwide music trends.

Foxtel is the ABC's main pay TV service provider and the most commonly subscribed package is the Business Value package which includes access to the following channels:

- Sports channels
- News channel
- Documentaries
- Music
- Kids and Family
- Entertainment

In addition there are some ABC subscriptions to Disney and Racing Channels through Foxtel.

- c. In 2010-11, the ABC spent \$158,000 on Foxtel.
- d. The equivalent year to date amount to 31 October 2011 was \$54,000 which is tracking in line with last year.



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**Question No: 227**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Media Subscriptions**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. Does the agency subscribe to newspapers?
- b. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.
- c. What was the cost for 2010-11?
- d. What is the estimated cost for 2011 -12?

**Answer:**

- a. Yes.
- b. The Corporation subscribes to certain newspapers where required and where they directly relate to business needs.
- c. During 2010-11, the Corporation spent \$847,000 on newspapers and magazines. It is not feasible to split these costs between magazines and newspapers as these are a high volume, low value transactions most of which are paid for by procurement card.
- d. The amount spent for the period 1 July 2011 to 31 October 2011 was \$293,000.

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**Question No: 228**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Media Subscriptions**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. Does the agency subscribe to magazines?
- b. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.
- c. What was the cost for 2010-11?
- d. What is the estimated cost for 2011 -12?

**Answer:**

- a. Yes.
- b. The Corporation subscribes to certain magazines where related to business needs, such as technical publications used by technology staff, or magazines which the ABC has a commercial business interest in (eg product advertising). As the ABC produces its own range of magazines, including Delicious, it is reasonable to monitor equivalent magazines from other publishing houses.
- c. Magazine subscriptions are recorded in the general ledger in the same account as newspapers. During 2010-11, the Corporation spent \$847,000 on newspapers and magazines.
- d. The equivalent amount for the period 1 July 2011 to 31 October 2011 was \$293,000. It is not feasible to split these costs between magazines and newspapers as there are a high volume of low value transactions and most are paid by procurement card.

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**Question No: 229**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Travel Costs**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

For the year 2010-11, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each agency within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what costs were spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.

**Answer:**

The ABC spent a total of \$21.2m on travel for the 2010-11 financial year.

Domestic travel spend was \$15.4m and international travel spend was \$5.8m gross (including excess baggage).

Of the total travel spend, expenditure on domestic business class airfares was \$0.3m and expenditure on international business class airfares was \$0.9m.

The majority of domestic travel currently involves News (27 per cent), Television (19 per cent) and Radio (21 per cent) and is primarily in relation to news gathering and program making.

The majority of international travel relates to News (52 per cent), Television (14 per cent) and ABC International staff (19 per cent), in particular to cover news stories, production, Australia Network or AusAid funded activities.

ABC staff are paid a per diem when travelling in line with gazetted rates.

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**2010/11 DOMESTIC TRAVEL EXPENDITURE**

Expenditure for 2010/11 on domestic travel was \$15.4m

Description	Total Actual 10/11
Airfares - Domestic	5,216,969
Allowances - Domestic	2,813,993
Accommodation - Domestic	3,477,918
Domestic taxis and private vehicle allowance	2,834,059
Travel Entitlements (9/B/4) under the Enterprise Agreement	132,727
Domestic Other (eg train fares & car hire)	917,780
<b>Total Domestic Travel Expenditure</b>	<b>\$15,393,445</b>

**2010/11 INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL EXPENDITURE**

ABC's gross expenditure in 2010/11 on international travel (including excess baggage) was \$5.8m

Description	Total Actual 10/11
Airfares - International	2,277,568
Allowances - International	2,610,041
International Other (eg train fares & car hire)	804,191
<b>Total International Travel Expenditure</b>	<b>\$5,691,800</b>
Excess Baggage	61,492
<b>Total ABC Travel Expenditure</b>	<b>\$5,753,293</b>

Expenditure on business class international airfares amounted to \$0.9m

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**Question No: 230**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Travel Costs**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

For the year FYTD, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each agency within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what costs were spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.

**Answer:**

The ABC spent a total of \$6.5m on travel for the period 1 July 2011 to 31 October 2011. Domestic travel spend was \$4.7m and international travel spend was \$1.8m gross (including excess baggage).

Of the total travel spend, expenditure on domestic business class airfares was \$0.1m and expenditure on international business class airfares was \$0.4m.

The majority of domestic travel currently involves News (26 per cent), Television (19 per cent) and Radio (22 per cent) and is primarily in relation to news gathering and program making.

The majority of international travel relates to News (58 per cent), Television (11 per cent) and ABC International staff (14 per cent), in particular to cover news stories, production, Australia Network or AusAid funded activities.

ABC staff are paid a per diem when travelling in line with gazetted rates. Thus the ABC is unable to provide details as to how these allowances are spent on security, food, gifts or entertainment, within the required timeframe.

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**2011/12 DOMESTIC TRAVEL EXPENDITURE**

Year to date expenditure as at October 2011 on domestic travel is \$4.7m.

Description	Period YTD Actual 11/12
Airfares - Domestic	1,735,708
Allowances - Domestic	868,911
Accommodation - Domestic	958,925
Domestic taxis & personal vehicle allowance	875,556
Travel Entitlements (9/B/4) under the Enterprise Agreement	57,836
Domestic Other (eg train fares and car hire)	193,513
<b>Total Domestic Travel Expenditure</b>	<b>\$4,690,450</b>

**2011/12 INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL EXPENDITURE**

As at October 2011, the ABC's gross expenditure on International travel (including excess baggage) is \$1.8m.

Description	Period YTD Actual 11/12
Airfares - International	826,873
Allowances - International	759,790
International Other (eg train fares & car hire)	216,173
<b>Total International Travel Expenditure</b>	<b>\$1,802,836</b>
Excess Baggage	19,035
<b>Total Other</b>	<b>19,035</b>
<b>Total ABC Travel Expenditure</b>	<b>\$1,821,871</b>

Expenditure on business class airfares year to date amounted to \$0.4m

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**Question No: 231**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Legal Costs**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. What sum did each portfolio agency spend on legal services for the year 2010-11 within the agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- b. What sum did each portfolio agency spend on legal services for the year 2010-11 from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- c. What sum did each portfolio agency spend on legal services for the year 2010-11 from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- d. What sum did each portfolio agency spend on legal services for the year 2010-11 from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

**Answer:**

- a. The ABC spent a total of \$5.4 m on internal legal services and external legal advice. This related to mainly Employment Law, Commercial Law, Media Law and Property Law.

The split of costs is as follows:

Internal legal department	\$4.1m
External legal advice from private firms	\$0.9m
Other Legal services	<u>\$0.4m</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5.4m</b>

- b. Nil.
- c. The ABC spent \$0.9m on specialist legal advice from private firms, relating to mainly Employment Law (\$0.3m), Commercial Law (\$0.2m), Media Law (\$0.2m) and Property Law (\$0.2m).
- d. The ABC spent \$0.4m on legal services from other sources (mainly barristers) relating to advice and/or court representation in relation to defamation, copyright and statutory interpretation.

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**Question No: 232**

**Program No: ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Legal Costs**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. What sum did each portfolio agency spend on legal services FYTD within the agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- b. What sum did each portfolio agency spend on legal services FYTD from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- c. What sum did each portfolio agency spend on legal services FYTD from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- d. What sum did each portfolio agency spend on legal services FYTD from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

**Answer:**

- a. The ABC spent a total of \$1.9m on internal legal services and external legal advice to the end of October 2011. This related to mainly Employment Law, Commercial Law, Media Law and Property Law.

The split of costs is as follows:

Internal legal services	\$1.5m
External legal advice from private firms	\$0.3m
Other Legal services (such as Barristers fees)	<u>\$0.1m</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1.9m</b>

- b. Nil.
- c. The ABC spent \$0.3m on specialist legal advice from private firms to the end of October 2011, relating to mainly Commercial Law (\$0.1m), Media Law (\$0.1m) and Property Law (\$0.1m).
- d. The ABC spent \$0.1m on legal services from other sources (mainly barristers) to the end of October 2011 relating to advice and/or court representation in relation to defamation, copyright and statutory interpretation.



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**Question No: 233**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Education Expenses**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

For the year 2010-11, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house course and tertiary studies) for each portfolio agency. Include what type of course, the total cost. Cost per participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant.

**Answer:**

The data requested by Senator Fisher is data is not readily available. An unreasonable diversion of resources would be required to compile the requested data.

Available data on training courses from the nearest reporting cycle (2010-11 Annual Report) is as follows:

In 2010 –11, over 76 000 hours of training was provided across all employment classifications:

	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Total</b>
Technologist	544	4270	4 814
Senior Executive	2 261	3 034	5 295
Retail	205	44	248
Content Maker	29 776	28 803	58 579
Administrative/ Professional	5 279	2 090	7 369
Total	38 064	38 241	76 304

The ABC provided a range of training and development opportunities focused on strategic and operational priorities. Training encompassed 27 skill areas, including broadcast operations, cross-media production, digital skills, editorial policy and quality, leadership and management, legal, health and safety, PC skills, television and video post-production. Training and development was provided via courses and seminars, on-the-job projects, coaching sessions, and remotely using webinars and e-learning packages.

The table below, details the hours attended by participants in 2010-11, according to category of training. This includes internal and external training course delivery, for staff across all ABC divisions.

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Sum of Duration	
Category	Total hours
Marketing	2
Project Management	93.6
Property, Facilities and Security	96.5
Retail	98.8
Desktop Applications - Databases	295.8
Desktop Applications - Audio	425.2
PC Skills - MS Office	460.6
Graphic Design	536
Legal	759.5
Information Management (Archives)	762.45
Finance	773.8
Training	796.25
Broadcasting Technical	829.75
Business Skills	952.6
Editorial Policy	1024.84
Information Technology	1182.25
Equity & Diversity	1215.2
Broadcast Operations	1449.8
Human Resources	1871.85
Cross Media Production	4641.4
Management	5229.1
News Reporting	5688.76
Web Production	6199.85
TV & Video Post Production	6680.42
OH&S	7305.15
Radio Production	10284.87
TV & Video Production	13034.86
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>72691.2*</b>

\* plus other training outside of these categories

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**Question No: 234**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Education Expenses**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

For the FYTD, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house course and tertiary studies) for each portfolio agency. Include what type of course, the total cost. Cost per participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant.

**Answer:**

Please see the ABC's response to Question on Notice 233.

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**Question No: 235**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Executive Coaching and Leadership Training 2010-11**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

In relation to the purchase of executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each portfolio department or any agency within the portfolio, please provide the following information for the year 2010-11:

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

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

- a. The name and nature of the service purchased
- b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based
- c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification
- d. The total number of hours involved for all employees
- e. The total amount spent on the service
- f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)

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

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

**Answer:**

1. During 2010- 11, a total of \$237,600 was spent on executive coaching and other leadership training services.
2. 36 executive and non-executive staff were nominated by their divisional managers to utilise these services.
3. 24 executive level staff and 12 non executive staff utilised these services.
4. Service providers engaged were externally appointed trainers P Nesbitt, H Armstrong, M Neave, D Woolfson, the Centre for Applied Cognitive Studies and the Australian Graduate School of Management (AGSM).

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- a. Staff participated in the Advanced Managers Program with externally appointed trainers and the Accelerated Learning Laboratory at the Australian Graduate School of Management.
- b. Training was group based in both programs.
- c. 22 participants attended the Advanced Managers Program and 14 participants attended the Accelerated Learning Laboratory with the Australian Graduate School of Management.
- d. Each Advanced Managers Program participant attended a total of 96 hours of training plus ten hours executive coaching, which represents 12 working days over 12 months. Each AGSM participant attended 48 hours of training. A total of 3004 hours of training was provided.
- e. A total of \$237,600 was spent on these services.
- f. Fees were charged per hour for coaching and per day for facilitation with the Advanced Managers Program. Fees were charged per course at the AGSM.
  - i. Services were provided at the Mercure Hotel in Sydney and the University of NSW.
  - ii. 22 staff participated in each session at the Mercure Hotel and 14 at the University of NSW.
  - iii. See response d (above).
  - iv. Venue hire charges of \$11,000 were incurred at the Mercure in Sydney. There were no venue charges incurred at the University of NSW.

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**Question No: 236**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Executive Coaching and Leadership Training FYTD**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

In relation to the purchase of executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each portfolio department or any agency within the portfolio, please provide the following information FYTD:

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

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

- a) The name and nature of the service purchased
- b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based
- c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification
- d) The total number of hours involved for all employees
- e) The total amount spent on the service
- f) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)

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

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

**Answer:**

The ABC considers that an unreasonable diversion of resources would be required to compile the requested data.

Please see the ABC's response to Question on Notice 235.

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**Question No: 237**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Paid Parental Leave**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. Please list how many staff in the agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme?
- b. For the year 2010-11 list which portfolio agencies are providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff are in receipt of these payments.

**Answer:**

- a. Any employee in the ABC who meets the criteria is eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave Scheme. Eligibility for these payments is determined by the Family Assistance Office (Centrelink).
- b. Four employees received payments under the Scheme in FY 2010-11.

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**Question No: 238**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Paid Parental Leave**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

For the FYTD list which portfolio agencies are providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff are in receipt of these payments.

**Answer:**

Fourteen employees have received payments under the Scheme in FYTD 2011-12.



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**Question No: 239**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Corporate Cars**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. How many cars are owned by each agency in your portfolio?
- b. Where is/are the car/s located?
- c. What is/are the cars used for?
- d. What was the cost of each car for 2010-11?
- e. How far did each car travel in 2010-11?

**Answer:**

a. As at 30 June 2011, the ABC owned 64 vehicles.

b. The ABC vehicles are located at the following locations:

<b>Rego</b>	<b>Make of vehicle</b>	<b>Total Km Travelled</b>	<b>Annual Cost</b>	<b>Location</b>
1AMT345	MERCEDES 91 DSL M5 TRUCK	294	265	WA
1AMT346	ISUZU JCR500 5.8 DSL M5 TRUCK	3,768	3,391	WA
1AMT347	ISUZU FSR500 5.8 DSL M5 TRUCK	931	838	WA
1AMT348	ISUZU SBR422 5.7 DSL M5 4X2 TRAY	692	623	WA
	TOYOTA LANDCRUISER 4.2D M5			
1AYN172	11SEAT HT	1,169	1,052	WA
1CTH025	ISUZU NKR150 3.6 CARB M4 VAN	1,034	931	WA
1DIV703	VW TRAN02A TRANSPORTER	4,512	920	WA
ABC309	HINO FD174K 6.0DSL M6 PANTECH	100	2,481	NSW
	TOYOTA DYNA 200 DUALCAB DSL			
ABC310	UTE	50	3,409	NSW
	HINO TRUCK FF177 6.7 DSL M6			
ABC311	TRUCK	3,842	8,430	NSW
ABC312	HINO FD166 6.0 DSL M6 VAN	218	4,306	NSW
	TOYOTA LANDCRUISER HJ75 4.2 DSL			
ZYA159	M5	3,102	664	ACT
996905	TOYOTA COASTER 3.0 DSL M5 BUS	122	3,816	NT
	MERCEDES SPRINTER VAN SWB			
TDS996	313CDI	24,150	11,714	VIC
	INTERNATIONAL ACCO 1830C DSL			
WHK720	TRUCK	1,426	2,273	SA
WHK721	ISUZU FTS75 4X4 8.2 DSL M6 TRAY	10,304	4,062	SA
WHK807	FORD D750 4.1 CARB M6 TRUCK	562	1,350	SA
	ISUZU NPR300 4.3 dsl M5 CREW			
WHK808	CABCHASSIS	9,557	2,579	SA
	VW TRANSPORTER 2.5 TDI SWB			
XKS395	AUTO VAN	2,994	1,518	SA
ABC2	HINO FD174K 6.0DSL M6 PANTECH	530	1,481	NT
ABC202	MERCEDES SPRINTER319 LWB HIGH	0	955	NSW

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<u>Rego</u>	<u>Make of vehicle</u>	<u>Total Km Travelled</u>	<u>Annual Cost</u>	<u>Location</u>
	ROOF			
NPA344	ISUZU FTR800 LONG 6.5 M7 DSL TRUCK	422	4,364	VIC
NPA346	ISUZU FTR800 LONG 6.5 M7 DSL TRUCK	5,229	5,363	VIC
NPA349	ISUZU JCS420 4.5 CRB M4 DSL TRUCK	10,823	10,766	VIC
NPA376	MERCEDES 1517/49 6.0 T/D VAN	153	1,191	VIC
OPT230	VOLVO FL10 9.6 DSL 6X4 PRIME MOVER	6,555	12,303	VIC
POJ112	ISUZU NKR200 SHORT 4.3 DSL CAB CHASIS	860	869	VIC
QVW118	FORD F350 4X4 5.0 M4 TRAY	720	3,567	VIC
1AZB106	IVECO TURBODAILY 2.5 DT M5 VAN	4,143	2,082	WA
WHK805	MITSUBISHI FK415 4X2 5.4 DSL M5 VAN	1,000	1,683	SA
700FYK	MITSUBISHI FM618 CAB CHASIS	3,540	8,092	Brisbane
ABC102	HINO RNGR 6 MWB 8 DSL M6 TRUCK	1,136	3,563	NSW
ABC322	ISUZU NPR200 4.3 DSL M5 CAB/CHASSIS	3,638	5,182	NSW
QVW116	CLARK FORKLIFT C500 ELECTRIC		529	VIC
BST77V	TOYOTA PRADO GXL3 LTR T/D	14,600	241	NSW
666896	MERCEDES 1424V 11 DSL M8 PRIME MOVER	0	-	NT
552LRK	HOLDEN RODEO DUALCAB TURBODIESEL	22,893	3,896	QLD
594FET	MITSUBISHI FK618KI 4X28.2 DSL TRUCK	3,746	4,000	QLD
652FET	MITSUBISHI FH1006 MITS 5.0 DSL TRAY	2,885	2,649	QLD
913MSG	VW TRANSPORTER 2.5 TDI SWB AUTO VAN	2,566	90	QLD
ABC315	MITSUBISHI FM557MS 4X2 7.5 DTM10 TRUCK	5,060	9,301	NSW
ABC317	MITSUBISHI FM557MS 4X2 7.5 DTM10 TRUCK	0	1,848	NSW
OB1ABC	2008 ISUZU LONG 6CYL TURBO I/COOLED	13,002	3,429	VIC
ZNT739	FORD TRANSIT VG MIDROOF 2.0 M5 LWB	361	3,135	NT
ABC201	SCANIA P94LB PANTEC TRUCK DSL	2,287	2,495	NSW
ABC001	HINO FF177 6.7 DSL M6 TRUCK	1,676	2,488	TAS
ABC003	ISUZU NQR450 4.8 DT M6 CAB CHASIS	256	2,050	TAS
ABC004	Isuzu Stiec140 200 Short T/D	6,200	5,220	HOBART
ABC009	VW TRAN02A TRANSPORTER	451	640	TAS
RKU144	MAZDA T3500 TRAY 4X2 3.5 DSL M5 VAN	1,796	2,157	VIC
1TCN846	TRAILER SINGLE AXLE	n/a	51	WA
1TEK676	DIGIVAN T3 BRIMARCO PANTECH TRAILER	n/a	195	WA
1TFT575	MCGRTH OB VAN	n/a	127	WA
1TJJ452	DIGIVAN T5 BRIMARCO PANTECH TRAILER	n/a	1,320	WA

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<b>Rego</b>	<b>Make of vehicle</b>	<b>Total Km Travelled</b>	<b>Annual Cost</b>	<b>Location</b>
249QJE	DIGIVAN T2 BRIMARCO PANTECH TRAILER	n/a	762	QLD
53392S	DIGIVAN T8 BRIMARCO PANTECH TRAILER	n/a	1,466	VIC
ABC007	DIGIVAN T1 BRIMARCO PANTECH TRAILER	n/a	3,929	TAS
AT07JA	DIGIVAN T7 BRIMARCO PANTECH TRAILER	n/a	72	ACT
NT98DN	MARKET EXHIB TRAIL RAMBLERS CONCEPT	n/a	-	NSW
R46997	DIGIVAN T6 BRIMARCO PANTECH TRAILER	n/a	729	NSW
T438378	TRAILER TANDEM AXLE EXTRA EQUIP BRIMARCO PANTECH	n/a	688	MELBOURNE
TG2936	TRAILER	n/a	27	NT
YFW865	DIGIVAN T4 BRIMARCO PANTECH TRAILER	n/a	72	SA
1AYN904	TOYOTA LANDCRUISER GXL 4X4 DSL M5	6,100	2,629	WA

- c. The vehicles are used predominately for ABC production purposes across News, Radio and Television.
- d. See above table.
- e. See above table.

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**Question No: 240**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Taxi Costs**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

How much did each agency spend on taxis in 2010-11? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each agency.

**Answer:**

For the 2010-11 financial year, the ABC spent \$2.79m on taxis services.

For a divisional breakdown, please see below.

	<b><u>2010/11 Taxi Expenditure</u></b>
Commercial	111,457
Resources	155,298
Business Services	38,409
Chief Operating Officer	11,540
ABC Board	46,940
Capital Works	12,028
International, Strategy & Governance	67,420
Communications	37,377
Corporate Wide Initiatives	7,144
Editorial Policies	14,173
Innovation	28,806
Legal	14,947
News	1,047,199
People and Learning	36,203
Radio	548,551
Technology	81,303
Communication Networks	22,880
Television	497,469
Corporate Strategy & Marketing	15,720
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,794,863</b>

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**Question No: 241**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Credit Cards**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. How many staff in each agency have a corporate credit card? What is their classification?
- b. What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused?
- c. How is corporate credit card use monitored?
- d. What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered?
- e. How many instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.
- f. What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?

**Answer:**

- a. 643 staff have an ABC procurement card and 58 staff have corporate American Express cards. These staff comprise:

	Procurement	Amex
Staff Band 2	1	0
Staff Band 3	14	0
Staff Band 4	61	0
Staff Band 5	83	1
Staff Band 6	118	1
Staff Band 7	138	14
Staff Band 8	63	9
Staff Band 9	35	20
<b>Total Staff</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>45</b>
SE Band 1	31	0
SE Band 2	57	3
SE Band 3	26	2
SE Band 4 & AWAs	16	8
<b>Total Exec</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>13</b>
	<b>643</b>	<b>58</b>

Eligibility for corporate procurement cards is not based on employee classification, rather it is determined based on business needs.

- b. The ABC has a strict policy of the use of ABC credit and charge cards which prohibits improper or personal use of the cards. Usage is monitored and instances of non-business use are investigated. The policy provides that where an employee inadvertently uses a card

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for personal use, the employee will be counselled and they will reimburse the ABC. More serious breaches of the policy, or any continued case of misuse is referred to internal audit for investigation.

The ABC's fraud policy may also be relevant. If an ABC credit card is misused a report may be made to internal audit. All ABC employees have a responsibility to report suspected fraud or any perceived loss to the Corporation through fraud. Internal audit assess all reports and determines whether an investigation is warranted. The assessment includes considering whether the issue meets the reporting threshold for investigation by the Australian Federal Police (AFP). Employees found to have committed fraud may face disciplinary procedures under the ABC's relevant employment agreements and/ or Policies.

- c. All ABC procurement cards are required to be acquitted at the end of each month. All purchases are to be approved by an independent delegate and expenditure is required to be supported by receipts. Card use is then centrally monitored by Finance and if a cardholder does not comply with the acquittal deadlines, the card may be suspended.

Internal audit undertakes continuous monitoring of ABC Procurement Card transactions using Computer Assisted Audit Techniques (CAATs). This identifies unusual transactions for further detailed review which involves the verification of a sample of transactions and supporting documentation (such as receipts) and testing for compliance with applicable ABC policies.

- d. Refer to answer b, above.
- e. Inadvertent/minor improper use is not recorded, and there have been no such cases where the ABC has not been reimbursed for minor/inadvertent use. There have been no cases of credit card misuse investigated by Internal Audit in the year to date.
- f. Card holders are required to acknowledge the procurement card policy before a card is issued. The policy and procedure is reviewed from time to time and cardholders are advised of any changes to the policy.

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**Question No: 242**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Carbon Price Legislation**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

- a. How was your agency consulted in the development of the carbon price package?
- b. Is the carbon price package consistent with all of the policies in your agency?

**Answer:**

The ABC was not consulted regarding the Carbon Price legislation.

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**Question No: 243**

**Program No. ABC**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Communications**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

How many communications people are there in each of the agencies? List their classification, position description, services they provide to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and any guidelines they must adhere to.

**Answer:**

The ABC has three staff members working directly in communications - its Director Corporate Affairs, its Head Corporate Affairs and its Head Corporate Communications

ABC's Director Corporate Affairs and Head Corporate Affairs provide briefings and meet with Members of Parliament and Senators on an as-needs basis. The Head Corporate Communications does not provide services to Ministers or Parliamentary Secretaries.