

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 405

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Recruitment Advertising

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How will the department/agency manage moving recruitment advertising online? Will all future recruitment advertisement be online only? If not, please explain why. What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
2. How much was spent on recruitment advertising in 2011-12? How much of this was spent online and how much of this was spent on print advertising?
3. Please list where recruitment advertising was listed online and in print media.
4. How much has been spent on recruitment advertising this financial year to date? How much of this was spent online and how much of this was spent on print advertising?
5. Please list where recruitment advertising was placed online and in print media.

Answer

1. Online recruitment is a standard part of the recruitment process for NBN Co and will continue to be so. Where there is a need to place job advertisements in the paper, this will be considered on a case-by-case basis, for example for regional locations or to target specific demographic groups.
2. During FY 11-12 a total of \$100,747 was spent on recruitment advertising. All of this was spent on online advertising and none on print advertising.
3. Recruitment advertising was listed online on the 'SEEK' jobs website, the NBN Co website on the 'LinkedIn' networking website. NBN Co agencies also advertise on our behalf and this has included online and paper advertising; however there was no charge to NBN Co for the advertising.
4. During this financial year to date (at 31 October 2012), \$144,098 was spent on online recruitment advertising. No spend on print advertising.
5. During this financial year to date (at 31 October 2012), recruitment advertising was listed online on the 'SEEK' jobs website, the NBN Co website, the 'SpaceCareers' website and on the 'LinkedIn' networking website.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 406

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Printing Costs

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How much was spent on printing 2011-12? Of this amount, how much was for printing documents?
2. How many documents (please include the amount of copies) were printed in 2011-12? How many of these printed documents were also published online?
3. Of the documents that were printed in 2011-12, where were they delivered and what was the cost?
4. How much has been spent on printing this financial year to date? Of this amount, how much was for printing documents?
5. How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed this financial year to date? How many of these printed documents were also published online?

Answer

Please see answer to QoN 426.

Determining the number of documents printed and reporting on where they have been distributed and all associated costs across all business areas would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 407

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Graduate Recruitment

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How much has been spent on 2013 Graduate Recruitment? Please itemise and detail costs.
2. Has any travel been incurred for 2013 Graduate Recruitment? Please itemise and detail costs.

Answer

The 2013 graduate program is still in development and spending to date has been approximately \$1000 for travel and lodging for two employees to assist in the assessment of graduates in Sydney and Melbourne.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 408

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Graduate Training

Senator Birmingham asked:

How much is estimated to be spent on 2013 Graduate Training? Please provide details of what training is to be provided, why and the estimated cost for each.

Answer

The 2013 graduate program is still in development and NBN Co has not finalised the details requested.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 409

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Government Advertising

Senator Birmingham asked:

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

Answer

1. \$334,000 as at end October 2012.
2. NBN Co is not a government department or agency and does not categorise advertising as 'campaign' or 'non-campaign'. The \$334,000 (above) includes \$96,000 for Community Information Session invitations and advertising; \$29,000 for Demonstration Facilities advertising and invitations; and \$209,000 for Local-level Public Information Communications in line with the rollout schedule and mandated by the public information on migration agreement between the Commonwealth and Telstra.
Most, if not all contracts in place between NBN Co and suppliers contain confidentiality requirements. Disclosure of information such as individual sums paid and other confidential details may therefore result in a breach of these obligations. This may cause harm to NBN Co's commercial relationships and negatively impact upon our ability to function as a commercial entity.
3. No

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012

Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio

NBN Co Limited

4. NBN Co is not a Government Department or Agency as defined by the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997 (FMA Act). As such it is not subject to the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies (2010).

5. See answer to 4. Above

6.

Communications Program	Spend as at end October 2012	Details
Public Relations program	\$565,035	Activities include: coverage analysis, education sector outreach, local rollout, event management.

Most, if not all contracts in place between NBN Co and suppliers contain confidentiality requirements. Disclosure of information such as individual sums paid and other confidential details may therefore result in a breach of these obligations. This may cause harm to NBN Co's commercial relationships and negatively impact upon our ability to function as a commercial entity.

7. A comprehensive local level public information communications program is planned to inform residents in rollout areas of the migration to the NBN. As at the end of October no other communications plans had been determined.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 410

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Government Advertising

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. What was the total cost of all advertising for 2011-12?
2. Is the advertising campaign or non-campaign advertising? Please provide details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.
3. Has the Department of Finance and Deregulation provided any advice about the advertising? Please provide details of each advertising item.
4. Has the Peer Review Group (PRG) and/or Independent Communications Committee (ICC) provided any advice about the advertising? Please provide details of each advertising item.
5. Did the advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies? Please provide the details for each advertising item.
6. Please provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services, that was undertaken in 2011-12.

Answer

Please see answer to QoN 367 from 2012 Budget Estimates.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 411

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Hospitality and Entertainment

Senator Birmingham asked:

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

Answer

1. The total hospitality and entertainment spend for the current financial year (to October 2012) was \$9,688. To attempt to provide the additional level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of company resources.
2. & 3.
Hospitality and entertainment budgeted for the financial year 2012/13 is \$143,000.
4. NBN Co minimises its hospitality and entertainment expenditure through established policies and procedures so as to ensure only necessary expenditure is incurred.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 412

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Hospitality and Entertainment

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. What is the department/agency's hospitality spend for 2011-12? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
2. What is the department/agency's entertainment spend for 2011-12? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.

Answer

1 & 2:

The total hospitality and entertainment spend for FY12 was \$84,400. This includes expenses on items such as employee events, forums and workshops and other events with third parties.

To attempt to provide the additional level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of company resources.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 413

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: FOI

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Has the department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
2. What is the total cost to the department/agency to process FOI requests for 2011-12?
3. How many FOI requests did the department/agency receive in 2011-12?
4. How many requests were denied and how many were granted in 2011-12?
5. In 2011-12 did the department/agency fail to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?
6. What is the total cost to the department/agency to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?
7. How many FOI requests has the department/agency received for this financial year to date? How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted? Has the department/agency failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many and why? Do any of these requests remain outstanding? If so, how many and why?

Answer

1. NBN Co has a dedicated FOI Officer who makes independent decisions regarding NBN Co responses to FOI requests. In making those decisions, our FOI Officer draws upon the FOI Act, relevant case law and the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner's (OAIC) Guidelines, among other sources.
2. NBN Co responds to FOI matters as a normal part of its business activities and those costs cannot be separated from its ongoing expenditures.
3. In the financial year 2011-2012, NBN Co received 19 new FOI requests and had a further 12 on hand from the 2010-2011 financial year, totalling 31 FOI requests. NBN Co finalised 28 FOI applications during the last financial year.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

4. Of the 28 FOI applications finalised in 2011-2012, NBN Co released 2 requests in full; 6 were released in part; 2 were denied and 14 were withdrawn. In relation to 4 applications, NBN Co held no documents.
5. NBN Co completed all FOI requests within the processing deadlines outlined in the FOI Act and as per the OAIC's Guidelines.
6. NBN Co responds to FOI matters as a normal part of its business activities and those costs cannot be separated from its ongoing expenditures.
7.
 - a) NBN Co has received 3 FOI requests in the financial year to date and had three outstanding requests at the end of the last financial year – for a total of 6.
 - b) Of the 6 requests noted above, NBN Co has denied 4 requests; 1 was released in part; and 1 was withdrawn.
 - c) NBN Co completed all FOI requests within the processing deadlines outlined in the FOI Act and as per the OAIC's Guidelines.
 - d) Not applicable.
 - e) Not applicable.
 - f) Not applicable.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 414

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Consultancies

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How many consultancies have been undertaken this financial year to date? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (i.e. open tender, direct source, etc). Please also include total value for all consultancies.
2. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and, if not, why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement, as above, and the name of the consultant if known.
3. How many consultancies were undertaken in 2011-12? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (i.e. open tender, direct source, etc). Please also include total value for all consultancies.

Answer

1. The total amount spent on consultancies from 1 July 2012 to 31 October 2012 was \$10.6m. These consultancies were undertaken within the following NBN Co internal functional areas:

Functions	\$m
Technology Organisation (External consulting services largely relating to satellite and wireless activities)	1.9
Planning and Design	1.7
Information technology support including BSS and OSS inception and design services	1.6
Construction (including detailed design services)	1.2
Chief Operations Officer (including delivery support)	1.2
Network operations	1.0
Product Management and Industry relations	0.7
Other (human resources, procurement, security, facilities, Business Operations, Commercial)	1.3
Total	10.6

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Most, if not all contracts in place between NBN Co and its consultants contain confidentiality requirements. Disclosure of information such as individual sums paid and other confidential details may therefore result in a breach of these obligations. This may cause harm to NBN Co's commercial relationships and negatively impact upon our ability to function as a commercial entity.

2. As a Government Business Enterprise, NBN Co is not required to produce or publish an Annual Procurement Plan on the AusTender website.
3. The total value for consultancies from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 was \$47.6m. These consultancies were undertaken within the following NBN Co internal functional areas:

Functions	\$m
Information technology support including BSS and OSS inception and design services	13.4
Technology Organisation (External consulting services largely relating satellite and wireless activities)	7.0
Network Planning and Design	6.6
Network operations (including process design and process implementation)	6.4
Supply chain	3.3
Construction	2.5
Product Management and Industry relations	1.6
Business Operations (including new developments)	1.3
Other (human resources, procurement, security, corporate services, training, internal communications, facilities, program office (Finance), Commercial)	5.5
Total	47.6

Most, if not all contracts in place between NBN Co and its consultants contain confidentiality requirements. Disclosure of information such as individual sums paid and other confidential details may therefore result in a breach of these obligations. This may cause harm to NBN Co's commercial relationships and negatively impact upon our ability to function as a commercial entity.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 415

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Media Monitoring

Senator Birmingham asked:

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

Answer

- 1 The cost of media monitoring for this financial year to date (July 2012 – October 2012) was \$42,320.51
 - a. Media Monitors
 - b. The estimated 2012-13 budget is \$180,000.
 - c. The spend on media monitoring services for this financial year to date (July 2012 – October 2012) was \$42,320.51.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 416

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Media Monitoring

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. What was the actual total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etc provided to the department/agency for 2011-12?
 - a. Which agency or agencies provided these services?
 - b. What was the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2011-12?

Answer

See QoN 371 from 2012 Budget estimates

- a) Media Monitors
- b) See QoN 560 from 2011 Supplementary Estimates

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 417

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Social Media

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Have there been any changes since May 2012 Budget Estimates to department/agency social media or protocols about staff access and usage of YouTube, online social media such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter and access to online discussion forums and blogs?
If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issued.
2. Does the department/agency monitor usage of social media?
 - a) If yes, provide details of the usage (for example, details could include average hours per employee, hours when usage peaks)
 - b) If no, will the department/agency monitor usage in the future?
3. Does social media impact on employee productivity? Please provide details (details could include increased internet usage in general or increased internet usage in standard business hours)

Answer

1. No
2. No. NBN Co reserves the right to monitor individual use of the internet should that be necessary.
3. NBN Co has not undertaken this analysis.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 418

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Internet

Senator Birmingham asked:

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

Answer

From time to time any company or business can experience fluctuations in internet performance for a variety of reasons. An important reason for building a National Broadband Network is to provide a more consistent, reliable service right across Australia.

NBN Co's internet performance has no impact on any Minister's office.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 419

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Staff Amenities

Senator Birmingham asked:

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

Answer

NBN Co provides the usual amenities to staff that would be expected in a safe and productive modern workplace.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 420

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Coffee Machines

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Has the department/agency purchased coffee machines for staff usage? If yes, please provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased.
2. Why were coffee machines purchased?
3. Where did the funding for the coffee machines come from?
4. Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance in 2011-12 and how much this financial year to date? Please include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?

Answer

NBN Co has purchased 31 coffee machines for staff in offices around Australia at a total cost of \$164,188. Ongoing costs this financial year to November 2012 for coffee beans were \$19,334.

1. The machines were purchased as an amenity for the offices in order to aid productivity by reducing time spent by staff purchasing coffee outside of their offices.
2. The funding to purchase coffee machines came from the Capital Project Budgets for each individual project.
3. The Facilities Department is responsible for maintenance (using 3rd party providers) of the coffee machines and to date this has been carried out on an as-required basis. Maintenance of coffee machines for FY12 totalled \$7,064.07. Maintenance of coffee machines this financial year to November 2012 totalled \$3,354.28. The funding for maintenance comes from the Facilities Operating Expenses budget.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 421

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Contractors for this financial year

Senator Birmingham asked:

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

Answer

a-i) No

- j) NBN Co publishes details on its website in relation to significant contracts related to the rollout of the national broadband network and the establishment of its corporate systems and processes. For example, details in relation to the ViaSat ground support satellite contract were published on 12 July 2012. To provide details in relation to all NBN Co contractors may constitute a breach of the confidentiality obligations in place between the parties.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 422

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Contractors for 2011-12

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. For 2011-12:
 - a. Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - b. Has the department/agency ever employed Shannon's Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon's Way? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - c. Has the department/agency ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group in any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - d. Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - e. Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - f. Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - g. Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - h. Has the department/agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
 - i. Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.
What contractors have been employed by the department/agency? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).

Answer

The answer to this question provided in QoN 373 from the 2012 Budget Estimates remains accurate.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 423

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Grants

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Please provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for this financial year to date. Please provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.
2. Have all grant agreement details been published on the department/agency's website within the required timeframe? If not, please provide details.
3. Please provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for 2011-12. Please provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.
4. Were all grant agreement details published on the department/agency's website within the required timeframe? If not, please provide details.

Answer

NBN Co does not administer grants.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 424

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Government Payment of Accounts For this financial year to date

Senator Birmingham asked:

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

Answer

NBN Co is not subject to the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines. NBN Co's standard payment terms are 30 days end of month. Accounts are paid in accordance with these terms except where it is found that the supplier has not delivered all of the required deliverables in accordance with their Statement of Work.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 425

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Government Payment of Accounts for 2011-12

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. For 2011-12, did the department/agency pay its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)?
 - a. If not, why not? Please provide details, including what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.
 - b. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is/was interest being paid on overdue amounts and, if so, how much has been paid by the department/agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?
 - c. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?
 - d. Have all accounts from 2011-12 been paid? If not, why not?

Answer

NBN Co is not subject to the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines. NBN Co's standard payment terms are 30 days end of month. Accounts are paid in accordance with these terms except where it is found that the supplier has not delivered all of the required deliverables in accordance with their Statement of Work.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 426

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Stationery requirements

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. What are the department/agency's stationery costs for the financial year to date?
2. What were the department/agency's stationery costs for 2011-12?

Answer

Stationery costs are recorded within 'office supplies and printing' and cannot be easily disaggregated. To assist the committee:

1. the total costs of office supplies and printing for the financial year to end-October was \$361,671.
2. the total costs of office supplies and printing for the financial year 2011-12 was \$954,406.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 427

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Media Subscriptions

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Has there been any change since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012) to your pay TV subscription?
 - a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.
 - b. What is the cost for this financial year to date?
2. Has there been any change since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012) to your newspaper subscriptions?
 - a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.
 - b. What is the cost for this financial year to date?
3. Has there been any change since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012) to your magazine subscriptions?
 - a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.
 - b. What is the cost for this financial year to date?
4. What was the 2011-12 cost for:
 - a. TV subscriptions
 - b. Newspaper subscriptions
 - c. Magazine subscriptions

Answer

1. No
2. No
3. Unknown- see 4 (c) below
4.
 - a. TV subscriptions: \$15,899
 - b. Newspaper and magazine subscriptions: \$16,919
 - c. Individuals can order periodicals relevant to their work via their expenses and this is included in the figure provided in part b above.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 428

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Travel Cost

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that includes airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).
2. Are the Government's Lowest Practical Fare travel policy for Domestic Air Travel (Finance Circular No. 2009/10) and Best Fare of the Day for International Air Travel (Finance Circular No. 2009/11) guidelines being followed? How is the department/agency following the advice? How is this monitored? If the guidelines are not being followed, please explain why.
3. Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, please detail what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the total costs of the lounge memberships.
4. When SES employees travel, do any supports or administrative staff (such as an Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel.
5. For 2011-12, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that includes airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).

Answer:

1. To attempt to provide the itemised travel details as requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of company resources.
2. All changes to booked air travel, accommodation or car hire also need to be made through the TMC (Travel Management Company) and not directly with the alternate providers. Thus all travelling will be the most direct route and at the best available commercial rate. Monthly reports to senior management are provided on potential cost savings incurred when travelling.
3. Should NBN Co employees wish to purchase a lounge membership they can do so at a discounted price offered by Qantas at their own expense and this will not be reimbursed by NBN Co.
4. NBN Co does not have SES employees.
5. Please see NBN Co's 2011-12 Annual Report. This is available on our website. To attempt to provide the itemised travel details as requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of company resources.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 429

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Legal Costs

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for 2011-12?
Please provide a list of each service and costs.
2. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for 2011-12 from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
3. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for 2011-12 from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
4. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for 2011-12 from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
5. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
6. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
7. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
8. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

Answer

It is important for NBN Co to be able to make fully informed decisions based on comprehensive and confidential legal advice. As such only total figures for legal service expenditure will be provided rather than a list of each service and cost.

1. Please refer to NBN Co's 2011-12 Annual Report, p.58
2. NBN Co did not retain the Australian Government Solicitor during this period.
3. See response to Q 1.
4. Not applicable.
5. Not applicable.
6. NBN Co has not retained the Australian Government Solicitor during this period.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

7. As at 13 November 2012 and for the YTD, the total fees paid to law firms for legal and regulatory support services by NBN Co was \$6.6 mill (4 months inclusive: July 2012- Oct 2012 spend). The table below demonstrates the fees paid on a monthly average basis:

Time Period	External legal/regulatory support spend monthly average
July-Oct 2012	\$1.65mill
FY2011-12	\$1.79mill
FY2010-11	\$2.89mill

8. Not applicable.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 430

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Education expenses

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Has there been a change since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012) to the department/agency's guidelines on study? If yes, please provide details.
2. For this financial year to date, please detail all education expenses (i.e. in-house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Please include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, the employment classification of each participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). Please also include the reason for the study and how it is beneficial for the department/agency.
3. For 2011-12, please detail all education expenses (i.e. in-house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Please include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, the employment classification of each participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). Please also include the reason for the study and how it is beneficial for the department/agency.

Answer

1. There has been no change to NBN Co's guidelines on study.
2. The education expenses for the financial year to date (31 October 2012) totals \$1,465,522. This includes all onboarding, compliance, technical accreditations safety, systems, IT processes training along with leadership, media and management training expenses.
3. The education expenses for the financial year 11/12 was \$6,885,004

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 431

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Executive Coaching and Leadership Training for this financial year to date

Senator Birmingham asked:

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

Answer

The education expenses for this financial year to date were \$1,465,522, which included all onboarding, compliance, technical accreditations safety, systems, IT processes training along with leadership, media and management training expenses.

To attempt to disaggregate particular items of expenditure across the entire company or to provide the level of detail requested would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 432

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Executive Coaching and Leadership Training for 2011-2012

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for 2011-12:
 - a. Total spending on these services
 - b. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification
 - c. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (please provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. The names of all service providers engaged
2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (1d), please provide:
 - a. The name and nature of the service purchased
 - b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based
 - c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification
 - d. The total number of hours involved for all employees (please provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - e. The total amount spent on the service
 - f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)
3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:
 - a. The location used
 - b. The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - c. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location

Answer

Please see answer to QoN 377.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 433

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Media Training for this Financial Year

Senator Birmingham asked:

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

Answer?

Please see answer to QoN 431.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 434

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Media Training for 2011-12

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for 2011-12:
 - a. Total spending on these services
 - b. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification
 - c. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (please provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. The names of all service providers engaged
2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (1d), please provide:
 - a. The name and nature of the service purchased
 - b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based
 - c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - e. The total amount spent on the service
 - f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)
3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:
 - a. The location used
 - b. The number of employees who took part on each occasion
 - c. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location

Answer

Please see answer to QoN 377.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 435

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Paid Parental Leave

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Please list how many staff in each portfolio department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme?
2. For this financial year to date please list which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff and their classification are in receipt of these payments.
3. For 2011-12 to date which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff and their classification are in receipt of these payments.

Answer

Staff accessing the paid parental leave scheme is a private matter for them and the Department of Human Services.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 436

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Corporate Cars

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Please update if there have been any changes since Budget Estimates 2012-13 (May 2012):
 - a. How cars are owned by each department/agency?
 - b. Where is the car/s located?
 - c. What is the car/s used for?
 - d. What is the cost of each car for this financial year to date?
 - e. How far did each car travel this financial year to date?
2. For 2011-12:
 - a. How cars are owned by each department/agency?
 - b. Where is the car/s located?
 - c. What is the car/s used for?
 - d. What was the cost of each car?
 - e. How far did each car travel?

Answer

NBN Co uses lease arrangements and therefore does not own any cars.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 437

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Taxi costs

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis this financial year to date? Please provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.
2. What are the reasons for taxi costs?
3. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis in 2011-12? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.
4. What are the reasons for taxi costs?

Answer

1. NBN Co's accounts system combines taxi and train expenditure. As at 31 October 2012, expenditure on both taxi and train line items amounted to \$647,884.
2. There are currently well over 30,000 premises receiving services on the National Broadband Network, all over the continent, from Geraldton in Western Australia, to Townsville in Queensland and Kingston Beach in Tasmania. The breadth of the rollout requires company staff to travel to conduct community engagement programs, construction planning and design activities, quality control operations as well as engaging with local councils, state and territory governments and a wide range of other key stakeholders.
The Joint Committee on the National Broadband Network has noted "the need for an effective public education program" and recommended that NBN Co finalise its community and rollout engagement functions. NBN Co has responded, and has in place an active community engagement program across Australia, which does make the use of taxis and other forms of transport necessary.
3. Please see answer to QoN 389
4. Please see answer to 2 above.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 438

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Credit Cards

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Please provide a breakdown for each employment classification that has a corporate credit card.
2. Please update if there have been any changes since Budget Estimates 2012-13 (May 2012):
 - a. What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused?
 - b. How is corporate credit card use monitored?
 - c. What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered?
 - d. Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? Please list staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.
 - e. What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?
3. For 2011-12 how many instances of corporate credit card misuse were there? Please list staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.

Answer

1. Generally senior managers at general manager level and above are issued with credit cards. Cards are also issued to other staff depending on their circumstances, such as being frequent travellers. Eligibility for a corporate credit card is governed by NBN Co Corporate Credit Card Policy (the Policy).
2.
 - a. As per the policy, employees may be subject to disciplinary action if they misuse the card. Also, the cards issued are employee liability cards, which mean that if expenditure is not approved in accordance with policy or the employee uses it for a personal item; they are personally liable for the expenditure.
 - b. The cards are "limited liability" cards meaning that employees must pay the balances of the cards themselves and seek reimbursement of business expenses from the company. The provider issues monthly reports to NBN Co of all credit card use. NBN Co can also access card account details online at any time.
 - c. See a.
 - d. There have been no instances of misuse.
 - e. The policy sets out the use of the card. Integral to the policy, employees are also subject to the Travel & Expense Reimbursement Policy. Business expenses incurred on a card are reported on an Expense Claim Report, which is approved by a cardholder's manager. Expense Claim Reports are then double checked by Accounts Payable for compliance with relevant policies before payment is made.
3. There were no instances of misuse.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 439

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Provision of Equipment

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Is electronic equipment (such as iPad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, BlackBerry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive) provided to department/agency staff for this financial year? If yes, please provide details of what is provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it.
2. If electronic equipment (such as iPad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, BlackBerry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive) was provided to department/agency staff for 2011-12, please provide details of what was provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it.

Answer

NBN Co staff are provided with the necessary equipment to carry out their work. Listing the various pieces of equipment provided to staff and cross-checking this against classification and individual requirements would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 440

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Electricity Purchasing

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Provide details of any update of the department/agency electricity purchasing agreement if there has been a change since Budget Estimates 2011-12 (May 2012).
2. What were the department/agency's actual electricity costs for 2011-12, and what are the budgeted costs for 2012-13?
3. What are the department/agency electricity costs for this financial year to date?

Answer

1. No update.
2. The actual costs for 2011-12 were \$1,854,663. The budget for 2012-13 is \$13,463,600. This increase reflects the ramp-up in the network rollout and the associated increase in Fibre Access Nodes, Temporary Fibre Access Nodes, Points of Interconnect, depots, ground stations, towers and other broadband infrastructure.
3. The cost from July 1 to October 31, 2012 is \$2,422,196.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 441

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Briefings for the Australian Greens and Independents

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Have any briefings been provided to the Australian Greens this Financial Year? If yes, please include:
 - a. How are briefings requests commissioned?
 - b. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.
 - c. Have any briefings requests been unable to proceed? If yes, provided details details of what the briefings were and why it could not proceed.
 - d. How long is spent undertaking briefings for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Please provide a breakdown for each employment classification.
2. Have any briefings been provided to Independents this Financial Year? If yes, please include:
 - a. How are briefings requests commissioned?
 - b. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.
 - c. Have any briefings requests been unable to proceed? If yes, provided details of what the briefings were and why it could not proceed.
 - d. How long is spent undertaking briefings for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.
3. Were any briefings been provided to the Australian Greens in 2011-12? If yes, please include:
 - a. How are briefings requests commissioned?
 - b. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.
 - c. Have any briefings requests been unable to proceed? If yes, provided details of what the briefings were and why it could not proceed.
 - d. How long is spent undertaking briefings for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.
4. Were any briefings been provided to Independents in 2011-12? If yes, please include:
 - a. How are briefings requests commissioned?
 - b. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.
 - c. Have any briefings requests been unable to proceed? If yes, provided details of what the briefings were and why it could not proceed.
 - d. How long is spent undertaking briefings for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Answer

(1-4):

It is a vital part of NBN Co's communications activities to ensure local communities are informed about the NBN. This can include assisting members of local, state and federal governments with requests for information and briefings relating to the rollout of the NBN.

- a) These requests can be commissioned in a number of ways, including through direct contact with NBN Co stakeholder relations officers or through Ministers' offices.
- b) This information can take many forms including background information relating to fibre, satellite or wireless, network rollout information in particular areas, schedules for the demonstration truck, or information relating to communications activities. It would be an unreasonable diversion of resources for NBN Co to attempt to compile a copy of each briefing.
- c) NBN Co provides information and briefings when possible unless there is an operational or commercial reason not to.
- d) It is not possible to quantify the time spent on such requests as they form part of the normal business operations for members of the stakeholder relations and communications teams.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 442

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Shredders

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Did the department/agency purchase any shredders in 2011-12? If yes, provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.
2. Has the department/agency purchased any shredders since Budget Estimates 2011-12 (May 2012)? If yes, please provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.

Answer

The information provided in 2012 Budget Estimates QoN 390 is still current (no further shredders have been purchased).

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 443

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Protective security policy framework

Senator Birmingham asked:

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

Answer

NBN Co is working towards full compliance with the Protective Security Policy Framework (PSPF) by June 2013, and is managing this through the maintenance of a formal tracking dashboard which is independently verified and is routinely reported to the Board.

NBN Co has established a full policy framework in accordance with the PSPF, and a series of assurance activities are carried out to ensure ongoing maintenance of compliance. These include Application and Platform Access Reviews, Security Health Assessments, Facilities Accreditation, and IT Systems Accreditation in accordance with the PSPF and the associated Information Security Manual (ISM). A Security Issues Register exists to record security issues when they are detected, to maintain visibility of the risk while the issues exist, and to manage treatment plans through to resolution.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 444

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Office Locations

Senator Birmingham asked:

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

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

Answer

NBN Co offices (Excludes premises such as Aggregation Nodes, Depots, Earth Stations etc)

Location	Leased or Owned	Size/SQM	Seating Numbers	Purchase Value	Gross Rent PSM/PA	Depreciation of Owned Buildings	Type of functions and work undertaken.
15 National Circuit Barton	Leased	260	11	NA	\$ 400.94	NA	Office
88 Walker St Nth Sydney	Leased	1242	130	NA	\$ 399.35	NA	Office
100 Arthur St Nth Sydney*	Leased	9462	927	NA	\$ 649.20	NA	Office
360 Elizabeth St Melbourne**	Leased	7787	706	NA	\$ 556.61	NA	Office
39 Murray St Hobart	Leased	209	15	NA	\$ 244.92	NA	Office
535 Bourke St Melbourne	Leased	2230	230	NA	\$ 475.34	NA	Office
213 Miller St Nth Sydney	Leased	1551	159	NA	\$ 449.68	NA	Office
45 Cameron St Launceston	Leased	76	10	NA	\$ 719.21	NA	Serviced Office
77 Pacific Highway	Leased	602	58	NA	\$ 468.43	NA	Office
54 Victoria Street Hobart	Leased	315	20	NA	\$ 230.00	NA	Office

Data as at 15 November 2012. Gross rent includes net rent, plus building outgoings such as common area cleaning, rates, building maintenance, etc.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 445

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Media/Comms Staff

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following, by department or agency:
 - a. How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.
 - b. How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location
 - c. How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location

Answer

See answer to QoN 389.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 446

Program No: NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Grants Pause

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. To date, how much of the 2012-13 budget appropriations has your department/agency received?
2. For 2012-13 please list each grant program your department/agency administers, and the total funding of each program.
3. Please list each grant program that has not been paused as part of the Government- wide grants pause.
4. Please provide the total cash value of each program that has not been paused?
5. Please list each grant program that has been "paused" as part of the Government-wide grants pause.
6. Please provide the total cash value of each program that has been paused, and the total value of all grants paused?
7. On what date did your department/agency receive advice from the government to pause certain grants programs?
 - a. How was the instruction received, and from whom was it received?
8. Please list the dates on which the Minister for Finance met with senior department/agency officials to discuss the grants pause and on which the Minister overseeing your department/agency met with senior department officials
9. From what date was your department/agency told to implement the grants pause?
 - a. When did it do so?
10. Has your department/agency been provided with information regarding when the grants pause would end?
 - a. If so, what was the date?
 - b. Was your department/agency advised if it could communicate when the grants pause would end to grant applicants?
11. Please provide the advice your department/agency gave to Department of Finance regarding which programs should be included in the grants pause.
12. Did your department/agency receive advice/instruction from the Department of Finance regarding how best to communicate the grants pause to grant applicants, the media and other external stakeholders?
13. What information has been provided to grant applicants regarding the grants pause? Please provide scripts if these have been given to call centres, or any other information sheets which have been used internally for discussing the grants pause with applicants.
14. Has your department/agency been advised by the Department of Finance of further grants pauses in the future? If so
 - a. When did you receive notification of future grants pauses?
 - b. What is the date of future grants to be paused?
 - c. Which grants programs will be paused?

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Estimates Hearings October 2012
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

- d. What is total value of pauses in future grants programs?
- e. When will notification of these future grants pauses be made public?
- 15. How many staff are employed to administer grant programs within the department?
- 16. During the Grants Pause, with what activities have these staff been involved?
 - a. Have staff been moved to other divisions during the grants pause?

During the Grants Pause, were decisions on grants being made, but applicants not alerted?

Answer

These questions are not relevant to NBN Co.