

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2013

Communications Portfolio

Australian Communications and Media Authority

Question No: 165

Program No. Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Public Service efficiencies

Senator Ludwig asked:

1. Has there been a reduction in business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
2. Has there been a reduction in the use of external consultants and contractors? Has this impacted on the Department/agency, and how? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
3. Provide an update of moving recruitment advertising online. Is any recruitment still in printed materials, and if yes, why? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
4. Has the department/agency reduced its printing costs? If no, why not? Have printing costs increased, and if yes why and how much?
5. Has the five per cent savings target been achieved – if yes, how, or if it will not, why not? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

Answer:

1. Yes. The estimated savings for forward estimates cannot be quantified.
2. The ACMA has minimised the use of consultants and contractors across its activities through greater utilisation of employee expertise. The estimated savings for forward years cannot be quantified.
3. All ACMA recruitment uses online advertising.
4. Yes.
5. Yes. Printing costs have reduced and will continue to reduce as a result of the development of the ACMA's digital publishing initiatives which includes a number of publications being made available only on-line and increasing the use of online video and other rich media products. Recently the ACMA also launched its new website which is intended to enable the agency to further develop digital ready products and reduce the number of word and pdf print products. The estimated savings for forward estimates cannot be quantified.