

Environment, Communications and the Arts Legislation Committee

Index of Questions on Notice - Budget Estimates - 24–25 May 2010

BROADBAND, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY PORTFOLIO

Q No.	Proof Hansard Page/Date Written	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Program/ Agency	Rec'd
1	ECA 8 (24/5/10)	Cormann	Analog Switch-off	Can you provide a list of the seven sites the Government has agreed to upgrade facilities to digital?	SBS	02/09/10
2	ECA 9 (24/5/10)	Minchin	Digital Television Switchover Regional Blackspot Solution	The budget measures under Digital Television Switchover Regional Blackspot Solution refer to a provision for SBS for the switch-over but it says that it is not for publication as contracts with satellite service providers are commercial-in-confidence, which is understandable. But, in the PBS, you referred to your revenues for 2010-11 as including \$5.003 million funding for Digital Television Switchover Regional Blackspot Solution. Is that an inadvertent revelation of the not-for-publication figure or is that something entirely different?	SBS	02/09/10
3	ECA 12 (24/5/10)	Ludlam	SBS equivalent of iView	Can you provide us with an update of your online streaming service, particularly now ABC has begun captioning its iView service? Does SBS have similar intentions and how broad they are?	SBS	16/07/10
4	ECA 12 (24/5/10)	Ludlam	Online streaming service	Can you provide some sense of audience share, the break-up between your online audience of people who are not browsing but actually watching one of your titles as opposed to those watching on TV?	SBS	16/07/10
5	ECA 13 (24/5/10)	Cormann	SBS Subtitling	How many of your staff are only proficient in one language in terms of subtitling?	SBS	16/07/10
6	ECA 13 (24/5/10)	Minchin	Research on certain ethnic communities	Mr Brown cited the Hindi community finding itself relying more on essentially external media rather than the Australian media for its information. Do you have that research in a form that is available either for publication or to this committee?	SBS	15/10/10
7	ECA 13 (24/5/10)	Fisher	Self-help sites	Could you provide the viewing audiences of essentially the 44 self-help sites that may or may not be on the first bit of the list? What is the SBS viewer audience in those areas?	SBS	15/10/10
8	Written	Barnett	Staffing – SBS	How many permanent staff recruited since additional estimates (Feb 2010)? What level are these staff? How many temporary positions exist or have been created since additional estimates? Since additional estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?	SBS	16/07/10
9	Written	Barnett	Staffing – efficiency dividend/budget cuts - SBS	Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts? - Since the efficiency dividend was introduced? - Since additional estimates? If so, where and at what level? Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.	SBS	15/10/10

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				<p>If your Department/agency has been identified in the budget as delivering further efficiencies (savings), how will these be delivered? (for example, if the budget papers say 'improvement to strategic work practices' or similar, what are these and how will they be delivered?)</p> <p>What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs?</p> <p>If reductions or increases are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.</p>		
10	Written	Barnett	Government Advertising – SBS	<p>What communications programs has the Department/Agency undertaken since additional estimates and what communications programs are planned to be undertaken?</p> <p>For each program, what is the total spend?</p> <p>(by 'communications program' it is meant communication of a government message to the public – possibly by advertising (print, television etc), possibly through the erection of signs, plaques etc, or through other mediums. The recent (current) Government TV advertising campaign on health reform and specific health initiatives are examples, BER signage is an example, advertising on the Government's proposed new tax system would be another example.)</p> <p>A breakdown of how much was spent/is planned to be spent on each program/initiative should be provided.</p>	SBS	02/09/10
11	Written	Barnett	Government Payment of Accounts – SBS	<p>Has the portfolio/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (ie. 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.)</p> <p>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/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?</p> <p>Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?</p>	SBS	02/09/10
12	Written	Boswell	Broadcasting and Television	<p>There are growing concerns that increasing demand for foreign media, especially among Arabic and Indian communities, is posing a significant risk to Australia's social cohesion.</p> <p>We heard in estimates on Monday 24 May 2010 from the managing director of SBS, Shaun Brown, who warned that some ethnic communities are no longer engaging with the Australian media.</p> <p>Coverage of attacks against Indian students in Australia had prompted the Hindi community to "retreat" to media sources coming out of India.</p> <p>Shouldn't we be enhancing our multicultural media activity to increase social cohesion?</p>	SBS	02/09/10
13	ECA 15 (24/5/10)	Cormann	Digital Switchover - digital transmitters	<p>Are you aware of any locations across regional Australia where commercial free-to-air services are provided in digital terrestrial form but where the ABC is either not available at all terrestrially or only available through analog self-help terrestrial transmitters that are not going to be upgraded to digital?</p> <p>Provide a list of locations that will receive digital transmitters for the ABC and await funding approval from the government and, include the dates when the transition is to take place.</p>	ABC	15/10/10
14	ECA 24 (24/5/10)	Abetz	ABC Spark Awards- Lego Competition	<p>Can you provide:</p> <p>(a) Details as to whether the Lego was provided free of charge? If not, what was the cost?</p> <p>(b) How many "winners" were awarded vouchers as a result of this competition?</p>	ABC	19/08/10

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				(c) How many offices were provided with Lego/ used Lego? (d) Why was Lego decided upon? Did the ABC engage a consultant who advised you to use Lego?		
15	ECA 24 (24/5/10)	Abetz	ABC - Project Bluebird alternate reality program	When did Project Bluebird start, and how many people were involved? How long had the project been worked on prior to its launch?	ABC	20/08/10
16	ECA 24 (24/5/10)	Abetz	ABC Innovation Department	What is the total budget allocated to the ABC Innovation department?	ABC	19/08/10
17	ECA 31 (24/5/10)	Abetz	Re-employment of ABC Journalist	Could you provide the details as to whether Peter Lloyd's new position was advertised or whether it went through a competitive process?	ABC	20/08/10
18	ECA 31 (24/5/10)	Abetz	ABC – Q & A	Can you provide the audience break-up for Q&A for the past six months?	ABC	20/08/10
19	ECA 32 (24/5/10)	Ludlam	Digital equipment costs	Could you provide us with the modelling of how much faster digital equipment turnover will be and the costs of running and maintaining this equipment?	ABC	23/08/10
20	ECA 33 and 34 (24/5/10)	Ludlam	Audio description trial	Could you provide details as to how the ABC would fund an audio description trial?	ABC	23/08/10
21	ECA 34 (24/5/10)	Ludlam	ABC documentary <i>Hope in a Slingshot</i>	Could you provide details of as to why this documentary was not broadcast? What is the process for reviewing content against the ABC editorial policies? Is it correct that it was not broadcast because the ABC would have to broadcast a pro-war documentary to "balance" it?	ABC	20/08/10
22	ECA 35 (24/5/10)	Abetz	<i>The Drum</i> Professor Carter	Could you provide details as to (a) why was this article by Professor Carter not published? (b) whether Professor Carter's article was commissioned and paid for by the ABC? (c) who was chosen over Professor Bob Carter and were they paid?	ABC	20/08/10
23	ECA 36 (24/5/10)	Abetz	Commonwealth Day address - Robyn Williams	Could you provide details as to: (a) Whether ABC management were aware of Robyn Williams' speech and sanctioned it, prior to it being given? (b) Whether there might be a conflict of interest in giving this speech? (c) Was there any vetting by the ABC of this speech?	ABC	20/08/10
24	ECA 37 (24/5/10)	Abetz	Complaints about systemic bias	Can you tell us the number of complaints that have been upheld for the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10, and of those that have been upheld, which ones of those have gone to the board?	ABC	19/08/10
25	ECA 38 (24/5/10)	Abetz	ABC Time Sheets	Is it correct that it is a legal requirement for the hours entered into the time sheet to be a true reflection of actual times worked? Could you find out whether or not there have been any examples where a, a fill-in person, who may have been engaged to cover for Kerry O'Brien and Tony Jones when they were on leave, had time sheets filled out indicating work on a Monday when they in fact did not present for work on a Monday?	ABC	20/08/10
26	ECA 38	Abetz	ABC program <i>Insiders</i>	Are journalists paid to appear on <i>Insiders</i> ?	ABC	20/08/10

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	(24/5/10) and in Written			Are they paid an appearance fee and travel allowance? If so please provide details of pay rates? If not, what is the going rate? Is the journalists travel expenses paid? If so, how much is paid? Are any other costs reimbursed as part of, or outside of, the appearance fee? If so, please provide a detailed explanation.		
27	ECA 38 (24/5/10)	Abetz	Wage Buyouts & penalty rates	(a) What is the percentage of ABC employees currently in receipt of a buyout for overtime and penalties? (b) Can you confirm in 2004 over 90% of FTE Sydney journalists in the ABC received 25% buy-outs? What has occurred since 2004? (c) Can you provide a state-by-state breakdown of the percentage of the FTE employees that are in receipt of buyouts and how this differs from the historical figures—2003 to 2009? (d) Does this buyout apply to 7.30 Report reporting staff?	ABC	20/08/10
28	ECA 40 (24/5/10)	Xenophon	ABC Superannuation – 1970s & Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme	(a) Can you confirm what action has the ABC taken or will take to support these employees from the 1970s in getting compensation for the money they lost as a result of the incorrect advice they were given a number of years ago? (b) Will the ABC look at an alternative dispute resolution mechanism so that those employees do not have to risk going to the Federal Court to try to seek a remedy in relation to this? (c) Would the ABC be prepared to have a mechanism so that they could meet with these employees on a without-prejudice basis in a non-adversarial manner to try to sort this out?	ABC	23/08/10
29	ECA 40 (24/5/10)	Fisher	ABC Local radio stations and broadcasting on public holidays	(a) Have ABC local radio stations been asked to cut local programming on public holidays? (b) Can you provide details as to the number of ABC Local radio stations which have carried networked programs on public holidays? (c) Can you provide the percentage of network programs that were carried by local radio stations on public holidays for the last 12 months?	ABC	23/08/10
30	ECA 41 (24/5/10)	Fisher	ABC Manager of Emergency Services and Community Development	Can you provide details of his role and responsibilities?	ABC	23/08/10
31	ECA 41 and 42 (24/5/10)	Fisher	Managing a public emergency	In respect of managing a public emergency, what arrangements does the ABC have in place to ensure that a suitably qualified announcer is, say, within 10 minutes of the microphone? Do you have a formal system that ensures that a local broadcaster is always on hand to handle local emergencies?	ABC	23/08/10
32	ECA 43 (24/5/10)	Cormann	Twitter – hashtags	What guidelines does the ABC have in place regarding the use of Twitter and the use of Twitter hashtags?	ABC	23/08/10
33	Written	Fisher	ABC - Q&A Television Programme	1. On 22 February, John Roskam appeared on Q&A. Two days after the appearance, the transcript of the program went up on the website with the following “correction”: <i>*Correction: It has been brought to our attention that John Roskam incorrectly attributes this claim to Prof Phillip Jones the director of the Climatic Research Unit (CRU) at the University of</i>	ABC	23/08/10

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				<p><i>East Anglia (UEA). What Prof Jones actually said was that the data shows a rise in temperature over that period, but the rise is not statistically significant at the 95% significance level, because of the short time period involved in the comparison. Read his comments in this BBC interview.</i></p> <p>a. On what basis was this correction made?</p> <p>b. Who issued the instruction to make the correction?</p> <p>c. Was the correction the result of a complaint or complaints? If so, who made the complaint(s)?</p> <p>d. By what process does the ABC assess the accuracy of statements made by panellists?</p> <p>e. Has Q and A ever made such a correction to any other transcripts? If so;</p> <p>a. For which episodes?</p> <p>b. Whose comments do they relate to?</p> <p>c. What was the nature of the comment corrected?</p> <p>f. Did the ABC or Q and A consider corrections to the transcript of the episode aired 8 February, featuring the Prime Minister?</p> <p>g. Did the ABC or Q and A consider corrections following reports in the Australian on 10 February that a number of the Prime Minister's statements were inaccurate?</p>		
34	Written	Fisher	ABC - General	Has the ABC conducted any credible research on the importance that regional Australians place on having a locally produced radio program broadcast in their communities on public holidays?	ABC	23/08/10
35	Written	Fisher	ABC - General	I note from your recent annual report that in the 2009 financial year the ABC's cost of separations and redundancies increased from 2008 \$2,871,000 to 2009 \$10,015,000 an increase of more than 340%. What is the ABC doing to minimise separation costs and reduce the loss of accumulated skills and experience?	ABC	23/08/10
36	Written	Barnett	Staffing – ABC	<p>How many permanent staff recruited since additional estimates (Feb 2010)?</p> <p>What level are these staff?</p> <p>How many temporary positions exist or have been created since additional estimates?</p> <p>Since additional estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p>	ABC	23/08/10
37	Written	Barnett	Staffing – efficiency dividend/budget cuts - ABC	<p>Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts?</p> <p>- Since the efficiency dividend was introduced?</p> <p>- Since additional estimates?</p> <p>If so, where and at what level?</p> <p>Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.</p> <p>If your Department/agency has been identified in the budget as delivering further efficiencies (savings), how will these be delivered? (for example, if the budget papers say 'improvement to strategic work practices' or similar, what are these and how will they be delivered?)</p> <p>What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs?</p> <p>If reductions or increases are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.</p>	ABC	23/08/10
38	Written	Barnett	Government	What communications programs has the Department/Agency undertaken since additional	ABC	23/08/10

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			Advertising - ABC	<p>estimates and what communications programs are planned to be undertaken? For each program, what is the total spend? (by 'communications program' it is meant communication of a government message to the public – possibly by advertising (print, television etc), possibly through the erection of signs, plaques etc, or through other mediums. The recent (current) Government TV advertising campaign on health reform and specific health initiatives are examples, BER signage is an example, advertising on the Government's proposed new tax system would be another example.) A breakdown of how much was spent/is planned to be spent on each program/initiative should be provided.</p>		
39	Written	Barnett	Government Payment of Accounts – ABC	<p>Has the portfolio/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (ie. 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.) 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/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year? Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?</p>	ABC	23/08/10
40	Written	Birmingham	ABC Corrections Policy	<p>On what basis were changes made to apply corrections to John Roskam's 22 February 2010 Q&A transcript? What policy is applied to correcting statements of guests on ABC current affairs programs? If it is reasonable to correct Mr Roskam's transcript, will the ABC consider correcting the errors in the Prime Minister's transcript on Q&A on 8 February 2010, such as: PM: Laptops, which is computers in schools, we said we would have a computer for every young person at secondary school from Year 9 and above by, I seem to recall, 2013 or thereabouts. <i>Reality: The original 2007 election commitment was for the laptops to be rolled out in four years (by 2011)</i></p>	ABC	23/08/10
41	Written	Birmingham	ABC use of language	<p>On what basis does the ABC justify referring to Mahmoud al-Mabhouh as a Palestinian Resistance Fighter? (Trevor Bormann – March 16 2010, Foreign Correspondent) On what basis does the ABC justify stating that the growth of Jewish settlements in East Jerusalem and the West Bank is 'the biggest obstacle to peace'? (Anne Barker – March 10 2010 Midday Report) Have any of the reporters in question been counselled regarding their use of language in these circumstances?</p>	ABC	23/08/10
42	Written	Abetz	ABC - Complaints/Bias	<p>Part A The ABC has claimed that "it does not have a position, it does not have a point of view" (ECA Senate Estimates 25/5/2009). Does the ABC maintain that this is also true in relation to its reporting on Israel? If so, then how does it explain the following: *that the ABC has embraced both the language and the narrative of Israel's critics?</p>	ABC	23/08/10

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				<p>*that the ABC is highly selective in what it reports and what it does not report in relation to Israel and its critics.</p> <p>*that in relation to Israel, ABC (acknowledged) factual errors and omissions skew one (anti-Israel) way.</p> <p>Part B</p> <p>The ABC has claimed that "it is highly scrutinised and that it welcomes that scrutiny" (ECA Senate Estimates 25/5/2009).</p> <p>Does the ABC maintain that this is also true in relation to its reporting on Israel?</p> <p>If so, then how does it explain the fact that the Independent Complaints Review Panel (ICRP) has advised that it lacks the jurisdiction to review:</p> <p>(i)The claim that the ABC's skewed factual errors proves that it is biased (against Israel).</p> <p>(ii)Any claims of bias that may result from the selection of newsworthy items.</p> <p>Also, how then does the ABC explain:</p> <p>(iii)The ABC's denial of FOI requests in relation to complaints.</p>		
43	Written	Abetz	ABC – Editorial Policies	<p>The ABC's Editorial Policies require that corrections of News and Current Affairs content be made in "an appropriate manner as soon as reasonably practicable". Please provide in detail the meaning of "appropriate manner" and 'as soon as is reasonably practicable" in layman's terms and what guidance, if any, the ABC will disseminate and to whom on their editorial policies with reference to correction of News and Current Affairs.</p> <p>The Press Council requires that the publication promptly corrects a serious error in a manner that "ensures that the retraction, clarification, correction, explanation or apology has the effect, as far as possible, of neutralising any damage arising from the original publication". On 6 May 2009, the ABC's AM program repeated the false UN claim that Israel had bombed an UNWRA school, when the ABC knew or should have known that this claim was false. The ABC "corrected" this false report on 22 May 2009 via an Editor's Note appended to the transcript of the program segment located on the ABC's web site.</p> <p>Does the ABC consider that the ABC's correction of this damaging false report was made promptly and in a manner that neutralised the damage as far as possible?</p> <p>Does the ABC meet the standards required by the Press Council? If so, how? If not, why not?</p>	ABC	23/08/10
44	ECA 45 (24/5/10)	Abetz	Industrial action (follow up from QoN No.2 – February 2010 hearing)	When was the last time Australia Post was confronted with such a substantial loss (i.e. in the order of \$2.3m) because of industrial action?	Australia Post	23/08/10
45	ECA 45 and 46 (24/5/10)	Abetz	Lost mail	<p>Concerning the 18,000 items lost in the past two years (as stated in the Sunday Daily Telegraph on 23/5) how does that compare to the postal services of comparative countries, such as New Zealand, Canada, United States and United Kingdom?</p> <p>What mechanisms do you have in place to minimise these sorts of situations but, more importantly, to provide compensation to people that pay for the express security service and then do not receive that?</p> <p>What is the percentage loss of Express Post articles?</p>	Australia Post	02/09/10

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46	ECA 47 (24/5/10)	Abetz	Managing Director's Contract/Executive Remuneration	(follow up to QoN No. 5 – February 2010 hearing) What are the periods of notice in the Managing Director's contract? How many senior executives have an "at risk" component in their remuneration package?	Australia Post	29/07/10
47	ECA 47 (24/5/10)	Abetz	Sponsorships	(follow up to QoN No. 19 – February 2010 hearing) Can you provide a list of the 31 sponsorships over \$10,000?	Australia Post	12/07/10
48	ECA 48 (24/5/10)	Abetz	Harassment/Bullying policy	Are contractors advised of their rights and entitlements under the policy as part of their induction training?	Australia Post	12/07/10
49	ECA 48 (24/5/10)	Abetz	Certifying True Copies transaction	Where an Australia Post employee or a licensee certifies a document for a customer, is the employee or Licensee indemnified against failure to spot fake or altered documents when they have to certify that this is a true and correct copy of a drivers licence, for example, and something may have been altered that does not meet the eye?	Australia Post	20/07/10
50	ECA 50 (24/5/10)	Abetz	Australia Today magazine	What was the cover price of the second edition of the Australia Today magazine?	Australia Post	20/07/10
51	ECA 50 (24/5/10)	Abetz	Negotiations with Centrelink	Is Australia Post in negotiations with Centrelink regarding the provision of Centrelink services at post offices?	Australia Post	12/07/10
52	ECA 52 (24/5/10)	Cormann	Basic Postage Rate price rise application	What is the forecast decline in letter volumes that will be attributable to the price rise?	Australia Post	23/08/10
53	ECA 55 (24/5/10)	Wortley	Mercedes Benz Mail Vans - Staff Questionnaire	Will every driver who drives one of these vans have the opportunity to complete it?	Australia Post	12/07/10
54	ECA 55 (24/5/10)	MacDonald	Mail Hubs/Community Mail Boxes	So that would mean that without a change in the legislation (i.e. the obligation to provide 98% of delivery points with a five-day-a-week delivery service) you really could not embark upon any sort of mail hub approach?	Australia Post	15/10/10
55	ECA 56 and 57 (24/5/10)	MacDonald	SPB clearances over ANZAC Day and Labour Day long weekends	What were the SPB clearance arrangements over these long weekends? Is it a new arrangement this year, or standard practice? Would that be correct, that there are different shift rosters over the long weekend?	Australia Post	12/07/10
56	ECA 57 (24/5/10)	Troeth	Future Ready restructure - staff numbers	How many people do you think would be employed in each of the four strategic business units?	Australia Post	23/08/10
57	Written	Barnett	Staffing – Australia Post	How many permanent staff recruited since additional estimates (Feb 2010)? What level are these staff? How many temporary positions exist or have been created since additional estimates? Since additional estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?	Australia Post	03/08/10
58	Written	Barnett	Staffing – efficiency dividend/budget cuts – Australia Post	Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts? - Since the efficiency dividend was introduced? - Since additional estimates?	Australia Post	12/07/10

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				<p>If so, where and at what level?</p> <p>Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.</p> <p>If your Department/agency has been identified in the budget as delivering further efficiencies (savings), how will these be delivered? (for example, if the budget papers say 'improvement to strategic work practices' or similar, what are these and how will they be delivered?)</p> <p>What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs?</p> <p>If reductions or increases are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.</p>		
59	Written	Barnett	Government Advertising – Australia Post	<p>What communications programs has the Department/Agency undertaken since additional estimates and what communications programs are planned to be undertaken?</p> <p>For each program, what is the total spend?</p> <p>(by 'communications program' it is meant communication of a government message to the public – possibly by advertising (print, television etc), possibly through the erection of signs, plaques etc, or through other mediums. The recent (current) Government TV advertising campaign on health reform and specific health initiatives are examples, BER signage is an example, advertising on the Government's proposed new tax system would be another example.)</p> <p>A breakdown of how much was spent/is planned to be spent on each program/initiative should be provided.</p>	Australia Post	12/07/10
60	Written	Barnett	Government Payment of Accounts – Australia Post	<p>Has the portfolio/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (ie. 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.)</p> <p>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/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?</p> <p>Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?</p>	Australia Post	12/07/10
61	Written	Abetz	Licensee Advisory Council	<p>Does the LAC hold Directors and Officers insurance for its Licensee Directors? If so, which insurer has Australia Post used to place this insurance? If not, why not?</p> <p>What would happen if an LAC Licensee Director were injured during the course of their duties as an LAC Director?</p> <p>Does Australia Post hold Directors and Officers insurance for the Australia Post Board?</p> <p>How much has Australia Post budgeted for the LAC (including all State and National LAC activities) for the coming financial year?</p> <p>Has Australia Post considered achieving considerable savings in LAC proceedings by holding meetings by teleconference?</p>	Australia Post	03/08/10
62	Written	Abetz	Witnessing of documents	<p>Where an Australia Post employee or a Licensee certifies a document for a customer, is the employee or Licensee indemnified against failure to spot fake or altered documents?</p>	Australia Post	12/07/10
63	Written	Abetz	Australia Post and Quarantine	<p>How much does Australia Post currently pay to AQIS for quarantine checks for incoming international mail?</p> <p>How much will Australia Post be paying to AQIS in the next four years?</p>	Australia Post	28/09/10

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				How will Australia Post fund this extra cost? Will this extra cost affect the dividend paid to the federal government?		
64	Written	Abetz	Police Checks	What police and background checks are performed for staff of corporate post offices and business centres? What police and background checks are performed for staff of Delivery and Mail Centres, as well as Postal Delivery Officers? What police and background checks are performed for administration and management of Australia Post? Are operators of Licensed Post Offices, Community Agencies and mail contractors also checked by police prior to their contract being agreed by Australia Post? And does the same go for employees of LPOs, Agencies and contractors?	Australia Post	03/08/10
65	Written	Abetz	Stakeholder Council	Which "stakeholders" are represented on the Stakeholder Council? Is there a Mail Contractor representative on the Stakeholder Council? Why not? How does Australia Post select which stakeholder groups will be lucky enough to receive representation on the Stakeholder Council? How does Australia Post choose representatives of these stakeholder groups to sit on the Stakeholder Council? Who within Australia Post is responsible for this selection procedure? What reporting processes exist between the Stakeholder Council and the rest of Australia Post including the Board? What was the total cost of operating the Council for 09/10?	Australia Post	23/08/10
66	Written	Abetz	Travel Frequent Flyer points	Do Australia Post managers or directors fly business, first, or economy class when travelling at Australia Post's expense? Does Australia Post pay for membership of any airline lounges (such as the Qantas Club or Chairman's Lounge) for its managers or directors? If so, what is the cost and benefit of these memberships to Australia Post? Does Australia Post allow employees (including managers, executives and Directors) to accumulate frequent flyer points when flying at Australia Post's expense? Does Australia Post have a policy in place regarding the redemption of frequent flyer points earned when flying at Australia Post's expense?	Australia Post	23/08/10
67	Written	Abetz	Australia Today magazine	What was the print run of the first edition of the Australia Today magazine? What was the print run of subsequent editions? How many copies has Australia Post actually sold? How many returns has Australia Post had to destroy or have disposed? Has Australia Post assessed the environmental impact of producing and distributing this magazine? If so, please give details. Will Australia Post continue to produce and distribute Australia Today? How much has Australia Post spent, by edition, on Australia Today? What has been the return on investment for this magazine? How does that compare with forecasts when the magazine was launched?	Australia Post	02/09/10

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68	Written	Abetz	Australia Post and Centrelink	Does Australia Post have any agency relationship with Centrelink? Is Australia Post in negotiations with Centrelink regarding provision of Centrelink services at post offices?	Australia Post	29/07/10
69	Written	Abetz	Customer Call Centre	What is Australia Post doing to reduce the huge waiting times for customers at Customer Call Centres? What training is given to staff at Customer Call Centres? Do they have any "hands on" counter or delivery experience prior to working in the CCC? What are the hours of the Customer Call Centres, and will Australia Post increase those hours for the convenience of customers who cannot make calls during the present hours?	Australia Post	03/08/10
70	Written	Abetz	Corporate entertainment	Does Australia Post hold any corporate boxes at sporting grounds around Australia? If so, please give details for each corporate box, including annual cost per box, estimated cost per game, estimated cost per corporate customer entertained in the box, and length of any leases or agreements to hold the corporate box. Are these boxes ever unused when sporting events are being held at these grounds? If so, what happens? What is the mix of staff, management and guests who are privileged enough to get an invitation to use an Australia Post corporate box?	Australia Post	02/09/10
71	Written	Abetz	Outgoing Managing Director	How much did Australia Post pay in wages to Graeme John in 2009/10? How much did Australia Post pay in bonuses to Graeme John in 2009/10? How much did Australia Post pay in other non-salary benefits to Graeme John in 2009/10? How many overseas trips did Graeme John take at Australia Post's expense during 2008 and 2009? What were the reasons for these trips? What were the costs (including accommodation and meals) for these trips? How much time did Graeme John spend on leave (including long service leave and annual leave) in 2009/10?	Australia Post	23/08/10
72	Written	Abetz	Delivery Contractors Sorting tubs	Why is Australia Post forcing Delivery Contractors to pay for sorting tubs? Are employees expected to pay for their sorting tubs? Is the fact that Delivery Contractors need to pay for their own sorting tubs noted clearly in the tender documentation? If not, why not? Is Australia Post changing the terms of the Contract unilaterally? Why does Australia Post insist that Mail Contractors insure V-sort sorting frames when the frames are owned by Australia Post?	Australia Post	02/09/10
73	Written	Abetz	Roadside delivery	Where mail is delivered by a roadside mail contractor, do mail items have to be delivered right to the door when the residence is not within a reasonable distance (say 50 metres) of the entrance to the property? What is the situation when an unfriendly dog is loose on the property, particularly in close vicinity to the mail box?	Australia Post	29/07/10
74	Written	Abetz	Redirection Service –	How many Australia Post staff and managers have availed themselves of Australia Post's offer of	Australia	23/08/10

Q No.	Proof Hansard Page/Date Written	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Program/ Agency	Rec'd
			Waiver of Fees to AP Employees	<p>a free redirection of mail? How much revenue has Australia Post forgone to provide this service to staff?</p> <p>Is this service a goodwill gesture by Australia Post or was it negotiated as part of an EBA?</p> <p>Does this free offer apply to all staff, including casual and temporary?</p> <p>Will Australia Post extend this service to Mail Contractors, Post Office Licensees and Agents and their staff? If not, why not?</p> <p>Are Australia Post managers on a contract offered this free service?</p> <p>Given the amount of money Australia Post must have expended (“wasted”) on the Australia Today magazine effort, surely to extend this offer to its private work people would be a gesture of goodwill and inclusiveness.</p>	Post	
75	Written	Abetz	Outlets	<p>How many Franchised Postshops does Australia Post have in operation now and what are their names?</p> <p>How many Corporate Post Offices have been converted to Licensed operations during 2009 and 2010 so far and what are their names?</p>	Australia Post	03/08/10
76	Written	Abetz	Planned Cost Cutting	<p>What are the key elements in the Australia Post Future Delivery Design (FDD) program that are identified to the ACCC as part of your productivity reform that would warrant them creating an increase in basic postage?</p> <p>Can you guarantee the Australian community that these programs will not result in a reduction in quality and frequency of postal delivery especially rural Australia?</p> <p>A number of programs such as deep sorting of mail to sequence it for delivery are already features of your current technology and have been mentioned in past Price Increase submissions to the ACCC - why haven't these opportunities been taken before now?</p> <p>What is the number of jobs Australia Post expect to shed as a result of Future Delivery Design and the new MDs recently announced Future Ready programs?</p> <p>If specific targets and time frames are not known why not? Surely the program has some targets in mind or will the organisation simply stumble along and hope to get an outcome?</p> <p>Australia Post claims that unless it changes its method of operation that it will make a loss in two years time - what is the expected size of that loss and what services will need to change to avoid this deficit?</p> <p>Why did Australia Post take so long to reach its last Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA)?</p> <p>What does this really say about the capacity of the organisation to achieve improvements and reform under its Future Ready and FDD programs?</p> <p>When will the Senate expect to hear about progress being made with the Future Ready and FDD programs? When and what achievements will you be able to tell us about to give the Parliament confidence that you are going to succeed given the snail like progress with other reforms?</p>	Australia Post	23/08/10
77	Written	Abetz	New Management Team & Reform Program	<p>Given the importance of the new managers recently announced for the organisations recently created Strategic Business Units and the commercial challenges that they must face what selection process was undertaken? Why wasn't the market place thoroughly tested for these positions?</p> <p>Given the significance of the Future Ready program can you tell us what its key targets are with</p>	Australia Post	23/08/10

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				<p>respect to reduced costs and what are the expected staff impacts? How many jobs will be reduced as a result of this program? If you don't know what is the point of the program? Are you suggesting that you just hope it works without targets or timetable? When will you be able to tell us the specific features of the program and its targets?</p> <p>Will the managers of these Business Units be selecting their own staff and managers? Will those staff and managers be coming from existing Australia Post staff and managers or will they be brought in to the organisation?</p>		
78	Written	Abetz	Appearance of the Managing Director	<p>The managing director was not in attendance at Budget Estimates. The Minister has assured the Committee that the new MD would make himself available. Why was the Managing Director not in attendance?</p> <p>It is good enough for the Governor of the Reserve Bank and other Chief Executives and/or Chairman of government agencies to attend the Senate hearings what is the Minister or Managing Director afraid of? Will the Minister assure the committee that the MD will attend future Committee hearings?</p>	Australia Post	29/07/10
79	Written	Abetz	Franchising Model	<p>In previous Hearings senior officers of Australia Post have told us of the new franchising model for retail shops they were establishing. Even now it is promoted strongly on your organisation's web site. Can you tell the Committee how this program is going?</p> <p>What is the number of franchised outlets now operating under Australia Post?</p> <p>How many were operating in this format four years ago? Ten years ago?</p> <p>We understand that this format is not attractive to purchasers. What does that say how about the commercial reality you are bringing this project?</p> <p>Why don't you just take the silly nonsense off the website and write it off as a loss?</p>	Australia Post	03/08/10
80	Written	Abetz	ACCC's Franchising Consultative Committee	<p>It is understand the Commission recently sought expressions of interest from members of the community to join its Franchising Consultative Council. What is the background of those people selected for this role? Are the majority legally or professionally qualified?</p> <p>Why is the selection so skewed to this attribute rather than selecting organisations and people with real experience of how the franchising sector works.?</p> <p>Is the Commission serious about community consultation or is it simply a group of lawyers thinking that only other lawyers have the answers?</p> <p>When will the Commission make a genuine attempt to get an appropriate cross section of the franchising industry on its Council or is this forum just to give the impression of community consultation?</p>	Australia Post	12/07/10
81	Written	Abetz	Harassment of Delivery Contractors	<p>Does Australia Post have a policy in place regarding harassment or bullying of Mail Contractors, Parcel Contractors and other Delivery Contractors?</p> <p>What protocols or procedures does Australia Post follow if a Contractor complains about being bullied or harassed by an Australia Post employee or manager?</p> <p>What should a Contractor do if it is their local manager who is bullying or harassing them?</p>	Australia Post	29/07/10 + 1 att't

Q No.	Proof Hansard Page/Date Written	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Program/ Agency	Rec'd
				What does Australia Post do if there is a pattern of bullying complaints? Has Australia Post ever taken any serious action to address bullying or harassment of Contractors? Has there ever been a concerted effort – more than just distributing a pamphlet – to eliminate bullying and harassment from Australia Post workplaces where there are Contractors? Is Australia Post taking steps to eliminate such practices in some areas of Sydney, Brisbane and Ingham?		
82	Written	Abetz	LPO's	How many LPOs are manually operated? What size townships are they located? What would be the cost if Australia Post gave its EPOS technology to all manual LPOs? Is Australia Post developing a low-cost mini-EPOS suitable for the smallest of country POs?	Australia Post	02/09/10
83	Written	Abetz	AUSTRAC	a) Why is AUSTRAC proposing to charge AML/CTF reporting entities a \$500 annual fee? b) Will each and every reporting entity be required to pay the fee? c) Will small businesses that are reporting entities be liable to pay the same fee as large reporting entities such as banks? d) Why does AUSTRAC expect small business to fund its activities? e) Why isn't AUSTRAC paying small businesses for performing work for AUSTRAC? f) Is AUSTRAC proposing to introduce any other fees on reporting entities? g) What consultation with industry took place before this fee was announced? h) Why wasn't the Post Office Agents Association Limited (POAAL), as the representative body for thousands of reporting entities – those being Licensed Post Offices – consulted beforehand? i) Will the proposed \$500 annual fee be indexed? j) Who made the decision to introduce this fee? k) Has AUSTRAC performed any analysis of the impact this fee would have on small business? l) Did AUSTRAC take into account that the owner/operators of Licensed Post Offices are unable to pass on this fee to their customers	Australia Post	12/07/10
84	ECA 58 (24/5/10)	Fisher	Signal Coverage Checks	Where are the areas of signal strength deficiency?	ACMA	12/07/10
85	ECA 61 (24/5/10)	Cormann	Free to air broadcasters – Australian content	Have any of the free-to-air television networks ever fallen below the 55 per cent Australian content requirement over the past decade?	ACMA	12/07/10
86	ECA 64 and 65 (24/5/10)	Fisher	Do Not Call Register	What resources did ACMA divert to the planned extension of the Do Not Call Register between August 2008 and the planned extension's scrapping in April 2009? What was the nature of the resources? Were there any people?	ACMA	02/09/10
87	ECA 68 (24/5/10)	Xenophon	Complaints about online content	In terms of complaints that you have had, say, in the past 12 months, what volume of complaints do you get and under what circumstances do you act in relation to those complaints?	ACMA	02/09/10
88	ECA 70 (24/5/10)	Ludlam	Websites listed on the Blacklist	Of the 435 URLs mentioned are you able to tell us how many are sites, rather than how many URLs or how many items?	ACMA	28/09/10

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89	ECA 72 (24/5/10)	Ludlam	URLs listed on the Blacklist	How long are the URLs listed on the Blacklist actually there for – are we looking at a complete turnover roughly on a weekly or monthly cycle whether some of this stuff is resident for years?	ACMA	28/09/10
90	ECA 72 (24/5/10)	Wortley	Online counselling resource – Cybersmart Website	Do we have any statistics on the use of the online counselling resource for children?	ACMA	12/07/10
91	Written	Barnett	Staffing – ACMA	How many permanent staff recruited since additional estimates (Feb 2010)? What level are these staff? How many temporary positions exist or have been created since additional estimates? Since additional estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?	ACMA	12/07/10
92	Written	Barnett	Staffing – efficiency dividend/budget cuts - ACMA	Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts? - Since the efficiency dividend was introduced? - Since additional estimates? If so, where and at what level? Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc. If your Department/agency has been identified in the budget as delivering further efficiencies (savings), how will these be delivered? (for example, if the budget papers say ‘improvement to strategic work practices’ or similar, what are these and how will they be delivered? What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions or increases are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.	ACMA	12/07/10
93	Written	Barnett	Government Advertising - ACMA	What communications programs has the Department/Agency undertaken since additional estimates and what communications programs are planned to be undertaken? For each program, what is the total spend? (by ‘communications program’ it is meant communication of a government message to the public – possibly by advertising (print, television etc), possibly through the erection of signs, plaques etc, or through other mediums. The recent (current) Government TV advertising campaign on health reform and specific health initiatives are examples, BER signage is an example, advertising on the Government’s proposed new tax system would be another example.) A breakdown of how much was spent/is planned to be spent on each program/initiative should be provided.	ACMA	12/07/10
94	Written	Barnett	Government Payment of Accounts – ACMA	Has the portfolio/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (ie. 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.) 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/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year? Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?	ACMA	12/07/10

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95	ECA 10 (24/5/10)	Cormann	Direct-to-Home Satellite Reception Facilities	Who funds the installation of the direct-to-home satellite reception facilities?	Program 1.3	28/09/10
96	ECA 97 (24/5/10)	Fisher	Viewer Access Satellite Television Service (VAST)	How many organisations put in a bid? What is the cost to the government and/or the VAST joint venture partners for the delivery of the Eastern VAST services on the Optus satellite platform?	Program 1.3	28/09/10
97	ECA 98 (24/5/10)	Fisher	Electorate of Paterson	In the electorate of Paterson are any viewers able to access a subsidy of greater than \$400.	Program 1.3	28/09/10
98	ECA 106 (24/5/10)	Cormann	Household Assistance Budget	To what tune is household assistance on the way up in the out years? Can you provide those figures?	Program 1.3	28/09/10
99	ECA 107 (24/5/10)	Minchin	Funding for the Digital Switchover - Household Assistance	Have you put anything in the contingency reserve for this program? If you have a commitment, presumably there is provision in the budget?	Program 1.3	28/09/10
100	ECA 109 (24/5/10)	Cormann	Impact of structural change in the sector - TV licence fee rebate	What data on your structural challenges in terms of future profitability have you actually relied on? When you say that clearly there is going to be an upswing because that is cyclical, but long term we are still going to have a problem, you must have some data to base that sort of assertion on.	Program 1.3	14/10/10
101	ECA 110 (24/5/10)	Cormann	Impact of structural change in the sector - TV licence fee rebate	Could you assure us that you have actually assessed the profitability of the sector as part of your decision making around offering a 33 per cent rebate in year 1, funded by the taxpayer, and a rebate of 50 per cent in year 2? Can you provide us the profitability of the sector as a whole?	Program 1.3	15/10/10
102	Written	Boswell	Broadcasting and Television	The National Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasters' Council's media release dated 14 May 2010 titled "Silencing the Voices of Multicultural Communities" states, <i>Multilingual and other community broadcasters have every right to be disappointed with the Budget, and the Federal Government should be made aware of this. The sector's claim for increased funding was modest, affordable and best value for money in these difficult times.</i> What is the 2010-2011 Budget allocation for ethnic and multicultural community radio stations for core functions of program-making in the community radio sector? Does this represent an increase in funding from the projected value for 2010-11?	Program 1.3	28/09/10
103	Written	Boswell	Broadcasting and Television – Community Radio Stations	Does the department have any plans to provide additional funding to further support the 130 community radio stations across Australia broadcasting in languages other than English?	Program 1.3	02/09/10
104	Written	MacDonald	Switchover to Digital Television – self-help sites	I have received representation from Regional Councils in Queensland concerned about the practicalities of implementing the introduction of digital TV. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it correct that a \$400 rebate will be provided to households in remote areas to offset the purchase of satellite dishes to receive new digital services? • If so Regional Councils in Queensland are of the view that the \$400 will be inadequate in many cases – with advice that the actual cost per household could be far in excess of \$1,000. 	Program 1.3	15/10/10

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				<p>Aged pensioners, people on social security and others will struggle to pay.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> access to qualified suppliers to install the units and provide ongoing maintenance is of concern to rural and remote Australians. tens of thousands of grey nomads travel through rural and remote Australia each year, bringing enormous financial benefits to rural and remote towns. These travellers are generally equipped to receive television transmission when they camp in or near towns – but are unlikely to have the expertise or inclination to make adjustments to their dishes every time they stop. <p>Why did you decide not to convert areas that currently operate self-help transmission facilities to continue to do so by converting them to full digital transmission facilities?</p> <p>Councils estimate that it would cost them approximately \$80,000 to convert each self-help site to digital services. Did you explore the concept that the household subsidy be paid to the Council? For example, a town of 200 residents eligible for the \$400 rebate would fully offset the cost of conversion. Councils would be responsible for the ongoing operation and maintenance as they have been with the current analogue services.</p>		
105	ECA 114 and 127 (24/5/10)	Fisher	Privacy issues and Google	<p>Why await the Privacy Commissioner's report? Is privacy the only aspect that may have been violated by this?</p> <p>Why would you not, in any event, refer the matter for investigation for potential breach of the Telecommunications Act?</p> <p>Are you in a position to say that there has not been any breach of the Telecommunications Act by this conduct by Google?</p>	Program 1.2	16/07/10
106	ECA 115 and 116 (24/5/10)	Ludlam	ISP Online Consultation	<p>Was there any sort of non-disclosure clause that people entered into?</p> <p>Is it your intention or the minister's intention for that report to be made public?</p> <p>Are we going to hear that it is all commercial-in-confidence and that it cannot be released or is there likelihood that that information will be put into the public domain?</p>	Program 1.2	30/09/10
107	ECA 116 (24/5/10)	Ludlam	High Traffic Websites	<p>Could you quantify what is meant by a high-traffic website? Is there a threshold or a certain amount of traffic that would qualify as high-traffic? Could you come up with a number for what constitutes a high-traffic site?</p>	Program 1.2	15/10/10
108	ECA 116 and 117 (24/5/10)	Ludlam	Legal liability and outsourcing the filtering to a particular provider	<p>If there is a video up on YouTube, for example—owned by Google—that you are not able to put on your list of 10,000 sites but would be refused classification and you are seeking to outsource that task to that provider, in the event that they do not do that— what will you do when that happens?</p>	Program 1.2	14/10/10
109	ECA 117 and 119 (24/5/10)	Ludlam	Outsourcing of filtering - negotiations	<p>Who are the third parties with whom you are negotiating to outsource the filtering task, the high-traffic providers?</p>	Program 1.2	15/10/10
110	ECA 119 (24/5/10)	Ludlam	Legal liability of Google	<p>What is the legal liability of Google when it has a refused classification piece of content that remains on its site-regardless of whether it is a third party, first party, second party or any other party?</p>	Program 1.2	15/10/10
111	ECA 121 (24/5/10)	Ludlam	Refused Classification Blacklist	<p>Given the secrecy of the refused classification blacklist, given that we have had instances of it leaking last year, what penalties will apply for possession and/or dissemination of the list beyond</p>	Program 1.2	30/09/10

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				its stated purposes?		
112	ECA 122 (24/5/10)	Ludlam	Blacklist	Can you confirm for us that the investigation into the leaking of the blacklist last time has lapsed; has it not? Can you tell me, or direct me to the AFP if you will, will some entities or agencies be exempt from the blacklist? I am thinking law enforcement agencies obviously, the parliament and research institutions; is there anybody who will not be behind the filter?	Program 1.2	30/09/10
113	ECA 123 (24/5/10)	Ludlam	Mandatory Filter	Has the Minister either sought advice or received advice from law enforcement agencies or has the Minister, the department, or anybody that the Minister is aware of done any research on whether law enforcement agencies will find it more difficult to do their jobs as a result of an increase in encrypted traffic as a result of the mandatory filter coming into effect? If you bring the mandatory blacklist in will we see an increase in the amount of encrypted traffic and will that makes the job of law enforcement agencies harder?	Program 1.2	30/09/10
114	ECA 123 and 124 (24/5/10)	Ludlam	Global Roaming Arrangements	The coalition is proposing to roll back some of the more draconian internet filtering. I am interested in global roaming arrangements within the scope of the filter. If you come into Australia with a handset device that is capable of internet access and you are from overseas, will you be subject to the filter? Conversely, if you are an Australian travelling overseas with an Australian handset, will you be subject to the filter while you are travelling overseas?	Program 1.2	30/09/10
115	ECA 10 (25/5/10)	MacDonald	Questions on Notice from the February Additional Estimates	How many NBN Co. questions were reviewed and advise when your final answer to those questions were actually sent to the department?	NBN Co	18/10/10
116	ECA 12 (25/5/10)	Cormann	NBN Co Budget	Mr Quigley, you have answered Senator Fisher by saying that next week you expect to have received from the government \$312 million in equity injections. How much of that money have you spent to date and how much have you committed to moving forward? How much is committed over the next 12 months?	NBN Co	15/10/10
117	ECA 12 and 13 (25/5/10)	Cormann and Fisher	NBN Co Budget	You have spent \$50 million so far roughly. Can you break that up for us?	NBN Co	27/08/10
118	ECA 13 (25/5/10)	Fisher	NBN Co Budget	Will you inform the committee of the amount of the \$50 million equity spent thus far, how much was spent on rolling out the NBN in Tasmania?	NBN Co	23/08/10
119	ECA 15 (25/5/10)	Cormann	Discontinuation of equity injection into NBN	Is there provision as to what any penalty payments to staff or other contractors would be?	NBN Co	23/08/10
120	ECA 36 (25/5/10)	Ludlam	Training Facilities	When do you expect to have the modelling finished?	NBN Co	23/08/10
121	ECA 37 (25/5/10)	Ludlam	Carbon footprints power issue for wireless networks versus fibre networks	Would you provide the committee with your favourite one or two referenced works, on notice?	NBN Co	23/08/10

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122	ECA 40 (25/5/10)	MacDonald	Prices for retailers	What is NBN charging; can you share with us what the prices are?	NBN Co	23/08/10
123	ECA 42 and 43 (25/5/10)	MacDonald	NBN Tasmania	What is your capital cost for what you have done in Tasmania to date—and, should I say, from now and projected for the next financial year? What have you spent so far in capital costs? Do you have an estimate for the next 12 months of your operating costs, your current expenditure? What revenue are you anticipating from Tasmania? How many connections are you anticipating? How many do you expect to have by 1 July this year, in another few weeks time?	NBN Co	18/10/10
124	ECA 44 (25/5/10)	MacDonald	NBN Tasmania	Has Tasmania NBN Co received any money from the retailers to date? In terms of revenue, could you give us an idea of what you might expect to receive by 30 June this year, and what you are projecting to receive next financial year?	NBN Co	18/10/10
125	ECA 46 (25/5/10)	Abetz	Power Poles - NBN Tasmania	Can you tell us about the boxes that are attached to the power poles? Are they working?	NBN Co	23/08/10
126	ECA 48 (25/5/10)	Abetz	Tasmania Rollout- Retraining Period	Could you tell us how many contractors were involved, and then how many workers, and then who paid their wages for that two-week period, if indeed they were paid. Did the NBN make any contribution to the retraining costs?	NBN Co	23/08/10
127	ECA 49 (25/5/10)	Abetz	Tasmania Rollout – Stage 1	Why were the locations Smithton, Scottsdale and Midway Point chosen as the limited geographic location for stage 1 of the Tasmania rollout?	NBN Co	15/10/10
128	ECA 52 (25/5/10)	Abetz	Senate Question on Notice 2640	In relation to Senate question on notice 2640—who decides whether a business requirement exists for travel and who provides the approval for that travel in relation to Mr Kaiser? Can we be advised as to how much has been spent on Mr Kaiser in relation to all the matters that I have raised: travel, airfares, conferences and accommodation, training, communications allowance, fixed broadband, laptop, other information technology, vehicle?	NBN Co	23/08/10
129	ECA 57 and 58 (25/5/10)	Fisher	NBN Trial Sites	Can you tell us the response in respect of each of the trial sites from the council's concern? Has NBN Co. got the approval from each council in each of the five test sites—namely, Brunswick, Townsville, Minnamurra, Kiama Downs, west Armidale and Willunga in South Australia? Can you inform the committee as to whether or not you have approval from each of those councils in each of the trial sites for aerial cabling? In respect of those council approvals that have reached a conclusion please inform us of the outcome in that regard. In respect of those council approvals that have not reached a conclusion, can you please indicate the status of that consideration and at what point in time you expect to conclude that process? Please also indicate your willingness, presumably, to let the committee know what the outcome is as soon as each has concluded.	NBN Co	18/10/10
130	ECA 60 (25/5/10)	Cormann	Employer sponsored visa arrangements	Do you presently employ anybody who is under an employer sponsored visa arrangement?	NBN Co	28/09/10

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131	Written	Fisher	NBN Funding Capital Costs - Debt	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What proportion of NBN Co's capital will be financed by debt over the next three years? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Over the next five years? b. Over the next ten years? 2. What are the costs of debt for NBN Co's current financial position? 3. What are the costs of debt when NBN Co's projected investments over the next three years are taken into account? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Over the next five years? b. Over the next ten years? 4. What methodology has been used to calculate NBN Co's cost of debt? 5. What market risk premium has been used to calculate NBN Co's cost of debt? 6. If a weighted average cost of capital methodology has been used, what beta value has been calculated for NBN? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What comparator firms have been used to estimate NBN Co's beta? b. Why do these firms represent appropriate comparators to NBN Co? c. Is NBN Co satisfied that the level of beta calculated represents an appropriate measure of NBN Co's risk profile at this point in time and over the entire economic life of the NBN? d. If a weighted average cost of capital methodology has not been used, then how can NBN Co be satisfied that an assessment of NBN Co's cost of debt has been adequately conducted? 7. What risk free rate has been used for the estimate of NBN Co's cost of debt and/or in the calculation of NBN Co's weighted average cost of capital? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If treasury bonds were used, what was the time period used for these bonds (e.g. 5 year, 10 year)? 	NBN Co	18/10/10
132	Written	Barnett	NBN Funding Capital Costs - Equity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What methodology has been used to calculate NBN Co's cost of equity? 2. What market risk premium has been used to calculate NBN Co's cost of equity? 3. If a weighted average cost methodology has been used, what equity beta value has been calculated for NBN Co? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What comparator firms have been used to estimate NBN Co's beta? b. Why do these firms represent appropriate comparators to NBN Co? c. Is NBN Co satisfied that the equity beta calculated represents an appropriate measure of NBN Co's risk profile at this point in time and over the entire economic life of NBN? d. If a weighted average cost of capital methodology has not been used, then how can NBN Co be satisfied that an assessment of the cost of equity has been adequately conducted? 4. If a weighted average cost of capital methodology has been used, then how has NBN Co calculated gamma? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What assumptions have been made about NBN Co's future returns to shareholders to substantiate its calculation of gamma? b. What assumptions have been made about capital markets to derive its calculation of gamma? <p>In particular, is NBN Co satisfied that the assumptions of the capital asset pricing model hold in the case of NBN Co given the extent of sunk-cost capital investment (either equity or debt) being made by the government to finance the NBN?</p>	NBN Co	18/10/10

Q No.	Proof Hansard Page/Date Written	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Program/ Agency	Rec'd
				c. If NBN Co is not satisfied that the assumptions of the capital asset pricing model hold in the case of the NBN, then how have the equity and debt costs of NBN been successfully calculated?		
133	Written	Barnett	NBN Funding Weighted Average Capital Costs	<p>1. What weighted average capital cost has been calculated for NBN Co?</p> <p>a. Is this a pre- or post- tax rate of return?</p> <p>2. If NBN Co has not calculated its weighted average capital cost, then how has it calculated the necessary rates of return to demonstrate that NBN is commercially viable, taking into account its debt and equity levels, risk profile, and market risk premium?</p> <p>3. What is the estimated economic life of NBN Co's assets?</p> <p>a. How has the estimated economic life of assets been accounted for in estimates of NBN Co's risk profile, equity costs, and debt costs?</p> <p>b. If the economic life of NBN Co's assets has not been taken into account in the estimates of NBN Co's risk profile, equity costs, and debt costs, then how can NBN Co be satisfied that an appropriate commercial rate of return has been calculated for NBN?</p>	NBN Co	18/10/10
134	Written	Barnett	Staffing – NBN Co	<p>How many permanent staff recruited since additional estimates (Feb 2010)?</p> <p>What level are these staff?</p> <p>How many temporary positions exist or have been created since additional estimates?</p> <p>Since additional estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p>	NBN Co	23/08/10
135	Written	Barnett	Staffing – efficiency dividend/budget cuts – NBN Co	<p>Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts?</p> <p>- Since the efficiency dividend was introduced?</p> <p>- Since additional estimates?</p> <p>If so, where and at what level?</p> <p>Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.</p> <p>If your Department/agency has been identified in the budget as delivering further efficiencies (savings), how will these be delivered? (for example, if the budget papers say 'improvement to strategic work practices' or similar, what are these and how will they be delivered?)</p> <p>What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs?</p> <p>If reductions or increases are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.</p>	NBN Co	23/08/10
136	Written	Barnett	Government Advertising – NBN Co	<p>What communications programs has the Department/Agency undertaken since additional estimates and what communications programs are planned to be undertaken?</p> <p>For each program, what is the total spend?</p> <p>(by 'communications program' it is meant communication of a government message to the public – possibly by advertising (print, television etc), possibly through the erection of signs, plaques etc, or through other mediums. The recent (current) Government TV advertising campaign on health reform and specific health initiatives are examples, BER signage is an example, advertising on the Government's proposed new tax system would be another example.)</p> <p>A breakdown of how much was spent/is planned to be spent on each program/initiative should be provided.</p>	NBN Co	23/08/10

Q No.	Proof Hansard Page/Date Written	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Program/ Agency	Rec'd
137	Written	Barnett	Government Payment of Accounts – NBN Co	Has the portfolio/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (ie. 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.) 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/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year? Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?	NBN Co	23/08/10
138	Written	Birmingham	Ka-band Satellite	Has NBN Co made any decisions about provision of interim and Ka-band satellite capacity? Does NBN Co have a view on Ka-band or L-band satellite capacity to provide an interim solution? Does NBN Co have a view about an integrated solution or does it prefer to build its own customer capacity for next generation satellite capacity? Will NBN Co adopt the NBN Implementation Study's recommendation to consider a leasing model utilising third-party next generation third-party satellite infrastructure?	NBN Co	18/10/10
139	ECA 77 (25/5/10)	Fisher	NBN Rollout – Tasmania	At the time of a hearing that we had in Tasmania some of the witnesses suggested that there was, in prospect, a potential exception for what would have been the normal rules for the building of infrastructure of the sort to be built by the National Broadband Network in Tasmania; that there would be the need for some sort of exception to be created. Has there been a need to institute a different process in respect of the NBN rollout in Tasmania from what would otherwise be the local government planning process for the NBN, whether it be through getting approval or otherwise? Has there been any need to change any rules in order to facilitate the NBN build in Tasmania?	Program 1.1	28/09/10
140	ECA 79 (25/5/10)	Fisher	Optical Network Terminal (ONT)	Who will bear the cost of the ONT? If it needs replacing say, for example, in four years will NBN Co. bear the cost of replacing it? What does the ONT box do? What is its shelf life? Does it essentially enable the splitting of NBN related services from others, for example, TV?	Program 1.1	15/10/10
141	ECA 82 (25/5/10)	MacDonald	Implementation Study	Which recommendations of the implementation study are yet to be implemented in Tasmania?	Program 1.1	15/10/10
142	ECA 86 (25/5/10)	MacDonald	Connection Fees	What is the cost of NBN Co. supplying that service? They are getting back \$300 per connection.	Program 1.1	15/10/10
143	ECA 87 (25/5/10)	Cormann	Budget papers for Implementation Study (Budget Paper 2 p117)	How much of the \$23.4 million is going to go on staff in your department, how much of it is going to go on external expertise and how much of it is going to go on other things?	Program 1.1	15/10/10
144	ECA 104 (25/5/10)	Fisher	Fixed Wireless Broadband versus Fixed Fibre - Pricing	Could the entry level for the bush, essentially, for fixed wireless broadband be less than the fibre footprint? Could there be forfeitures? If your ambition is achieved, how will you be taking into account the reality that that means that equivalent prices will be being paid for a lesser speed service? If your ambition of equivalent prices is achieved in respect of the fibre footprint and satellite	Program 1.1	23/08/10

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				services outside the fibre footprint, then essentially you will have Australians paying the same price for differing degrees of service, won't you, in terms of your speed guarantee?		
145	ECA 109 (25/5/10)	Fisher	Transition to satellite services	How will households transition to your satellite services? What will they need at their fingertips?	Program 1.1	28/09/10
146	ECA 115 and 116 (25/5/10)	MacDonald	Public Capital Expenditure - NBN	You would be aware that the Department of Finance and Deregulation, in relation to public capital expenditure, applies a series of usual principles, which you would be familiar with. Have you taken the step to obtain the net present value of the NBN using the data and assumptions contained in the implementation study and based on that usual calculation of the weighted average cost of capital in accordance with those principles that I am talking about? Using the data and assumptions of the implementation study—all of the assumptions that it has made—what would be the present value based on the weighted average cost of capital?	Program 1.1	15/10/10
147	ECA 116 (25/5/10)	Minchin	Professor Paul Kerin's criticism of the implementation study	In relation to Professor Paul Kerin's criticism of the implementation study and its methodology for determining the commercial viability of the enterprise, in which he criticises the use of a discount rate based on the long-term bond rate. He says that under proper government guidelines that should be the weighted average cost of capital, not the long-term bond rate. Have you given or are you intending to give a response to Professor Kerin's criticism?	Program 1.1	28/09/10
148	Written	Fisher	NBN Funding Capital Costs - Debt	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What proportion of NBN Co's capital will be financed by debt over the next three years? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Over the next five years? b. Over the next ten years? 2. What are the costs of debt for NBN Co's current financial position? 3. What are the costs of debt when NBN Co's projected investments over the next three years are taken into account? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Over the next five years? b. Over the next ten years? 4. What methodology has been used to calculate NBN Co's cost of debt? 5. What market risk premium has been used to calculate NBN Co's cost of debt? 6. If a weighted average cost of capital methodology has been used, what beta value has been calculated for NBN? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What comparator firms have been used to estimate NBN Co's beta? b. Why do these firms represent appropriate comparators to NBN Co? c. Is the Department satisfied that the level of beta calculated represents an appropriate measure of NBN Co's risk profile at this point in time and over the entire economic life of the NBN? d. If a weighted average cost of capital methodology has not been used, then how can the Department be satisfied that an assessment of NBN Co's cost of debt has been adequately conducted? 7. What risk free rate has been used for the estimate of NBN Co's cost of debt and/or in the calculation of NBN Co's weighted average cost of capital? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If treasury bonds were used, what was the time period used for these bonds (e.g. 5 year, 10 year)? 	Program 1.1	15/10/10

Q No.	Proof Hansard Page/Date Written	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Program/ Agency	Rec'd
149	Written	Fisher	NBN Funding Capital Costs - Equity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What methodology has been used to calculate NBN Co's cost of equity? 2. What market risk premium has been used to calculate NBN Co's cost of equity? 3. If a weighted average cost methodology has been used, what equity beta value has been calculated for NBN Co? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What comparator firms have been used to estimate NBN Co's beta? b. Why do these firms represent appropriate comparators to NBN Co? c. Is the Department satisfied that the equity beta calculated represents an appropriate measure of NBN Co's risk profile at this point in time and over the entire economic life of NBN? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> d. If a weighted average cost of capital methodology has not been used, then how can the Department be satisfied that an assessment of NBN Co's cost of equity has been adequately conducted? 4. If a weighted average cost of capital methodology has been used, then how has the Department calculated gamma? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What assumptions has the Department made about NBN Co's future returns to shareholders to substantiate its calculation of gamma? b. What assumptions has the Department made about capital markets to derive its calculation of gamma? In particular, is the Department satisfied that the assumptions of the capital asset pricing model hold in the case of NBN Co given the extent of sunk-cost capital investment (either equity or debt) being made by the government to finance the NBN? c. If the Department is not satisfied that the assumptions of the capital asset pricing model hold in the case of the NBN, then how has the Department been able to satisfactorily calculate the equity and debt costs of the NBN? 	Program 1.1	18/10/10
150	Written	Fisher	NBN Funding Weighted Average Capital Costs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What weighted average capital cost has been calculated for NBN Co? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is this a pre- or post- tax rate of return? 2. If the Department has not calculated NBN Co's weighted average capital cost, then how has it calculated the necessary rates of return to demonstrate that NBN is commercially viable, taking into account its debt and equity levels, risk profile, and market risk premium? 3. What is the estimated economic life of NBN Co's assets? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How has the estimated economic life of assets been accounted for in estimates of NBN Co's risk profile, equity costs, and debt costs? b. If the economic life of NBN Co's assets has not been taken into account in the estimates of NBN Co's risk profile, equity costs, and debt costs, then how can the Department be satisfied that an appropriate commercial rate of return has been calculated for NBN? 	Program 1.1	15/10/10
151	Written	Fisher	NBN Funding Regulated Rate of Return	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I understand that NBN Co. will submit an access undertaking to the ACCC outlining its price and non-price terms and conditions of access to its network. Can the Department: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Confirm when an access undertaking will be submitted to the ACCC? b. What services will be covered by the undertaking? c. What depreciation rate will be applied to NBN's assets? d. What methodology the Department will use to determine NBN's asset base? e. What regulatory term will be appropriate for NBN's asset roll forward and maximum 	Program 1.1	23/08/10

Q No.	Proof Hansard Page/Date Written	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Program/ Agency	Rec'd
				allowable revenue calculations?		
152	Written	Birmingham	Ka-band satellites	<p>Does the Department have a view about the Government procuring in its own right next-generation Ka-band satellites? Does the Department prefer working through an existing satellite operator?</p> <p>Has the Department commenced any sort of scoping study/inquires to determine if Ka- band satellites could be commissioned and launched by Government over the next three years? Are there any estimates of the costs of launching Government-owned satellites?</p> <p>Is the Department aware or has the Department investigated the expected availability of commercially operated Ka-band satellite capacity?</p> <p>Does the department favour an integrated satellite solution or DIY build-it from the ground-up solution?</p> <p>Has the Department considered at this stage any existing available 'interim' solutions? If so, what are they?</p>	Program 1.1	18/10/10
153	Written	Fisher	Questions on Notice to the NBN Select Committee	<p>In response to Questions on Notice to the NBN Select Committee, the Department stated; <i>The study found the NBN is likely to deliver a project return of between 6% and 7%.</i></p> <p>a. Is the Department satisfied that this return will exceed the weighted average cost of capital for the project?</p> <p>i. How?</p> <p>i. On what basis?</p> <p>The Department also states; <i>The Government considers the additional benefits to the economy and society accruing from the NBN is sufficient to justify taxpayers not receiving a premium for project risk.</i></p> <p>a. On what basis has the Government determined this?</p> <p>b. Has the Government assessed the 'additional benefits to the economy and society' in any way?</p> <p>i. If so, how?</p> <p>v. Please provide these assessments.</p> <p>In regard to the use of the Internal Rate of Return calculation; <i>The study has explicitly not assumed a discount rate, which would be required in order to calculate NPV. Hence there is no NPV calculated in the report. Instead, the study has used an IRR which is a pure metric for calculating the return of the project over its total life.</i></p> <p>b. Does the Department agree with expert assertions that by definition the IRR is not a substitute for WACC?</p> <p>c. Is the Department satisfied that NPV for the project will be positive?</p> <p>Re project risk premiums, the department states; <i>The government considers the additional benefits to the economy and society accruing from the NBN is a legitimate consideration in not receiving a premium for project risk.</i></p> <p>a. On what basis has the Government considered this?</p> <p>b. What benefits to the economy and society have been identified?</p> <p>i. What process has been undertaken to identify these?</p>	Program 1.1	18/10/10

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				<p>ii. Please outline any identified benefits, and the measure of those benefits to the economy and society.</p> <p>c. Are these benefits beyond those that could be captured by industry?</p>		
154	Written	Barnett	Staffing – Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy	<p>How many permanent staff recruited since additional estimates (Feb 2010)?</p> <p>What level are these staff?</p> <p>How many temporary positions exist or have been created since additional estimates?</p> <p>Since additional estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p>	Corporate and Business	02/09/10
155	Written	Barnett	Staffing – efficiency dividend/budget cuts - Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy	<p>Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts?</p> <p>- Since the efficiency dividend was introduced?</p> <p>- Since additional estimates?</p> <p>If so, where and at what level?</p> <p>Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.</p> <p>If your Department/agency has been identified in the budget as delivering further efficiencies (savings), how will these be delivered? (for example, if the budget papers say ‘improvement to strategic work practices’ or similar, what are these and how will they be delivered?)</p> <p>What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs?</p> <p>If reductions or increases are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.</p>	Corporate and Business	28/09/10
156	Written	Barnett	Government Advertising - Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy	<p>What communications programs has the Department/Agency undertaken since additional estimates and what communications programs are planned to be undertaken?</p> <p>For each program, what is the total spend?</p> <p>(by ‘communications program’ it is meant communication of a government message to the public – possibly by advertising (print, television etc), possibly through the erection of signs, plaques etc, or through other mediums. The recent (current) Government TV advertising campaign on health reform and specific health initiatives are examples, BER signage is an example, advertising on the Government’s proposed new tax system would be another example.)</p> <p>A breakdown of how much was spent/is planned to be spent on each program/initiative should be provided.</p>	Corporate and Business	23/08/10
157	Written	Barnett	Hospitality Expenditure	<p>What is the Department's hospitality spend FYTD?</p> <p>Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.</p> <p>For each Minister/Par Sec's office, please detail total hospitality spend FYTD.</p> <p>Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event</p>	Corporate and Business	28/09/10
158	Written	Barnett	Board Appointments	<p>What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?</p> <p>What is the gender ratio of appointments made to boards since the Government came to office in November 2007?</p>	Corporate and Business	12/07/10
159	Written	Barnett	Grants	<p>Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?</p>	CFO Group	28/09/10

Q No.	Proof Hansard Page/Date Written	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Program/ Agency	Rec'd
160	Written	Barnett	Freedom of Information - Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy	Has the Department/agency received any advice from the Government or any other source on how to respond to FOI requests? How many FOI requests has the Department/agency received? How many have been granted or denied? How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?	Corporate and Business	12/07/10
161	Written	Barnett	Community Cabinets	What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held since additional estimates? How many Ministerial Staff and Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meeting? What was the total cost of this travel? What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office?	Corporate and Business	28/09/10
162	Written	Barnett	Reviews	What is the total number of Reviews <i>both completed and ongoing</i> in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency since November 2007? Please provide a breakdown of reviews completed since the government came to office (only those commenced after the current government came to office) including - when those reviews were provided to Government, - estimated cost of producing each review (and total cost) and - if the Government has responded to the review or information about when the Government has indicated it will/will not respond to the review. How many reviews are ongoing? How many reviews have been completed since additional estimates? What further reviews are planned in the portfolio/agency?	Corporate and Business	28/09/10
163	Written	Barnett	Consultancies	How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway since November 2007? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the contract, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Please also include total value for all consultancies, including figures for total <i>spending</i> on consultancies and also <i>value of contracts awarded</i> ? Provide total figures since November 2007 and a breakdown on these figures for FY 2008/09 and 2009/10 FYTD. Is the Department/agency up to date with its reporting requirements on the Government's tenders and contracts website? Are the figures available on that site correct? 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, projected cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known. All answers should be current at the time the answer is submitted.	Corporate and Business	28/09/10
164	Written	Birmingham	Buildings' energy efficiency	Please list every building occupied by the Department. For each building: Has an energy efficiency audit been undertaken? If so, what rating was achieved and what action has been taken to improve energy efficiency as a result of any audit undertaken?	Corporate and Business	12/07/10

Q No.	Proof Hansard Page/Date Written	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Program/ Agency	Rec'd
165	ECA 20 (25/5/10)	Cormann	Funding of NBN	With reference to the 'Estimated actual 2009-2010' in the budget papers, can you provide a breakdown of the \$3.9 billion?	CFO Group	18/10/10
166	Written	Barnett	Government Payment of Accounts – Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy	Has the portfolio/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (ie. 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.) 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/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year? Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?	CFO Group	28/09/10
167	Written	Fisher	Programmes administered by the Department and Portfolio Agencies – Department of Broadband, Communications and Digital Economy	Please provide, in spreadsheet form, a list of all programmes administered by your Department and portfolio agencies. Please show for each listed programme: (a) The name of the programme. (b) Full administered expenses for each financial year of the forward estimates period starting from 2010-11. (c) Full departmental expenses for each financial year of the forward estimates period starting from 2010-11. (d) Allocated Average Staffing Level (ASL) for the programme in 2010-11. For any information unable to be provided please provide reason why this is the case.	CFO Group	28/09/10