

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Budget Estimates Hearings May 2010**

**Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio**

**Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy**

**Question No: 154**

**Corporate & Business**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Staffing – Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy**

**Senator Barnett asked:**

- a) How many permanent staff recruited since additional estimates (Feb 2010)?
- b) What level are these staff?
- c) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since additional estimates?
- d) Since additional estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?

**Answer:**

The following figures are based on **headcount** for the Department.

- a) A total of 32 ongoing (permanent) staff have been employed since additional estimates (8 February 2010).
- b) The breakdown of ongoing staff by level, employed since additional estimates appears in the table below:

Classification	Ongoing Promotions	Ongoing transfer at level	Engagement into APS
APS1	0	0	8
APS2	0	0	0
APS3	0	0	0
APS4	0	2	0
APS5	1	1	2
APS6	2	1	5
EL1	1	3	4
EL2	0	1	0
SES B1	0	0	0
SES B2	0	0	0
SES B3	0	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>19</b>

- c) A total of two non-ongoing (temporary) positions (specified task contracts) have been created since additional estimates.
- d) Since 8 February 2010, 34 employees have been employed on non-ongoing contracts. The average length of their non-ongoing employment period is 87.8 calendar days (three months).

Some of these non-ongoing employees are filling positions that are temporarily vacant.

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**Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio**

**Question No: 155**

**Corporate & Business**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Staffing – Efficiency dividend/budget cuts**

**Senator Barnett asked:**

1. 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 what level?
2. Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details i.e. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.
3. 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?
4. What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions are or increases are envisaged please explain the including reasons, target numbers etc?

**Answer:**

1. The impact of the efficiency dividend, together with all other budget measures, is taken into consideration in developing the annual budget for the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE). Since its formation, the Department’s aggregate staffing levels have fluctuated due to some programs expiring and other programs being introduced by the Government.
2. The Department currently has no specific plans for staff reductions but continues to implement process improvements that will enable it to use its resources more efficiently in line with its Budget and Forward Estimates.
3. Not applicable.
4. The Department’s graduate and school leaver programs are being reduced, so that the intake better reflects the Department’s needs going forward.

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**Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy**

**Question No: 156**

**Corporate & Business**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Government Advertising**

**Senator Barnett asked:**

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?

A breakdown of how much was spent/is planned to be spent on each program/initiative should be provided.

**Answer:**

- The Department has undertaken a communications campaign on the National Broadband Network. The Government provided \$16 million (excluding GST) over two years (2009/10 and 2010/11). This amount covers all costs including production, agency fees and media placement. Total expenses in 2009/10 was \$6,447,326 (excluding GST).
- The Department continues the communications campaign on the Digital Switchover. In 2009/10 expenses were \$19,388,288 (excluding GST). The budget allocation for the 2010-11 financial year is \$25.412 million (excluding GST) which includes \$2.920 million rephased from the 2009/10 financial year. Campaign costs include production, agency fees and media placement.
- The Department recently undertook a select tender process to engage the services of a public relations consultancy for the National Cyber Security Awareness Week 2010, held from 6-11 June. Three responses were received as a result of the tender and Quay Connections was selected. Total cost of the event is \$438,756 (excluding GST) that includes public relations consultancy, market research, stakeholder events and marketing products.

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**Question No: 157**

**Corporate & Business**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Hospitality Expenditure**

**Senator Barnett asked:**

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

**Answer:**

a) & b)

Details of the Department's hospitality expenditure from 1 July 2009 to 31 May 2010 are in the table below.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Total cost (GST excl)</b>
14/07/2009	Sydney	Official launch of the <i>Australia's Digital Economy: Future Directions</i> paper by the Minister.	\$3,944
17/08/2009	Canberra	Working dinner to discuss International broadband issues.	\$1,182
19/04/2010	Switzerland	Reception for current ITU Council Member States during ITU Council 2010.	\$2,500

c) & d)

There is no hospitality expenditure attributed to the Minister's Office for the period 1 July 2009 to 31 May 2010.

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**Question No: 158**

**Corporate & Business**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Gender Ratios across Boards and Portfolio Agencies**

**Senator Barnett asked:** What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio? What is the gender ratio of appointments made to boards since the Government came to office in November 2007?

**Answer:**

Current Board Appointments

Consistent with Senate Order of Continuing Effect (Order for the Production of Documents No.13 Departmental and Agency Appointments and Vacancies), the following table reflects the gender ratio of current portfolio appointments made by the Government (both former and current) through Executive Council, Cabinet and Minister as at 24 May 2010.

<b>Board</b>	<b>Gender Ratio</b>
Australian Broadcasting Corporation	1 Female: 5 Male
Australian Communications and Media Authority*	2 Female: 6 Male
Australian Postal Corporation	1 Female: 5 Male
National Broadband Network Company	2 Female: 7 Male
Regional Telecommunications Independent Review Committee	2 Female: 3 Male
Special Broadcasting Service**	3 Female: 4 Male

\* One male holds two appointments to the ACMA board and is counted once

\*\* One male holds two appointments to the SBS board and is counted once

### Current Government Appointments

The gender ratio of all appointments (subject to the Senate Order for the Production of Documents No.13 Departmental and Agency Appointments and Vacancies) made to boards since the Government came to office in November 2007 as at 24 May 2010 is set out below.

<b>Board</b>	<b>Gender Ratio</b>
Australian Broadcasting Corporation	1 Female: 1 Male
Australian Communications and Media Authority*	2 Female: 4 Male
Australian Postal Corporation	0 Female: 5 Male
National Broadband Network Company**	2 Female: 15 Male
National Broadband Network Panel of Experts (panel was dissolved on 7 May 2009)	1 Female: 6 Male
NetAlert (company was deregistered on 29 November 2008)	0 Female: 3 Male
Regional Telecommunications Independent Review Committee	0 Female: 0 Male
Special Broadcasting Service***	1 Female: 1 Male

\* One male holds two appointments to the ACMA board and is counted once

\*\* Seven (3 of these were reappointments) of the fifteen NBN Co appointments were temporary appointments of 1-3 months filled by public servants while the board was being appointed.

\*\*\* One male holds two appointments to the SBS board and is counted once

### Employee Statistics across Portfolio Agencies

Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Australian Communications and Media Authority, Australian Postal Corporation and Special Broadcasting Service employee statistics by gender are available in their respective Annual Reports.

As at end May 2010 the National Broadband Network Company has advised of the following employee statistics by gender: 47 Female: 130 Male.

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**Question No: 159**

**CFO Group**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Discretionary Grants**

**Senator Barnett asked:**

Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?

**Answer:**

Yes. A detailed answer was given at Senate Estimates March 2010, Question on Notice 131, in response to Senator Fisher's question on discretionary grants.



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**Question No: 160**

**Corporate & Business**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Freedom of Information**

**Senator Barnett asked:**

1. Has the Department/agency received any advice from the Government or any other source on how to respond to FOI requests?
2. How many FOI requests has the Department/agency received?
3. How many have been granted or denied?
4. How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?

**Answer:**

1. No.
2. The Department received six FOI requests between 1 March 2010 and 31 May 2010.
3. Of the six requests received between 1 March 2010 and 31 May 2010, the Department granted access in part to one request; and two requests were taken to have been withdrawn. The Department is still processing the remaining three requests.
4. The Department has not issued any conclusive certificates in relation to FOI requests.

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**Question No: 161**

**Corporate & Business**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Community Cabinet Meetings**

**Senator Barnett asked:**

- a) What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held since additional estimates?
- b) How many Ministerial Staff and Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings?
- c) What was the total cost of this travel?
- d) What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office?

**Answer:**

The table below outlines details in relation to the three Community Cabinet Meetings held between February 2010 and 24 May 2010 in relation to the attendance by the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, Ministerial and Departmental staff.

**COMMUNITY CABINET MEETINGS – COSTINGS/ATTENDANCE**

**Notes**

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

- The figures include airfares and Travelling Allowance (including Motor Vehicle Allowance) claims. They do not include travel by taxis (due to the difficulties determining exact destinations using the electronic information as provided by Cabcharge) or travel on Special Purpose Aircraft (which is administered by the Department of Defence).

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

Re: Ballarat only

\* The financial information provided in the tables includes additional destinations for the Adviser. Given the nature of the flight bookings, the costs of the additional destinations are not able to be disaggregated from the cost of travel to attend the Community Cabinet meeting.

\*\* The overnight stay was in Melbourne.

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Note: All acquitted costings are GST exclusive.

<b>Location/Electorate 2010</b>	<b>Minister</b>	<b>Ministerial staff</b>	<b>Departmental staff</b>
Ballarat VIC 18/02/2010	<b>Minister</b>  Nil – Private arrangements	<b>Adviser</b>  Fares - \$1,107.92* T/A - \$340.00**  <b>Total – \$1,477.92</b>	<b>Deputy Secretary</b>  Fares - \$1,048.84 T/A - \$370.87  <b>Total - \$1,445.03</b>
Bennelong NSW 15/04/2010	<b>Minister</b>  Fares – \$960.05 T/A – Nil  <b>Total – \$960.05</b>	<b>Adviser</b>  Fares – \$526.21 T/A – Nil  <b>Total – \$526.21</b>	<b>Deputy Secretary</b>  Nil – (office in Sydney)
Burnie Braddon TAS 19/05/2010	<b>Minister</b>  Fares – \$668.68 T/A – \$340.00  <b>Total – \$1,008.68</b>	<b>Adviser</b>  Fares – \$1,240.50 T/A – \$232.00  <b>Total – \$1,472.50</b>	<b>Deputy Secretary</b>  Fares - \$939.63 T/A - \$26.09  <b>Total – \$965.72</b>

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**Question No: 162**

**Corporate & Business**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Reviews**

**Senator Barnett asked:**

- a) What is the total number of Reviews both completed and ongoing in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency since November 2007?
- b) 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.
- c) How many reviews are ongoing?
- d) How many reviews have been completed since additional estimates?
- e) What further reviews are planned in the portfolio/agency?

**Answer:**

A *statutory* review is defined as an exercise conducted and/or paid for by the Department/Agency that has been undertaken, or is being undertaken, in response to a statutory requirement (i.e. specified by legislation).

*Non statutory* reviews are defined as reviews not specified by legislation and are conducted as a result of a decision by Government (i.e. the Minister).

- a) Statutory Reviews 7, Non-Statutory Reviews 5
- b) see attached table
- c) 9
- d) nil
- e) see attached table

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**Planned, Current and Completed Reviews since November 2007 (as at 24 May 2010)**

Name of Review	Specified timelines/duration	Cost (GST exclusive)
<b>Current Reviews</b>		
<b>Statutory</b>		
Review of the duration of the simulcast period	<p>The <i>Broadcasting Services Act 1992</i> required the Minister to cause to be conducted a review of the period during which analog and digital television services are both to be provided, before 1 January 2006.</p> <p>The previous Government did not table a report in relation to this review.</p> <p>The finalisation of a report is subject to the outcomes of a range of policy and regulatory matters being considered by Government.</p> <p>On 5 January 2010 the Government announced its intention to implement a satellite service to achieve switchover by 2013. The report will be revised to take account of the Government's decision to fund a satellite solution for digital television signal deficient areas.</p>	The review has been conducted as part of the normal business of the Department. There are no staff solely allocated to the review and no direct costs can be readily identified.
Review of the conditions relating to operational separation of Telstra	<p>Section 61A of the <i>Telecommunications Act 1997</i> provides that before 1 July 2009, the Minister must cause to be conducted a review of the operation of Part 8 of Schedule 1 — operational separation of Telstra.</p> <p>A report of the review must be tabled in each House of Parliament within 15 sitting days of that House after the completion of the report.</p>	The review has been conducted as part of the normal business of the Department. There are no staff solely allocated to the review and no direct costs can be readily identified.
Review of anti-siphoning provisions	The <i>Broadcasting Services Act 1992</i> requires the Minister to cause to be conducted a review of the anti-siphoning	The review has been conducted as part of the normal business of the Department. There are no staff solely

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Name of Review	Specified timelines/duration	Cost (GST exclusive)
	<p>provisions in the Act before 31 December 2009. A report of the review must be tabled in each House of Parliament within 15 sittings days of that House after the completion of the report.</p>	<p>allocated to the review and no direct costs can be readily identified.</p>
<p>Review of the regulation of program standards and captioning on free to air multi-channelled television broadcasting services</p>	<p>Clause 60C of Schedule 4 to the <i>Broadcasting Services Act 1992</i> required the Minister to cause to be conducted a review on captioning and content rules as they apply to commercial digital television multichannels before 1 January 2010.</p> <p>The review has been undertaken and the report was presented to Parliament for tabling on 3 June 2010. (as at 24 May this was still a current Review)</p>	<p>The review has been conducted as part of the normal business of the Department. There are no staff solely allocated to the review and no direct costs can be readily identified.</p>
<p>Review of regional radio localism requirements</p>	<p>Section 61CT of the <i>Broadcasting Services Act 1992</i> requires the Minister to cause to be conducted a review of regional radio localism requirements before 4 April 2010.</p> <p>The review has been undertaken and the report is currently being drafted by the department.</p> <p>A report of the review must be tabled in each House of Parliament within 15 sittings days of that House after the completion of the report.</p>	<p>The review has been conducted as part of the normal business of the Department. There are no staff solely allocated to the review and no direct costs can be readily identified.</p>
<p>Review of the Do Not Call Register</p>	<p>The <i>Do Not Call Register Act 2006</i> requires the Minister to cause to be conducted a review of the legislation and relevant provisions of the <i>Telecommunications Act 1997</i> before or as soon as practicable after 31 May 2010.</p> <p>A report of the review must be tabled in each House of</p>	<p>The review has been conducted as part of the normal business of the Department. There are no staff solely allocated to the Review.</p> <p>Associated costs of advertising the discussion paper were \$19,943.31.</p>

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Name of Review	Specified timelines/duration	Cost (GST exclusive)
	Parliament within 15 sittings days of that House after the completion of the report.	The review is ongoing and further costs (travel and accommodation for consultation meetings) will be acquitted upon completion of the Review.
Review of Submarine Cable legislation (Schedule 3A <i>Telecommunications Act 1997</i> )	Part 5, Clause 89 of the <i>Telecommunications Act 1997</i> requires that Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) is to report to the Minister on the operation of Schedule 3A to the Telecommunications Act 1997 within 5 years of the day it commenced. This requires a report to be provided no later than September 2010.	The review has been conducted as part of the normal business of the ACMA. No staff are solely allocated to the review. No additional resources have been allocated to the review.
<b>Non-Statutory</b>		
Review of the current arrangements for identity checks for the purchase of prepaid mobile phone SIM cards (the prepaid review)	Report to Experts Group, chaired by the Department and the Attorney-General's Department, in the second half of 2010.	The review has been conducted as part of the normal business of the Department. There are no staff solely allocated to the review and no direct costs can readily be identified.
Review of access to electronic media by the hearing and vision impaired	No formal reporting date.	The review has been conducted as part of the normal business of the Department. There are no staff solely allocated to the review. The cost of publishing the April 2008 discussion paper in accessible formats included: *Braille \$355 (GST not applicable) *Audio \$297 The cost of publishing the November 2009 Discussion Report in accessible formats included: *Braille \$1390 (GST not applicable) *Audio \$573 *Changes to audio files \$136

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Name of Review	Specified timelines/duration	Cost (GST exclusive)
<b>Completed Reviews</b> since November 2007		
<b>Non-Statutory</b>		
Review of National ICT Australia Limited (NICTA)	July 2008 – March 2009	\$63,887.32 Including sitting fees for panel members, travel allowance and other costs. Does not include any departmental secretariat salaries – part of normal business and no staff were solely allocated.
Review of e-Security Policy	July 2008 – Dec 2008	The review was initiated jointly by the Attorney-General, and the Ministers for Defence, Finance and Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy. It was conducted as part of the normal business of the Department. One FTE was allocated solely to the review but other than this no direct costs can readily be identified.
Triennial Funding Review of the ABC & SBS	17 April 2008 to 12 May 2009	\$437,420 Does not include any departmental salaries - part of normal departmental business and no staff were allocated solely to this review.
<b>Planned Reviews</b> (may commence in 2010 – 11 FY)		
<b>Statutory</b>		
Review of regional digital radio technologies	Section 215A of the <i>Broadcasting Services Act 1992</i> requires the Minister to cause to be conducted a review of regional digital radio technologies before 1 January 2011.	The review will be conducted as part of the normal business of the Department. There are no staff solely allocated to the review and no direct cost would be readily identified.



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<b>Name of Review</b>	<b>Specified timelines/duration</b>	<b>Cost (GST exclusive)</b>
	A report of the review must be tabled in each House of Parliament within 15 sittings days of that House after the completion of the report.	

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**Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio**

**Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy**

**Question No: 163**

**Corporate & Business**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Consultancies**

**Senator Barnett asked:**

1. 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 (i.e. open tender, direct source, etc).
2. Please also include total value for all consultancies, including figures for total *spending* on consultancies and also *value of contracts awarded*? Provide total figures since November 2007 and a breakdown on these figures for FY 2008/09 and 2009/10 FYTD.
3. 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?
4. 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.

**Answer:**

1. All agencies subject to *the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* are required to report procurement contracts awarded where the contract value is \$10,000 or more on AusTender, the Government's tender and procurement reporting system. From 3 September 2007 departments and agencies have been required to include on AusTender details of those contracts which are consultancies and the reason for the consultancy. The information sought by the honourable member in relation to DBCDE consultancies valued at \$10,000 or more are available on the AusTender website ([www.tenders.gov.au](http://www.tenders.gov.au)). Please note that departments have six weeks to report procurement contracts on AusTender.

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

2. Details of the Department's expenditure on consultancies in prior financial years are available in the Annual Reports for those years. Details for the 2009/10 Financial Year will be available in the Department's annual report, which is due to be published in October 2010.

3. The details of all consultancies over the value of \$10,000 can be obtained from AusTender. The Department's mandatory reporting obligations are current and up to date. Currently AusTender reports the sum of all entries published inclusive of amendments which results in an inflated total number. This is currently being addressed by AusTender.
  
4. The Department has prepared its Annual Procurement Plan. This has been developed on the best information available and is subject to change. The Plan has identified 16 expected contract opportunities for the next 12 months. The Annual Procurement Plan for the Department is about to be updated in line with Annual Procurement Plan reporting guidelines.

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**Question No: 164**

**Corporate & Business**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Buildings Energy Efficiency**

**Senator Birmingham asked:**

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?

**Answer:**

<b>Building</b>	<b>Energy Audit (Y/N, Rating)</b>	<b>Resulting Actions</b>
Burns Centre	No, N/A	Nil. The Department is vacating this building on the expiry of the lease, 31 July 2010.
38 Sydney Ave	Yes (Building Owner) ABGR 3.5 star (Base building energy rating) Nabers 4.5 star (Base building water rating)	Water Flow restrictors installed. Staff 'turn off lights' awareness campaign. Department Environmental Management System introduced. Office equipment setup for sleep mode where possible.
44 Sydney Ave	No, N/A	Nil (Multi-tenanted building)
31-33 Market Street Sydney	Yes (Building Owner) Nabers 4.5 star (energy rating) Nabers 4.5 star (water rating)	Energy efficient lighting & controls Low emission paints Low emission carpet tiles Waterless urinals Other commitments through green lease schedule (Information sourced from building website)

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**Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy**

**Question No: 165**

**CFO Group**

**Hansard Ref: ECA 20**

**Topic: Funding of NBN**

**Senator Cormann asked:**

With reference to the 'Estimated actual 2009-2010' in the budget papers, can you provide a breakdown of the \$3.9 billion?

**Answer:**

The \$3.9 billion represents the following expected investments as at 30 June 2010:

	(\$'000)
• Australian Broadcasting Corporation	963,647
• Australian Postal Corporation	2,495,500
• Special Broadcasting Service Corporation	163,625
• NBN Co Limited	312,067

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**Question No: 166**

**CFO Group**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Government Payment of Accounts**

**Senator Barnett asked:**

- 1) 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)?
- 2) If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts?
- 3) Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.)
- 4) 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?
- 5) Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

**Answer:**

Mr Barnett – The Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy has provided the following answer to the honourable member’s question:

- (1) Yes, 937 payments or 92.77% of payments to contractors and consultants were made within 30 days of receipt of a correctly rendered invoice.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) Average number of days for all payments to contractors and consultants is 16.25 days.
- (4) In line with Finance Circular No 2008/10, interest is payable to small business where ‘the amount of interest is more than \$10 and the contractor has issued a correctly rendered invoice for the interest’. No interest has been paid.
- (5) Not applicable.

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

**Question No: 167**

**CFO Group**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Programmes administered by the Department and Portfolio Agencies**

**Senator Fisher asked:**

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.

**Answer:**

a) and b)

- Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) – Nil
- Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) – Nil
- Special Broadcasting Service Corporation (SBS) – Nil
- Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy – refer to table below.

c) and d)

Refer to table below.

<b>Program Expenses</b>	<b>2010-11 (\$'000)</b>	<b>2011-12 (\$'000)</b>	<b>2012-13 (\$'000)</b>	<b>2013-14 (\$'000)</b>
<b>Program 1.1: Broadband and Communications Infrastructure <sup>(i)</sup></b>				
Total Administered Expenses	53,421	29,194	18,883	18,890
Australian Broadband Guarantee	38,015	12,107	-	-
International Organisations Contributions	5,223	5,118	5,104	5,111
National Broadband Network - Implementation	9,210	-	-	-
National Broadband Network - Regional Backbone Blackspots Program	973	11,969	13,779	13,779
Total Departmental Expenses	31,288	21,801	16,153	15,918
ASL <sup>(iv)</sup>	193			
<b>Program 1.2: Telecommunications, Online and Postal Services <sup>(ii)</sup></b>				
Total Administered Expenses	42,084	36,753	35,593	30,728
Consumer Representation Grants Program	2,032	2,077	2,125	2,178
Connect Australia	915	-	-	-
Cyber-safety	5,444	2,249	2,271	667
Cyber-security	1,463	1,494	1,527	1,567
ICT Centre of Excellence	25,946	25,000	23,750	22,563
Regional Telecommunications Review Response	6,284	5,933	5,920	3,753
Total Departmental Expenses	52,223	51,028	56,729	51,949
ASL <sup>(iv)</sup>	292			
<b>Program 1.3: Broadcasting and Digital Television <sup>(iii)</sup></b>				
Total Administered Expenses	75,922	92,419	47,068	56,136
Community Broadcasting Program	12,559	12,803	11,548	11,836
Digital Television Switchover	61,456	78,476	33,995	42,299
National Transmission Network Residual Funding Pool	137	140	525	1,001
Regional Equalisation Plan	1,300	1,000	1,000	1,000
Television Towers	470	-	-	-
Total Departmental Expenses	32,934	31,413	20,417	20,357
ASL <sup>(iv)</sup>	199			

(i) Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio Budget Statements 2010-11, p22.

(ii) Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio Budget Statements 2010-11, p26.

(iii) Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio Budget Statements 2010-11, p32.

(iv) ASL allocation is notional.