

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio  
Budget Estimates Hearing 2011-12  
30 May 2011

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

**TOPIC:** Social Media

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Abetz

**QUESTION No.:** BI-55

Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and usage of Youtube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since October 2010? Please explain.

**ANSWER**

There has been no change to the social media access and usage protocols for staff within the Department.

There have been two changes to the access and usage of social media for the portfolio agencies.

IP Australia staff were granted access to the new IP Australia YouTube channel on 11 November 2010. This followed the release of a range of IP Australia public information and educational materials for IP Australia customers on YouTube. Access was granted so that all staff could view these new and important resources. Staff can only access IP Australia produced content on YouTube.

Since October 2010 Australian Research Council (ARC) staff were given full access to online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter as well as access to online discussions forums, blogs and YouTube, subject to the ARC Information Technology Security Policy. The ARC has also maintained one Twitter account (@arc\_gov\_au) since late 2010.