

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2013-2014

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EM0206_14

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Media Subscriptions

1. What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have? a) Please provide a list of what channels and the reason for each channel. b) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date? c) What is provided to the Minister or their office? d) What is the cost for this from 7 September 2013 to date? 2. What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have? a) Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each. b) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date? c) What is provided to the Minister or their office? d) What is the cost for this from 7 September 2013 to date? 3. What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have? a) Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each. b) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date? c) What is provided to the Minister or their office? d) What is the cost for this from 7 September 2013 to date? 4. What publications does your department/agency purchase? a) Please provide a list of publications purchased by the department and the reason for each. b) What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date? c) What is provided to the Minister or their office? d) What is the cost for this from 7 September 2013 to date?

Answer

The Department of Employment was established on 18 September 2013. Previously the functions were delivered by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR).

1. The department's Pay TV subscription is a package containing Sky News, Sky Business and Australian Public Affairs (APAC) channels. The subscriptions provide both national and international perspectives and breaking news on a broad range of issues which both directly and indirectly impact on the work of the department.

For the period 18 September 2013 to 28 February 2014 the Department of Employment¹ paid \$1656.18 for pay TV services.

The Employment Ministers' offices are provided with the Business Premium package. For the period 18 September 2013 to 28 February 2014 the Employment Ministers' offices paid \$922.50 for pay TV services.

¹ Corporate and the State Office Network provide services to the Department of Employment and the Department of Education. The value associated with these functions has been attributed to both departments.

2 and 3. The department subscribes to the newspapers and magazines listed in the table below. The reasons for the subscriptions include: monitoring of articles on government policy with reference to Government programs delivered by the department; current local, national and international employment and workplace relations issues; providing access to up to date international research and analysis on key issues to the department; and emerging issues relevant to the department.

Details of magazine and newspaper subscriptions for the Department of Employment¹ for the period 18 September 2013 to 28 February 2014 are below. The total cost for this period was \$25,639.94.

Publication
Harvard Business Review
The Age
The Advertiser (Adelaide)
The Australian
The Australian Financial Review
The Canberra Times
The Courier Mail
The Daily Telegraph
The Economist
The Herald Sun
The Indigenous Times
The Koori Mail
The Land
The Mercury
The Northern Territory News
The Sydney Morning Herald
The Weekend Australian
The Weekly Times

Details of magazine and newspaper subscriptions for the Employment Ministers' offices for the period 18 September 2013 to 28 February 2014 are below. The total cost for this period was \$1333.08.

Publication
The Age
The Australian
The Australian Financial Review
The Daily Telegraph
The Hobart Mercury
The Herald Sun
The Sydney Morning Herald
News Digital
The Canberra Times

¹. Corporate and the State Office Network provide services to the Department of Employment and the Department of Education. The value associated with these functions has been attributed to both departments.

4. The department purchases a range of publications in order to maintain current knowledge of government policy with reference to Government programs delivered by the department; current local, national and international employment and workplace relations issues; international research and analysis on key issues to the department; and emerging issues relevant to the department. To provide a listing of all publications would be an unnecessary diversion of resources.

For the period 18 September 2013 to 28 February 2014 the Department of Employment¹ paid \$97,509.73 for publications. Note that the majority of this expense relates to publications purchased by the Library which is a resource shared by the Department of Education and the Department of Employment.

For the period 18 September to 30 November, the Ministers' offices paid \$180.60 for publications. This figure includes the removal of some expenses previously reported which had been incorrectly categorised as Ministers Office publications costs.

¹. Corporate and the State Office Network provide services to the Department of Employment and the Department of Education. The value associated with these functions has been attributed to both departments.