

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013**

Cross Portfolio

DEEWR Question No. EW0457_13

Senator Back provided in writing.

Question

Media monitoring - 2011-12

"What was the actual total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for 2011-12? • Which agency or agencies provided these services? • What was the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2011-12? What was the actual total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for 2011-12? • Which agency or agencies provided these services? • What was the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2011-12?"

Answer

What was the actual total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for 2011-12?

The department does not attribute a portion of general media monitoring expenditure to ministers and the parliamentary secretary: only orders relating to transcripts, audio files and video ordered by ministerial offices.

The cost of these services to the DEEWR Ministerial offices, including previous Ministers, for the 2011-12 financial year was \$46,594.54 (GST excl.).

• Which agency or agencies provided these services?

AAP (Australian Associated Press)

• What was the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2011-12?

Expenditure for these services in the 2011-12 financial year was dependent on the amount of media items/issues that arose; the department did not specify an estimated budget for these items. However the departmental spending on media monitoring has been trending downward.

What was the actual total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for 2011-12?

The cost of these services to the Department in the 2011-12 financial year was \$824,939.39 (GST incl.).

- **Which agency or agencies provided these services?**

AAP (Australian Associated Press)

- **What was the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2011-12?"**

Because expenditure on media monitoring is dependent on the extent of media coverage of portfolio-related matters, a detailed estimate was not made. Rather, expenditure on this function was accommodated within the operating budget of the Communications and Parliamentary Group. It should also be noted that departmental spending on media monitoring has been trending downward.