

**Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade**  
**Additional Budget Estimates 2012–13; 13 February 2013**  
**Answers to questions on notice from Department of Veterans' Affairs**

**Question 1**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Staffing**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. How many ongoing staff recruited this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?
2. How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?
3. This financial year to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?

**Answer**

1. Table 1.1 below has the number of ongoing staff recruited 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013 by classification.

**Table 1.1 Number of Ongoing recruitments by classification**

Ongoing Hires 1 July 2012 to 31 January 2013	
APS1	<b>4</b>
APS2	<b>2</b>
APS3	<b>11</b>
APS4	<b>4</b>
APS5	<b>2</b>
APS6	<b>3</b>
EL1	<b>3</b>
EL2	<b>1</b>
Total	<b>30</b>

2. Table 1.2 below has the number of non-ongoing positions existing at 31 January 2013.

**Table 1.2 Number of Non-Ongoing positions at 31 January 2013 by classification.**

Non-ongoing positions existing at 31 Jan 2013	
APS2	<b>11</b>
APS3	<b>61</b>
APS4	<b>16</b>
APS5	<b>12</b>
APS6	<b>6</b>
EL1	<b>4</b>
EL2	<b>1</b>
SES 1	<b>1</b>
Total	<b>112</b>

3. 92 non-ongoing staff have been employed on contract for the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013. The total includes rehires. The average length of employment is 22 weeks.

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**Question 2**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Staffing**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. How many ongoing staff left the department/agency this financial year to date? What classification were these staff?
2. How many non-ongoing staff left department/agency this financial year to date? What classification were these staff?
3. How many contract staff left department/agency in the year this financial year to date? What classification were these staff?

**Answer**

1. Table 2.1 below has the number of ongoing staff who ceased in 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013 by classification.

**Table 2.1 Number of Ongoing cessations by classification**

Ongoing Cessations 1 July 2012 to 31 January 2013	
APS1	1
APS2	6
APS3	18
APS4	10
APS5	36
APS6	37
EL1	17
EL2	6
Advocate	2
Legal 1	1
SES 1	1
SES 2	2
Total	137

2. Table 2.2 below has the number of non-ongoing staff who ceased in 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013 by classification.

**Table 2.2 Number of Non-Ongoing cessations by classification**

Non-Ongoing Cessations 1 July 2012 to 31 January 2013	
APS2	<b>4</b>
APS3	<b>42</b>
APS4	<b>6</b>
APS5	<b>4</b>
APS6	<b>5</b>
EL2	<b>1</b>
PAO1	<b>1</b>
Total	<b>63</b>

3. All contract staff are employed at Australian Public Service classifications as non-ongoing employees and, as such, are included in table 2.2.

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**Question 3**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Staffing**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. Are there any plans for staff reduction?
  - a) If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut.
  - b) If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.

**Answer**

1. No, there are no plans for staff reduction.

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**Question 4**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Making the Public Service more efficient**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. Please provide an update of the savings achieved through pursuing further efficiencies in the way the public service operates (see media release by the Minister for Finance and Deregulation and the Special Minister of State of 25 September 2012 [http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media/2012/mr\\_1982012.html](http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media/2012/mr_1982012.html)).
2. In addition, please provide the following detail:
  - a) Can you quantify the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates for reductions in air travel?
  - b) Has there been a reduction in business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
  - c) Has there been a reduction in the use of external consultants and contractors? Has this impacted on the Department/agency, and how? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
  - d) Provide an update of moving recruitment advertising online. Is any recruitment still in printed materials, and if yes, why? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
  - e) Has the department/agency reduced its printing costs? If no, why not? Have printing costs increased, and if yes why and how much? Has the five per cent savings target been achieved – if yes, how, or if it will not, why not? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

**Answer**

1. and 2.

The Department of Veterans' Affairs has implemented a range of savings strategies in relation to travel, external consultants and contractors, online advertising for recruitment and printing costs. Savings in air travel (including business class flights) has been achieved through changed booking arrangements for flights (eg reduced use of fully flexible fares) and less usage of business class airfares for flights on the eastern seaboard.

The Department has moved to online recruitment advertising in line with the Government's decision. Since 1 July 2012, only a limited number of printed material within regional papers has been used, which is in line with the print media policy. These relate to Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service to attract local candidates with a degree in psychology/social work.

The use of external consultants and contractors is being closely monitored with the preference to utilise existing staff to perform the work. Where possible, the Department is also seeking to reduce the number of printed documents.

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**Question 5**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Printing Costs**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed this financial year to date? How many of these printed documents were also published online?

**Answer**

For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013, nine documents were printed and seven documents were published. Details are in the table below:

<b>Title</b>	<b>Qty</b>	<b>Published Online Yes/No</b>
Veterans' Review Board Annual Report	502	Yes
DVA Annual Report 2011-12	692	Yes
Timor Leste Family Study Summary Report	302	Yes
Timor Leste Family Study Technical Report	102	Yes
One Explanatory Memorandum and one Bill	290	Yes
Men's Health Peer Education (MHPE) Magazine (Vol 11. NO 2 – July 2012)	27,192*	Yes
The Indigenous Brochure	6,000	No
'You served your country' Poster	2,006	No
Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2012-13	400	Yes

\*increased number as this issue was used as handout for Veterans' Health Week 2012



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**Question 6**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Graduate Recruitment**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. How much has been spent on 2014 Graduate Recruitment to date? Please itemise and detail costs.
2. Has any travel been incurred for 2014 Graduate Recruitment? Please itemise and detail costs.

**Answer**

1. The following has been spent on 2014 Graduate Recruitment for the financial year 2012-13 to 31 January 2013:

**2014 Graduate Recruitment Expenditure FYTD 31 January 2013**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>
Big Meet (Graduate Career Fairs in Perth, Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide and Brisbane)	\$5,995
Unigrad (Graduate Jobs Directory)	\$6,000
Tertiary to Work (Graduate Career Fair, Canberra)	\$1,180
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,175</b>

2. No travel costs have been incurred for 2014 Graduate Recruitment for the financial year to 31 January 2013.

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**Question 7**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Staffing**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

How much was spent on 2013 Graduate Training? Provide details of what training was provided, why and the estimated cost for each.

**Answer**

For the 2012-13 financial year to 22 March 2013, the total amount spent on training the 2013 graduates is \$56,434. Details are in the table below:

<b>Training</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Costs</b>
Orientation – internal DVA training	To provide graduates with an overview of the Department's functions and responsibilities, as well as information about terms and conditions of employment, work health and safety, etc. It also includes a guided tour of the Australian War Memorial and attending Question Time at Parliament House.	\$1,564
Diploma of Government – administered through the Australian Public Service Commission	To provide graduates with a sound understanding of the legislative frameworks, operational environment and the issues and challenges facing the APS. It also provides graduates with a foundation for development as future APS leaders, including training in interpersonal, communication and related skills.	\$54,870
Total		\$56,434

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**Question 8**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Advertising**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. What was the total cost of all advertising for the financial year to date?
2. Is the advertising campaign or non-campaign advertising? Provide details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.
3. Has the Department of Finance and Deregulation provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.
4. Has the Peer Review Group (PRG) and/or Independent Communications Committee (ICC) provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.
5. Did the Advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies? Provide the details for each advertising item.
6. Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services.
7. What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – and other communications programs is the Department/Agency undertaking, or are planning to undertake?

**Answers**

1. Total cost for all advertising for the financial year to 31 January 2013 was \$241,649.82 (GST excl).
2. All non-campaign advertising was provided by Adcorp, and was conducted for the purpose of tender, public notices and recruitment advertising. The total cost of all non-campaign advertising for the financial year to 31 January 2013 was \$176,367.88 (GST excl).

Campaign advertising was provided by Universal McCann. The total cost of the one campaign for the financial year to 31 January 2013, was \$65,281.94 (GST excl). The purpose was to inform eligible people (veteran, serving Defence Force member, war widow or peacekeeper) about the availability of insurance products.

3. Yes, the Department of Finance and Deregulation (Finance) provided advice on the development of a range of communication strategies which included low-level advertising. Finance provided advice as to whether advertising for graduate recruitment was campaign or non-campaign, and they provided advice for all campaign advertising as to the requirements for review and certification. Finance also provided ongoing support and advice through the development of the communication strategy to support the Government's announcement of arrangements at Gallipoli, Turkey for the centenary commemorations, which included low-level non-campaign advertising. None of the Department's advertising required review or certification.

4. Advertising undertaken by the Department during these periods did not exceed the \$250,000 threshold that requires consultation with the Review Group (PRG) and/or the Independent Communications Committee (ICC).
5. Yes, all advertising for the financial year to date (as outlined in Question 3) complied with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by the Australian Government Departments and Agencies. See response to Question 2 for details regarding advertising.
6. Other communication programs include market research. The following table outlines the amounts paid for the financial year to 31 January 2013 and the businesses that provided the communication services.

<b>Provider</b>	<b>Nature of Research</b>	<b>Amount (excl GST)</b>
Newspoll Market Research	Review and finalisation of Anzac Day 2015 questionnaire	\$3,520.00
Colmar Brunton	Veteran Satisfaction Survey	\$31,680.00
Colmar Brunton	Vietnam Veterans' Family Study, draft main report	\$166,321.72
Colmar Brunton	Vietnam Veterans' Family Study, draft supplementary report	\$57,890.00
AC Nielsen	Testing of Patient Satisfaction Survey	\$17,795.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$277,206.72</b>

The information relating to other communication activities, such as direct mail, is not readily available. The time and effort to accurately provide a complete response would be too resource intensive.

7. The Department will continue to advertise the Defence Service Home Insurance Scheme this financial year and tender, public notices and recruitment advertising will be conducted as required.

The Department is also currently undertaking or planning to undertake advertising relating to Anzac Day registration at Gallipoli and advertising relating to the promotion of mental health services provided by the Department. The Department of Finance and Deregulation has been consulted and advice sought in relation to this planned advertising.

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**Question 9**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Hospitality and Entertainment**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
3. What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
5. What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
6. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
7. What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
8. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
9. Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved and what are the estimated savings over each year of the forward estimates?

**Answer**

1. and 3.

For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013, DVA spent \$20,638 on hospitality and entertainment. This amount is exclusive of GST and is predominantly for small purchases of refreshments for meetings and forums involving external parties, in particular Ex-service Organisations. Information relating to date, location, purpose and cost for all events is not readily available, the time and effort to accurately provide this information would be too resource intensive.

2. and 4.

For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013, \$765.01 was expended on hospitality and entertainment. This amount is exclusive of GST and comprises of the purchasing of general catering supplies, such as milk for a range of meetings, therefore it is not possible to provide a breakdown of dates as this expends across multiple days and meetings. The majority of these meeting took place at the Minister's Office. However, it also includes \$67.73 associated with a meeting the Minister had in France in October 2012 with an International delegation.

5. and 7.

Please refer to the answer provided to Question on Notice 12 (part 5 and 7) from Supplementary Budget Estimates 17 October 2012.

6. and 8.

Please refer to the answer provided to Question on Notice 12 (part 6 and 8) from Supplementary Budget Estimates 17 October 2012.

9. Please refer to the answer provided to Question on Notice 12 (part 9) from Supplementary Budget Estimates 17 October 2012.

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**Question 10**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Meeting Costs**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. What is the Department/Agency's meeting spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs.
2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total meeting spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.
3. What meeting spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what meeting spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.

**Answer**

1. For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013, DVA spent \$37,706 on meeting costs. This amount is exclusive of GST and is predominantly for small purchases of refreshments for forums such as board and committee meetings and meetings with visitors.
2. Please refer to the answer provided in Question on Notice 9, part 2 and 4.
3. Please refer to the answer provided in Question on Notice 9, part 5 and 7.
4. There is currently no meeting spend being planned.

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**Question 11**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Program Launch Costs**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. What is the Department/Agency's program launch spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs.
2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total program launch spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.
3. What program launch spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what program launch spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.
5. What is the Department/Agency's program launch spend for 2011-12? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.
6. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total program launch spend for 2011-12. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.

**Answer**

1. For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013, two programs were launched. Details are in the table below:

Date	Location	Purpose	Event Costs inclusive
20 September 2012	Parliament House – House of Representatives Alcove	Launch of the Timor-Leste Family Study Reports	\$5,045.33
18 November 2012	Ministerial International Forum – Hyatt Hotel, Canberra	Launch Mental Health Youtube clips	\$529.70

- 2, 4. and 6.

Nil.

3. The Department is planning the following program lunches:
  - a. A media event to launch the *At Ease* military mental health website was held on 12 April 2013 at the Australian Command and Staff College, Weston ACT. The costs have not yet been determined.



- b. A media event to demonstrate the technology for the In-Home Telemonitoring for Veterans Trial is being planned. The date, location and costs for the demonstration have not yet been determined.
- c. The Anzac Centenary Advisory Board report release is also being planned. The date and location have not been determined and it is anticipated that there will be no cost associated.

5. Nil.

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**Question 12**

**Outcome All: Program All**  
**Topic: Board Appointments**  
 (Written Question on Notice)

**Senator Eggleston asked:**

1. List all of the boards within this portfolio, including board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members.
2. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?
3. Please detail any board appointments for this financial year to date.

**Answer**

1. A list of all boards within this portfolio for the financial year to 2 April 2013 is available at Attachment A.
2. At 2 April 2013 the gender composition of boards, including ex-officio members, across the portfolio was as follows:

<b>Body</b>	<b>Female</b>		<b>Male</b>	
Repatriation Commission			3	100%
Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission	1	20%	4	80%
Veterans' Review Board	14	35%	26	65%
Repatriation Medical Authority	1	20%	4	80%
Specialist Medical Review Council	4	13%	28	88%
Australian War Memorial Council	3	23%	10	77%
Prime Ministerial Advisory Council	4	40%	6	60%
Anzac Centenary Advisory Board	5	25%	15	75%
National Advisory Committee – VVCS	3	21%	11	79%
The Veterans' Children Education Boards/Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act Education and Training Boards	25	45%	30	55%
Gender ratio across the Portfolio	60	30%	137	70%

Please note:

Percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole percent.

As the table reflects the gender composition of boards at 2 April 2013, some members who are included in Attachment A are not included in the table as they were not board members at 2 April 2012.

3. This information is provided as part of Senate Order on Government Appointments prior to each Estimates hearing.

## Attachment A

Member Name	Position	Current Term		Date of first appointment	Gender
		Start Date	End Date		

### Repatriation Commission

Mr Ian Campbell PSM	President	22-Sep-08	21-Sep-13	22-Sep-08	Male
Mr Shane Carmody	Deputy President	15-Jun-09	14-Jun-14	15-Jun-09	Male
Major General Mark Kelly AO DSC	Commissioner	1-Jul-10	30-Jun-15	1-Jul-10	Male

### Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission

Mr Ian Campbell PSM	Chair	n/a ex-officio	n/a ex-officio	22-Sep-08	Male
Mr Shane Carmody	Member	n/a ex-officio	n/a ex-officio	15-Jun-09	Male
Major General Mark Kelly AO DSC	Member	1-Jul-10	30-Jun-15	1-Jul-10	Male
Mr Paul O'Connor	Member	25-Nov-09	15-Oct-12	25-Nov-09	Male
Major General Gerard Fogarty AO	Member	29-Sep-11	28-Sep-16	29-Sep-11	Male
Ms Kylie Emery	Member	18-Mar-13	17-Mar-14	18-Mar-13	Female

### Veterans' Review Board

Mr Douglas Humphreys	Principal Member	22-Mar-10	21-Mar-15	22-Mar-10	Male
Mr Gary Charles Barrow	Senior Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	1-Oct-07	Male
Mr Patrick Callioni	Senior Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-14	1-Jan-11	Male
Ms Alison Colvin	Senior Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	1-Jan-11	Female
Ms Jennifer D'Arcy	Senior Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	1-Jun-01	Female
Ms Jackie Fristacky	Senior Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	1-Oct-97	Female
Mr Edward Jolly	Senior Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	1-Oct-07	Male
Ms Hilary Kramer	Senior Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	30-Jul-98	Female
Ms Sylvia Winters	Senior Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	1-Oct-06	Female
Mr Christopher Charles Hamilton Wray	Senior Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	1-Oct-06	Male
Colonel Leslie Young (Ret'd)	Senior Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	1-Oct-97	Male
Mr Graham Quinlivan	Senior Member	7-Dec-11	31-Aug-12	7-Dec-11	Male
Mr Allan Anforth	Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-14	1-Jan-11	Male
Ms Zita Antonios	Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	1-Jun-01	Female
Ms Moira Brophy	Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-14	1-Jan-11	Female
Mr Scott Clark	Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-14	1-Jan-11	Male

Member Name	Position	Current Term		Date of first appointment	Gender
		Start Date	End Date		
Dr Rhonda Galbally	Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-14	1-Jan-11	Female
Commodore Simon Hart (Ret'd)	Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-14	1-Jan-11	Male
Ms Elayne Hayes	Member	1-Mar-13	28-Feb-18	1-Mar-13	Female
Mr Geoffrey Hourn	Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	1-Jan-11	Male
Mr Jonathan James Hyde	Member	1-Mar-13	28-Feb-18	1-Mar-13	Male
Mr Wayne John Lynch	Member	1-Mar-13	28-Feb-18	1-Mar-13	Male
Colonel Peter Lewis Maher	Member	1-Mar-13	28-Feb-18	1-Mar-13	Male
Ms Morag McColm	Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	1-Jan-98	Female
Ms Jillian Moir	Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-14	1-Jan-11	Female
Ms Deborah Glasgow Morgn	Member	1-Mar-13	28-Feb-18	1-Mar-13	Female
Mrs Carmel Morfuni	Member	1-Jan-11	19-Feb-13	1-Jan-11	Female
Mrs Jennifer Ann Walker	Member	1-Mar-13	28-Feb-18	1-Mar-13	Female
Mr Francis Brown	Services Member	7-Dec-11	30-Sep-15	1-Jun-01	Male
Dr Robert Black AM RFD	Services Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-14	1-Oct-06	Male
Wing Commander Stuart Bryce (Ret'd)	Services Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	25-Nov-91	Male
Air Commodore Frank Burt OBE (Ret'd)	Services Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	1-Jan-98	Male
Ms Janet Hartmann	Services Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	1-Jun-01	Female
Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Main (Ret'd)	Services Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	1-Oct-06	Male
Major Gregory Mawkes MBE	Services Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-14	1-Jan-97	Male
Colonel Robin Regan CSC (Ret'd)	Services Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	28-May-99	Male
Colonel Roger Tiller AM CSC (Ret'd)	Services Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	1-Oct-06	Male
Air Commodore Bruce Robert Wood (Ret'd)	Services Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	1-Oct-06	Male
Major Warwick Anthony Young	Services Member	1-Jan-11	30-Sep-15	31-Mar-08	Male
Brigadier Mark Bornholt AM (Ret'd)	Services Member	1-Jan-11	7-Aug-12	1-Jan-11	Male
Captain James Craig Bruce (Ret'd)	Services Member	7-Dec-11	30-Sep-15	7-Dec-11	Male
Commander Iain Alexander Whitehouse (Ret'd)	Services Member	7-Dec-11	30-Sep-15	7-Dec-11	Male
Brigadier Christopher Hamilton	Services Member	7-Dec-11	30-Sep-15	7-Dec-11	Male
Lieutenant Colonel David John Collins	Services Member	1-Mar-13	28-Feb-18	1-Mar-13	Male

#### Repatriation Medical Authority (RMA)

Professor Nicholas Saunders AO	Chair	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-17	1-Jul-12	Male
Professor Andrew Wilson	Deputy Chair	1-Oct-10	30-Sep-15	1-Oct-02	Male
Professor Gerard Byrne	Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-17	1-Jul-09	Male
Professor Flavia Cicuttini	Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-17	1-Jul-09	Female
Professor John Kaldor	Member	2-Feb-11	1-Feb-16	1-Feb-00	Male

Member Name	Position	Current Term		Date of first appointment	Gender
		Start Date	End Date		

**Specialist Medical Review Council (SMRC)**

Dr Charles Guest	Convenor	26-Feb-10	30-Mar-15	10-Aug-97	Male
Associate Professor Jonathan Phillips	Councillor	26-Feb-10	30-Jun-15	5-Mar-02	Male
Professor Richard Bryant	Councillor	1-Oct-10	30-Jun-14	1-Oct-10	Male
Professor Rachelle Buchbinder	Councillor	1-Jul-11	30-Jun-16	1-Jul-11	Female
Dr Roger Clarnette	Councillor	30-Nov-12	31-Oct-16	30-Nov-12	Male
Professor Robert Cumming	Councillor	1-Mar-11	28-Feb-16	1-Feb-09	Male
Professor Albert Frauman	Councillor	1-Mar-11	28-Feb-16	1-Feb-09	Male
Professor John Funder AO	Councillor	1-Mar-11	28-Feb-16	1-Feb-09	Male
Professor Adele Green AC	Councillor	1-Oct-10	30-Jun-14	1-Oct-10	Female
Professor Andrew Grulich	Councillor	1-Mar-11	28-Feb-16	1-Feb-09	Male
Professor David Handelsman	Councillor	1-Mar-11	28-Feb-16	1-Feb-09	Male
Associate Professor John Hart	Councillor	1-Mar-11	28-Feb-16	17-Nov-96	Male
Professor Helen Herrman	Councillor	1-Oct-10	30-Jun-14	1-Oct-10	Female
Professor Ken Ho	Councillor	1-Oct-10	30-Jun-14	28-Oct-05	Male
Dr Michael Izard	Councillor	1-Oct-10	30-Jun-14	3-Oct-02	Male
Dr David Joske	Councillor	1-Mar-11	28-Feb-16	21-Dec-01	Male
Professor Mark Khangure	Councillor	30-Nov-12	31-Oct-16	30-Nov-12	Male
Professor Geoffrey Littlejohn	Councillor	1-Mar-11	28-Feb-16	17-Nov-96	Male
Mr Glenn McCulloch	Councillor	1-Oct-10	30-Jun-14	1-Oct-10	Male
Professor Robyn McDermott	Councillor	1-Oct-10	30-Jun-14	1-Oct-10	Female
Professor Alexander (Sandy) McFarlane AO	Councillor	1-Oct-10	30-Jun-14	1-Oct-10	Male
Professor Paul Mitchell	Councillor	1-Oct-10	30-Jun-14	1-Oct-10	Male
Professor Eric Morand	Councillor	1-Jul-11	30-Jun-16	1-Jul-11	Male
Associate Professor Stephen Mulligan	Councillor	1-Mar-11	28-Feb-16	1-Feb-09	Male
Associate Professor Peter Nash	Councillor	1-Jul-11	30-Jun-16	1-Jul-11	Male
Dr David Glen Newman	Councillor	1-Oct-10	30-Jun-14	3-Mar-06	Male
Dr Bradely Ng	Councillor	30-Nov-12	31-Oct-16	30-Nov-12	Male
Professor Justin O'Day	Councillor	1-Oct-10	30-Jun-14	1-Oct-10	Male
Professor Derrick Silove	Councillor	1-Oct-10	30-Jun-14	1-Oct-10	Male
Dr Constantine Tam	Councillor	1-Mar-11	28-Feb-16	1-Feb-09	Male
Dr Rick Tinker	Councillor	30-Nov-12	31-Oct-16	30-Nov-12	Male
Associate Professor Andrew Wirth	Councillor	1-Mar-11	28-Feb-16	1-Feb-09	Male

Member Name	Position	Current Term		Date of first appointment	Gender
		Start Date	End Date		

#### Australian War Memorial Council

Rear Admiral Kenneth Allan Doolan AO RAN (Ret'd)	Chair	12-Nov-09	11-Nov-15	12-Nov-12	Male
Mrs Wendy Sharpe	Member	30-Jun-11	29-Jun-13	25-May-05	Female
The Honourable Graham Edwards AM	Member	3-Jun-10	2-Jun-13	3-Jun-10	Male
Mr Kerry Stokes AC	Member	7-Apr-11	6-Apr-14	19-Aug-07	Male
Ms Jane McAloon	Member	7-Apr-11	6-Apr-14	7-Apr-11	Female
Air Vice-Marshal Julie Hammer	Member	7-Apr-11	6-Apr-14	7-Apr-11	Female
Mr Kevin Woods CSC OAM	Member	30-Jun-11	29-Jun-14	30-Jun-11	Male
Dr Allan Hawke AC	Member	21-Mar-12	20-Mar-15	21-Mar-12	Male
Major General Paul Stevens AO (Ret'd)	Member	21-Mar-12	20-Mar-15	21-Mar-12	Male
Mr Peter FitzSimons AM	Member	30-Apr-12	29-Apr-15	30-Apr-12	Male
Vice Admiral Ray Griggs AO CSC RAN	Ex-Officio Member	n/a - ex-officio		7-Jun-11	Male
Lieutenant General David Morrison AO	Ex-Officio Member	n/a - ex-officio		27-Jun-11	Male
Air Marshal Geoff Brown AO	Ex-Officio Member	n/a - ex-officio		4-Jul-11	Male

#### Prime Ministerial Advisory Council (PMAC)

The Honourable Graham Edwards AM	Chair	1-Dec-11	30-Nov-14	9-Oct-08	Male
Mrs Julie Blackburn	Member	1-Dec-11	30-Nov-14	1-Dec-11	Female
Mr Michael Callan	Ex-Officio Member	1-Dec-11	31-Jul-12	1-Dec-11	Male
Mr Ray Bromwich	Ex-Officio Member	1-Aug-12	30-Nov-14	30-Aug-12	Male
Mr Andrew Condon CSC	Member	1-Dec-11	30-Nov-14	1-Dec-11	Male
Commodore Nick Helyer MBE RANR	Member	1-Dec-11	30-Nov-13	9-Oct-08	Male
Major Matina Jewell (Ret'd)	Member	1-Dec-11	30-Nov-14	1-Dec-11	Female
Mr Ken Kipping AM	Member	1-Dec-11	30-Nov-13	9-Oct-08	Male
Ms Dannielle Kitchen	Member	1-Dec-11	30-Nov-14	1-Dec-11	Female
Ms Anne Pahl	Member	1-Dec-11	30-Nov-13	9-Oct-08	Female
Mr Philip Pyke	Member	1-Dec-11	30-Nov-13	9-Oct-08	Male

#### Anzac Centenary Advisory Board (ACAB)

Air Chief Marshal Angus Houston AC AFC (Ret'd)	Chair	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	6-Jul-11	Male
Air Marshal Mark Binskin AO	Ex-Officio Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	13-Oct-11	Male
Mr Ian Campbell PSM	Ex-Officio Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	13-Oct-11	Male
Rear Admiral Ken Doolan AO RAN (Ret'd)	Ex-Officio Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	13-Oct-11	Male
His Excellency Major General (Ret'd) Martyn Dunne	Ex-Officio Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	13-Oct-11	Male

Member Name	Position	Current Term		Date of first appointment	Gender
		Start Date	End Date		
Mr Luke Bowen	Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	13-Oct-11	Male
Professor Christine Charles	Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	13-Oct-11	Female
Mr Peter FitzSimons AM	Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	13-Oct-11	Male
Professor Margaret Gardner AO	Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	13-Oct-11	Female
Mrs Kathryn Greiner AO	Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	13-Oct-11	Female
Mr Sandy Hollway AO	Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	13-Oct-11	Male
Professor David Horner AM	Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	13-Oct-11	Male
Major General Brian Howard AO MC ESM (Ret'd)	Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	13-Oct-11	Male
Dr Jackie Huggins AM FAHA	Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	13-Oct-11	Female
The Honourable Sandy Macdonald	Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	13-Oct-11	Male
Brigadier Bill Rolfe AO (Ret'd)	Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	13-Oct-11	Male
His Honour Judge Rauf Soulio	Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	13-Oct-11	Male
Mr James Strong AO	Member	1-Jul-12	3-Mar-13	13-Oct-11	Male
Rear Admiral Davyd Thomas AO CSC RAN	Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	13-Oct-11	Male
The Hon Arch Bevis	Member	3-Aug-12	30-Jun-16	3-Aug-12	Male
Ms Deborah Thomas	Member	3-Aug-12	30-Jun-16	3-Aug-12	Female

#### National Advisory Committee on the VVCS – Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service (NAC)

Dr Tony Austin AM – Veteran	Chairman	14-Apr-09	13-Apr-15	14-Apr-09	Male
Professor Malcolm Battersby - Psychiatrist	Member	14-Apr-09	13-Apr-15	14-Apr-09	Male
Ms Tracey Negus - Daughter of Vietnam Veteran	Member	1-Jul-07	30-Jun-13	1-Jul-07	Female
Dr David Monash - General Practitioner	Member	1-Jul-07	30-Jun-13	1-Jul-07	Male
Dr David Cockram - Vietnam Veteran	Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-15	1-Jul-12	Male
Mr Brenton Russell DSM - Contemporary Veteran	Member	1-Jul-12	30-Jun-15	1-Jul-12	Male
Mr Paul Copeland OAM JP - Peacekeeper	Member	1-Jan-13	31-Dec-15	1-Jan-13	Male
WOI Heike Brown - Contemporary Veteran	Member	1-Jan-13	31-Dec-15	1-Jan-13	Female
Mrs Mel Pyrah - Partners and Families	Member	1-Jan-13	31-Dec-15	1-Jan-13	Female
WO David Ashley OAM - RSMA	Ex-Officio Member	n/a ex-officio			Male
Major General Mark Kelly AO DSC - Repatriation Commissioner	Ex-Officio Member	n/a ex-officio			Male
Professor David Forbes - Director - ACPMH	Ex- Officio Member	n/a ex-officio			Male
Mr Ray Bromwich - Director General - Defence Community Organisation	Ex- Officio Member	n/a ex-officio			Male
Mr Wayne Penniall - National Manager, VVCS	Ex- Officio Member	n/a ex-officio			Male

Member Name	Position	Current Term		Date of first appointment	Gender
		Start Date	End Date		

**The Veterans' Children Education Boards/Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act Education and Training Boards**

Dr John Roulston	Chairperson	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	18-Apr-06	Male
Mr Cyril Gilbert OAM	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	1-Jan-93	Male
Ms Alison Armstrong	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	1-Jan-97	Female
Mr Alan Reece	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	15-Dec-03	Male
Reverend Samuel Seymour	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	1-Jan-90	Male
Mr Phillip Lilliebridge	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	7-Mar-12	Male
Mr Tony Smith	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	7-Mar-12	Male
Mr Peter Jones	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	7-Mar-12	Male
Mr James Davies	Chairperson	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	21-Jul-93	Male
Ms Betty Fox	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	1-Jan-97	Female
Mr Graeme Gatley	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	22-Dec-89	Male
Ms Frances Conroy	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	1-Jan-02	Female
Mr Raymond Stanley	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	31-Jan-05	Male
Mr Lindsay Strong	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	1-Jan-94	Male
Ms Janine Harvey	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	29-Sep-06	Female
Ms Tracy Dancer	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	20-Oct-09	Female
Ms Denise Wilkowski	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	28-Oct-10	Female
Mr Robert Webster	Chairperson	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	1999	Male
Ms Anne O'Kane	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	23-May-05	Female
Mr Geoffrey Brewer	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	23-Jul-01	Male
Mrs Judy Perlstein	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	18-Apr-06	Female
Mrs Evelyn Morgan-Brooker	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	23-Jul-01	Female
Professor Erica Frydenberg	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	26-Mar-03	Female
Mr John Vincent	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	29-Sep-06	Male
Mr Neil MacNeill	Chairperson	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	3-Feb-03	Male
Mr George Halleen	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	1-Jan-00	Male
Mr Malcolm Crosbie	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	1-Jan-00	Male
Ms Caroline Payne	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	20-Jan-09	Female
Ms Barbara Clinton	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	21-Dec-99	Female
Mr Frederic Betts	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	7-Aug-03	Male
Mr Lloyd Page	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	3-Feb-03	Male
Dr Ian Fraser	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	25-Jun-07	Male
Ms Liz Sullivan	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	20-Oct-09	Female



Member Name	Position	Current Term		Date of first appointment	Gender
		Start Date	End Date		
Mr Leslie Vincent	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	29-Sep-06	Male
Dr Fred Orr	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	1-Jan-97	Male
Mr Sheldon Maher	Deputy Chairperson	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	1-Feb-93	Male
Ms Marie Larkings	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	28-Oct-10	Female
Commodore Nick Helyer MBE RANR	Chairperson	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	2006	Male
Mr Maurice L Green APM	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	2006	Male
Mr George Moscos	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	28-Oct-10	Male
Ms Ruth Still	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	2006	Female
Dr Anthony McArthur	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	7-Mar-12	Male
Ms Brie Backo	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	7-Mar-12	Female
Mrs Margaret Green	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	7-Mar-12	Female
Mr Byron Nicol	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	1-Jan-97	Male
Mrs Dianne Smith	Chairperson	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	4-Feb-03	Female
Mr Don Killion	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	4-Feb-03	Male
Ms Sandy Verrier	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	6-Feb-02	Female
Mrs Lynette Johnston	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	2006	Female
Ms Jan Hyde	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	7-Mar-12	Female
Dr Marion Myhil	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	7-Mar-12	Female
Ms Judy Travers	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	7-Mar-12	Female
Ms Susan Diprose	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	7-Mar-12	Female
Ms Maryanne Ryan	Member	07-Mar-12	31-Dec-14	7-Mar-12	Female

**Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade**  
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**Answers to questions on notice from Department of Veterans' Affairs**

**Question 13**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Freedom of Information**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. Has the department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
2. What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?
3. How many FOI requests has the Department received for this financial year to date?
  - a) How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted?
  - b) Has the department failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many and why?
  - c) Do any of these requests remain outstanding? If so, how many and why?

**Answer**

1. The department has regard to Guidelines issued by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) under Section 93A of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*. These Guidelines are updated by the OAIC from time to time.
2. For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 December 2012, the total cost to the Department to process FOI requests is \$0.36 million.
- 3.

<b>FOI Requests</b>	<b>1 July 2012 – 31 December 2012</b>
On hand at 1 July 2012	228
Received	2187
Finalised	2245
Granted in full	1938
Granted in part	13
Access Refused	52
Transferred	199
Withdrawn	43
Outstanding at 31 December 2012	170
Response 0 – 30 days	1940
Response 31 – 60 days (with consultation)	4
Response 31 – 60 days	49
Response 61 – 90 days	6
Response over 90 days	4

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**Question 14**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Community Cabinet Meetings**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. How many Community Cabinet meetings has the Minister attended this financial year to date? List date and location.
2. How many Departmental Officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date?
  - a) What was the total cost of this travel? List travel type, accommodate and any other expenses.
  - b) Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Departmental Officers attend? List date and location.
3. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date?

**Answer**

There has been no change to the answer provided to Question on Notice 17 from Supplementary Budget Estimates 17 October 2012.

**Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade**  
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**Answers to questions on notice from Department of Veterans' Affairs**

**Question 15**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Reviews**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

For this financial year to date:

- a) How many reviews are being undertaken?
- b) What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be concluded?
- c) Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?
- d) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
- e) Has the Government responded to all reviews within the timeframe? If not, why not?
- f) What is the estimated cost of each of these reviews?
- g) What reviews are planned?
- h) When will each of these reviews be concluded?

**Answer**

a), b) and g).

Nil.

c), d), e), f) and h).

Not applicable.

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**Answers to questions on notice from Department of Veterans' Affairs**

**Question 16**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Consultancies**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. How many consultancies have been undertaken this financial year to date? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.
2. 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, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.

**Answer**

1. The details requested are available under the **Reports** tab on AusTender ([www.tenders.gov.au](http://www.tenders.gov.au)).
2. Consultancies planned for this calendar year are listed on the Department's Annual Procurement Plan, available under the **Procurement Plans** tab on AusTender ([www.tenders.gov.au](http://www.tenders.gov.au)).

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**Question 17**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Media Monitoring**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for this financial year to date?
  - a) Which agency or agencies provided these services?
  - b) What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13?
  - c) What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?
2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for this financial year to date?
  - a) Which agency or agencies provided these services?
  - b) What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13?
  - c) What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?

**Answers**

1. and 2.

In the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013, the same press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera are provided to the Minister's office and to the Department.

- a) Media Monitors provided these services.
- b) The estimated budget for the year 2012-13 is \$210,000 (GST excl).
- c) The total expenditure as at 31 January 2013 was \$122,491.86 (GST excl).

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**Question 18**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Social Media**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. 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 May 2012 Budget Estimates? If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issue.
2. Does the department/agency monitor usage of social media? If yes, provide details of the usage (for example details could include average hours per employee, hours when usage peaks).
3. Has there been a change to the department/agency protocols due to staff usage? If no, why not? Will the department/agency monitor usage in the future?
4. Does social media impact on employed productivity? Provide details (details could include increased internet usage in general or increased internet usage in standard business hours).

**Answer**

1. No.
2. The Department does not monitor usage of social media sites, however, overall internet usage by staff is monitored regularly. Daily, weekly and monthly reports are produced.
3. No. The Department has blocked staff access to Facebook, YouTube and MySpace. A small number of staff have access for specific business reasons (e.g. senior executive, media and communications, and web staff). Twitter access is not restricted. There are no current plans to specifically monitor social media usage given that access is blocked for the majority of staff.
4. There is no evidence suggesting that social media has impacted on employee productivity, as access is blocked for the majority of staff.

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**Answers to questions on notice from Department of Veterans' Affairs**

**Question 19**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Internet**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

Has the Department experienced any internet problems, such as but not limited to slow internet, or internet blackouts? If yes, what was the reason for this? Did it impact the Minister's office?

**Answer**

The Department has been experiencing internet problems related to overall speed and reliability.

DVA is working with its ICT Service Provider for desktop services, the Department of Human Services (DHS), to upgrade the current Internet Explorer from version 7 to version 8.

These issues have had a minor impact on the Minister's Office. They have not impacted availability of the Department's websites for clients.



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**Question 20**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Staff Amenities**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

What amenities are provided to staff? Provide a list.

**Answer**

There is no information in addition to that provided in answer to Question on Notice 27 from Supplementary Budget Estimates 17 October 2012.

**Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade**  
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**Answers to questions on notice from Department of Veterans' Affairs**

**Question 21**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Coffee Machines**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. Has the department/agency purchased coffee machines for staff usage? If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased.
2. Why were coffee machines purchased?
3. Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were purchased? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?
4. Where did the funding for the coffee machines come from?
5. Who has access?
6. Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines?
  - a) How much was spent on maintenance in this financial year to date, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken.
  - b) Where does the funding for maintenance come from?
7. What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee?
8. Does the department/agency rent coffee machines for staff usage? If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased.
9. Why are coffee machines rented?
10. Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were rented? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?
11. Where does the funding for the coffee machines come from?
12. Who has access?
13. Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance in this financial year to date, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?
14. What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee?

**Answer**

1. No.

2. to 14.

Not applicable.

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**Answers to questions on notice from Department of Veterans' Affairs**

**Question 22**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Contractors**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

For this financial year to date:

- a) Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
- b) Has the department/agency ever employed Shannon's Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon's Way? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
- c) Has the department/agency ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group in any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
- d) Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
- e) Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
- f) Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
- g) Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
- h) Has the department/agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).
- i) Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.
- j) What contractors have been employed by the department/agency? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).

**Answer**

a) – i)

For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013, the companies listed have not been employed by the Department.

j)

All contracts over \$10,000 are published on AusTender ([www.tenders.gov.au](http://www.tenders.gov.au)) with a description of the work undertaken and contract value.

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**Question 23**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Grants**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. Could the department/agency provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for this financial year to date? Please provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.
2. Have all grant agreement details been published on its website within the required timeframe? If not, provide details.
3. Provide a list of grants that your department/agency administers that had uncommitted grants funding reduced as per the statement by the Finance Minister on 22 October 2012 (see [http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media/2012/mr\\_2102012.html](http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media/2012/mr_2102012.html)).
  - a) How much was funding reduced for grant?

**Answer**

1. All approved grants are published on the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) website. Lists of all approved DVA grants can be found at the following links:  
[http://www.dva.gov.au/ex-service\\_organisations/grants/Pages/ApprovedGrantsList.aspx](http://www.dva.gov.au/ex-service_organisations/grants/Pages/ApprovedGrantsList.aspx)  
[http://www.dva.gov.au/ex-service\\_organisations/grants/Pages/OPCMR.aspx](http://www.dva.gov.au/ex-service_organisations/grants/Pages/OPCMR.aspx)
2. DVA endeavours to comply with the required reporting timeframe. However, there have been a small number of occasions where the required timeframe has not been met.
3. DVA had no uncommitted grants funding reduced.

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**Question 24**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Commissioned Reports**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your department/agency this financial year to date? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.
2. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost?
3. How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?
4. What is the current status of each report?
5. When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

**Answer**

1. For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013, one Report has been commissioned. This special investigation was required to resolve conflicting views between the Australian Government and members of a local French remembrance association (*Fromelles Weppes Terre de Mémoire 1914-1918*) concerning the sequence of events leading to the discovery and recovery of human remains at Pheasant Wood, near Fromelles in France. The first Agreement related to this special investigation was executed on 21 December 2012, and a subsequent Agreement executed on 12 January 2013. The report containing the findings of this special investigation was received by the Department on 1 March 2013. The date of public release is yet to be determined. Terms of Reference and Committee members are at [Attachment 1](#).
2. The final cost of this report is currently unknown, however it is estimated that total cost will not exceed \$AUD25,000 (based on rates and allowances specified within respective agreements with researchers.)
3. Two. One Principal Executive Officer A and one APS6.
4. The Report's recommendations are being considered.
5. The Government intends to use the information contained within the report to substantiate information and guide subsequent decisions on crediting the sequence of events leading to the discovery and recovery of human remains at Pheasant Wood in France.

**TERMS OF REFERENCE  
EVENTS LEADING TO THE DISCOVERY OF THE MASS GRAVES AT PHEASANT  
WOOD**

**Background**

The Fromelles Museum, currently in construction, is a joint project of the French national, communal and local authorities and the Australian Government to honour those who served at the battle Fromelles 19-20 July 2016, and in particular to tell the story of the recovery of the remains of 250 soldiers, most of them Australians, from a mass graves in Pheasant Wood in 2008.

The development of content for the Fromelles Museum has revealed conflicting views of the research and sequence of events leading to the recovery from Pheasant Wood. This matter must be resolved so that the Museum can present historically accurate content.

**Parties:** The parties are:

The Australian Government, represented by Brigadier Chris Appleton, Director, Office of Australian War Graves, and

The Communaute de Communes de Weppes represented by Michel Borrewater, Vice President.

**Agreement:**

The parties agree to commission two independent historians (not previously associated with the Fromelles recovery), one French and one Australian, to jointly investigate and report upon the research and sequence of events leading to the recovery from Pheasant Wood.

The parties agree to engage two independent historians, one French and one Australian, with no prior experience in the Fromelles recovery, who will together investigate and write a report following their research of the events leading to the recovery from Pheasant Wood.

The parties agree to the instructions to the historians outlined at Attachment A.

The parties agree that the historians consult with the stakeholders detailed at Attachment B in the course of the investigation.

The parties agree that the investigation will be funded by the Australian Government.

The parties agree to abide with the conclusions of the investigation.

*Original signed*

Brigadier Chris Appleton  
Director  
Office of Australian War Graves  
8 December 2012

*Original signed*

Michel Borrewater  
Vice President  
Communaute de Communes de Weppes  
8 December 2012

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**Question 25**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Government Payment of Accounts**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

For this financial year to date, has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)?

- a) If not, why not? Provide details, including 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.
- b) 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?
- c) Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is the rate determined?

**Answer**

- a) For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013, the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) paid 96.07% of its invoices within 30 days of receipt of a correctly rendered invoice, in accordance with Government policy. Where delays in claims processing have occurred, they can generally be attributed to administrative delays in the validation and handling of claims. The issue continues to be successfully addressed through systems improvements and education which has resulted in incremental improvements in performance over the last three financial years.

<b>1 July 2012 – 31 January 2013</b>	<b>Paid within 30 days</b>	<b>Paid within 31-44 days</b>	<b>Paid within 45- 60 days</b>	<b>Not paid within 60 days</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
	<b>Paid on-time</b>	<b>(up to 14 days late)</b>	<b>(up to 30 days late)</b>	<b>(30 or more days late)</b>	
Number of Invoices	5,556	87	62	78	5,783
% of invoices by number	96.07	1.50	1.07	1.35	100

- b) No interest has been paid on overdue amounts in the current or previous financial years.
- c) Not Applicable.

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**Question 26**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Stationery Requirements**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. How much was spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. paper, envelopes, with compliments slips) this financial year to date?
2. What are the department/agency's stationery costs for the financial year to date?

**Answer**

1. Expenditure on stationery is recorded for the whole Department under a single account code and it would be too resource intensive to identify what proportion was attributed to the Office of the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.
2. For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013, the Department spent \$171,607 on stationery and office requisites. The Department's chart of accounts does not provide for a breakdown between stationery and office requisites.



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**Question 27**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Media Subscriptions**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

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 for this financial year 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 for this financial year 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 for this financial year to date?

**Answer**

1. The Department has a Foxtel subscription which provides nine channel services to 11 outlets (connections) within the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA).
  - a) Foxtel provides the following package of channels to DVA to enable some staff in DVA to access and monitor the media channels throughout the day so as to provide advice and support to the Minister's Office on portfolio issues relevant to the Department.
    - Sky News
    - BBC World
    - Fox News
    - CNN
    - Sky News Business
    - History Channel
    - Foxsports 1, 2 and 3

The History and Foxsports channels have been provided at no additional cost. The Department did request a price reduction if these channels were removed but Foxtel advised the price was for a package.
  - b) The cost to 31 January 2013 was \$1,646.61 (ex GST).
2. a) The Department subscribes to major newspapers and industry magazines to allow professional staff (e.g. SES, counsellors, medical staff, historians, pharmacists etc) to research, monitor and maintain their awareness of latest developments in their fields of speciality. Details of which newspapers and magazines is not centrally recorded and the time and effort to provide this information would be too resource intensive.

2. b) Expenditure on newspapers and magazines are recorded against two account codes – one for Newspapers, Subscriptions, Journals and Magazines and the other is for funding for the Library (includes subscriptions for Manuals/Magazines/Journals). To extract details of what proportion was attributed to magazines and newspapers would be too resource intensive. The total expenditure against these account codes for the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013 was \$25,754.
  
3. a) See answer to 2. a).
  
3. b) See answer to 2. b).

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**Question 28**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Travel Costs**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that includes airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).
2. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
3. What travel is planned for the rest of this financial year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
4. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
5. Are the Government's Lowest Practical Fare travel policy for Domestic Air Travel (Finance Circular No. 2009/10) and Best Fare of the Day for International Air Travel (Finance Circular No. 2009/11) guidelines being followed? How is the department/agency following the advice? How is this monitored? If the guidelines are not being followed, please explain why.
6. Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the total costs of the lounge memberships.
7. When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as an Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel.
8. Does the department/agency elect to offset emissions for employees work related travel? If yes, what is the cost?

**Answer**

1. For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013, no departmental officers formally accompanied the Minister on official travel. However, six departmental staff travelled to Timor-Leste between 24 and 27 August 2012 and 12 departmental staff travelled to North Africa from 17 to 20 October 2012. All departmental staff were part of delegation parties of First World War veterans at which the Minister was also in attendance.
2. For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013, the Department spent \$2,739,504 on employee travel. This figure includes domestic and overseas travel. The expenditure breakup is shown in the table below. The reasons for travel by departmental officers include: attending departmental meetings once the cost effectiveness of the travel has been established; maintain

war graves in remote areas; arrange and attend commemorative events overseas; and to meet with stakeholders such as ex service organisations.

**Financial Year 2012-13 to 31 January 2013**

<b>Travel type</b>	<b>Spend</b>
Airfares and booking fees	\$1,529,854
Travel Allowances (meals and incidentals)/Accommodation/Parking/Tolls/Rail/Ferry	\$1,157,855
Car hire	\$51,795
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,739,504</b>

**Notes:** 1. Figures are GST exclusive. 2. The car hire figures provided in previous answers to questions on notice included the cost of leased vehicles. The costs for leased vehicles has now been removed from the travel costs answer to align with the question on hire cars.

Data on the breakdown of fares by type is provided in the following table. The data includes domestic and international travel.

<b>Business class</b>	<b>Fully Flexible</b>	<b>Mid Range</b>	<b>Lowest Restricted</b>
635	398	931	714

3. and 4.

Travel within the Department is carried out on a needs basis in direct response to business requirements. Forecasting of future travel is not realistic as emerging needs arise at short notice. Therefore, we are not able to predict the future expenditure in this area.

5. Yes. The booking systems used by departmental staff ensure that the Lowest Practical fare for Domestic Air Travel and Best Fare of the Day for International Air Travel guidelines are being followed. Choice of fares and the reasons for choosing fares are monitored by the Department's travel management company and through the Department's travel system.

6. Lounge memberships are provided to employees who qualify. To qualify the employee must travel at least 12 times per year and have the endorsement of their Assistant Secretary. As at 31 January 2013, 128 employees held QANTAS lounge memberships. Sixteen of these memberships are held by employees at the Senior Executive Service (SES) level. The remaining 112 memberships are held by non SES employees. Memberships are usually provided for periods of two years. The total cost of these memberships is \$55,865.

10 employees hold Virgin lounge memberships, nine of which have been provided free of charge by Virgin Australia and one has been paid for by the Department at a cost of \$468.75. Three of these employees belong to the Senior Executive Service (SES). The remaining seven are non SES employees.

7. Support or administrative staff do not usually travel with SES employees.

8. The Department does not offset emissions for work related travel.

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**Question 29**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Legal Costs**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator Eggleston asked:**

1. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
2. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
3. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
4. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

**Answer**

The Department does not generally disclose the content of legal advice received. It is important for the Department to be able to make fully informed decisions based on comprehensive and confidential legal advice. As such only total figures for legal service expenditure are provided.

1. For the financial year 2012-13 to 31 December 2012, DVA has spent \$1.7 million on legal services within the department.
2. For the financial year 2012-13 to 31 December 2012, DVA has spent \$0.85 million on legal services from the Australian Government Solicitor (AGS).
3. For the financial year 2012-13 to 31 December 2012, DVA has spent \$1.7 million on legal services from private firms.
4. For the financial year 2012-13 to 31 December 2012, DVA has spent \$0.62 million on legal services from other sources (barristers and disbursements).

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**Question 30**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Educational Expenses**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. What is the department/agency's guidelines on study?
2. For this financial year to date, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, the employment classification of each participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). Also include the reason for the study and how it is beneficial for the department/agency.

**Answer**

1. The Department's certified Enterprise Agreement 2012- 2014 provides for the provision of studies assistance:  
<http://www.dva.gov.au/aboutDVA/publications/corporate/Documents/2012ea.pdf> (refer to page 60).

The Department's Studies Assistance Policy is aimed at furthering the skills, knowledge and qualifications of DVA employees. Specific proposals for studies assistance must be reflected in the employee's performance agreement.

2. The Department's human resource management information system does not record full details of staff in receipt of education benefits (i.e. study assistance) nor a breakdown of the type of study assistance received.

Furthermore, in relation to training courses, there is no central recording of all departmental training. Individual business areas arrange training from time to time which is specific only to their area and needs. This training is not centrally recorded. The time and effort to provide the information requested would be too resource intensive.

For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013, the Department's financial management system has recorded expenditure of \$443,798 on learning and development activities. This figure is primarily payments to training providers for the design and delivery of courses and associated administrative costs, but does not include staff salary costs.

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**Question 31**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Executive Coaching and Leadership Training**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:
  - a) Total spending on these services
  - b) The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification
  - c) The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
  - d) The names of all service providers engaged
  
2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (1, d), please provide:
  - a) The name and nature of the service purchased
  - b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based
  - c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification
  - d) The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
  - e) The total amount spent on the service
  - f) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)
  
3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:
  - a) The location used
  - b) The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
  - c) The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
  - d) Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location

**Answer**

From time to time, individual business areas arrange coaching and leadership training which is specific only to their area and needs. This training is not centrally recorded and the time and effort to provide this information would be too resource intensive.

The Department runs two leadership development programs which are corporately administered. These are the Executive Leadership Program (ELP) for Executive Level staff and the Looking Forwards Program (LFP) for APS 4 to APS 6 level staff. APS 3 level staff are able to attend LFP if the program is considered suitable for the individual. For these leadership development programs, the answers are as follows:

1.

- a) \$227,756 for the 2012–13 financial year to 31 January 2013 for both programs.
- b) These programs are offered to DVA employees at the relevant classifications – i.e. all Executive Level staff and all APS 4 to APS 6 level staff.
- c) For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013:
  - 19 staff participated in one ELP Recall (the related workshop was held last financial year); and
  - a total of 115 staff attended six LFP Workshops and seven Recalls.These are internal training programs and therefore study leave is not required.
- d) Yellow Edge (ELP) and ODS Management Consulting (LFP) were the service providers engaged.

2.

- a) Leadership training.
- b) Group based.
- c) For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013, 19 Executive Level staff participated in one ELP Recall and a total of 115 APS 3 to APS 6 level staff attended six LFP Workshops and seven Recalls.
- d) The total number of hours involved for the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013 is provided below:
  - ELP one Recall only (workshop occurred in previous financial year) – 95 hours comprising:
    - 17 EL1s x 5 hours = 85 hours
    - 2 EL2s x 5 hours = 10 hours
  - LFP Workshops and Recalls – 1411 hours comprising:
    - 26 APS3s x 17 hours = 442 hours
    - 9 APS4s x 17 hours = 153 hours
    - 19 APS5s x 17 hours = 323 hours
    - 29 APS6s x 17 hours = 493 hours
  - LFP Recall only (workshop occurred in previous financial year) – 76 hours comprising:
    - 1 APS3 x 4 hours = 4 hours
    - 6 APS4s x 4 hours = 24 hours
    - 9 APS5s x 4 hours = 36 hours
    - 3 APS6s x 4 hours = 12 hours

The hours indicated do not include preparatory and research work individuals undertake as part of the program. This would be difficult to determine and varies between individuals.

- e) \$227,756 for the 2012–13 financial year to 31 January 2013 for both programs.
- f) The cost noted above includes facilitation, course material and travel costs for facilitators. There is a standard cost for the facilitation; however, the total cost of each program varies depending on the number of participants, course material required and location of the program.

3.

- a) There were no workshops held at any location other than the Department's own premises.
- b) Not applicable.
- c) Not applicable.
- d) Not applicable.



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**Question 32**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Media training**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:
  - a) Total spending on these services.
  - b) The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification.
  - c) The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification).
  - d) The names of all service providers engaged.
2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (1.d), please provide:
  - a) The name and nature of the service purchased.
  - b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based.
  - c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification).
  - d) The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification).
  - e) The total amount spent on the service.
  - f) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package).
3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:
  - a) The location used.
  - b) The number of employees who took part on each occasion.
  - c) The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification).
  - d) Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location.

**Answer**

The Department has not purchased any media training services for the financial year 2012-13 to 31 January 2013.

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**Question 33**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Paid Parental Leave**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. Please list how many staff in each department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme?
2. For this financial year to date list which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff and their classification are in receipt of these payments.
3. What is the paid parental scheme offered by each department and agency? How many staff have used the scheme this financial year to date.

**Answer**

1. All employees with more than 12 months service who earn less than \$150,000 per annum and are the primary carer of a child are eligible to receive payment under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme. As eligibility is based on primary caring responsibility, the number of eligible staff cannot be identified.
2. For the financial year 2012-13 to 31 January 2013, 30 employees have received payment under the scheme. For details of the numbers of staff and their classification, please refer to the table below.

**Paid Parental Leave Payments to DVA Employees**

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Number</b>
APS2	2
APS3	4
APS4	5
APS5	8
APS6	6
EL1	4
Legal 1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>

3. The paid parental scheme offered by DVA is outlined in the DVA Enterprise Agreement 2012-2014, clauses 372-384. The Enterprise Agreement is available on the DVA web site at <http://www.dva.gov.au/aboutDVA/careers/Pages/index.aspx>.

For the financial year 2012-13 to 31 January 2013, 36 employees have used the scheme.

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**Question 34**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Training for Portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for.
2. For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for staff of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for.
3. For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for designed to better suit the needs of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for, and how many employees attended and their classification.

**Answer**

1, 2 and 3.

Nil.

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**Question 35**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Corporate Cars**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. How many cars are owned by each department / agency?
2. Where is the car/s located?
3. What is the car/s used for?
4. What is the cost of each car for this financial year to date?
5. How far did each car travel this financial year to date?

**Answer**

1. The Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) currently owns three cars which includes two commercial vehicles. There were previously four vehicles with one being disposed of in July 2012.
2. One car is located in Ankara, Turkey.  
One commercial vehicle is located at Port Moresby (Bomana) War Cemetery, Papua New Guinea.  
One commercial vehicle is located at Rabaul (Bitia Paka) War Cemetery, Papua New Guinea.
3. The car located in Ankara, Turkey is used for official purposes by the DVA Section at the Australian Embassy and limited private use by the DVA Counsellor.  
The commercial vehicles located in Papua New Guinea are used for the care and maintenance of Port Moresby (Bomana) and Rabaul (Bitia Paka) War Cemeteries and memorials.
4. For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013, the running cost of the car in Ankara, Turkey was approximately \$3,900.  
The running cost of the commercial vehicle located at Port Moresby (Bomana) War Cemetery, Papua New Guinea was approximately \$5,200  
The running cost of the commercial vehicle located at Rabaul (Bitia Paka) War Cemetery, Papua New Guinea was approximately \$2,100.
5. For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013, the car located in Ankara, Turkey has travelled approximately 12,800km (purchased April 2011). The vehicle disposed of in July 2012 had travelled approximately 120km (purchased May 2006).  
The commercial vehicle located at Port Moresby (Bomana) War Cemetery, Papua New Guinea has travelled approximately 9,600km (purchased in February 2010).  
The commercial vehicle located at Rabaul (Bitia Paka) War Cemetery, Papua New Guinea has travelled approximately 9,300km (purchased in December 2010).

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**Question 36**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Taxi Costs**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.
2. What are the reasons for taxi costs?

**Answer**

1. The spend on taxis for the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013 was \$357,195. The figures provided are exclusive of GST and do not include expenditure on taxis for veterans under the repatriation transport program, or for health services to veterans.

The breakdown by business group was:

<b>Business Group</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Secretary, Commissioner and Deputy President	\$6,171
State Deputy Commissioners	\$38,735
Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service	\$23,216
Corporate Division and Legal Services	\$70,833
Client and Commemorations Division	\$55,250
Rehabilitation and Support Division	\$75,986
Health and Community Services Division	\$67,842
Repatriation Medical Authority	\$6,532
Veterans Review Board	\$12,630

2. Please refer to the answer provided to Question on Notice 55, part 2 from Additional Budget Estimates 17 October 2012.

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**Question 37**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Hire Cars**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. How much did each department/agency spend on hire cars this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.
2. What are the reasons for hire car costs?

**Answer**

1. The spend on hire cars for the financial year 2012-13 to 31 January 2013, was \$51,795. The figures provided are exclusive of GST.

The breakdown by business group was:

<b>Business Group</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Secretary, Commissioner and Deputy President	\$1,913
State Deputy Commissioners	\$6,019
Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service	\$12,158
Corporate Division and Legal Services	\$1,546
Client and Commemorations Division	\$20,391
Rehabilitation and Support Division	\$793
Health and Community Services Division	\$5,555
Repatriation Medical Authority	\$540
Veterans Review Board	\$2,880

2. Hire cars are used in conjunction with official travel. They are used in lieu of taxis when it is cost efficient to do so. They are also used for regional travel in Australia and overseas, and when there is a need to carry equipment such as for training events or by grave maintenance field staff.

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**Question 38**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Credit Cards**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. Provide a breakdown for each employment classification that has a corporate credit card.
2. Please update details of the following?
  - a) What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused?
  - b) How is corporate credit card used monitored?
  - c) What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered?
  - d) Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.
  - e) What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?

**Answer**

1. The total number of cards issued to Department of Veterans' Affairs employees, as at 1 March 2013, was 252. The breakdown by employment classification was:

APS2	8
APS3	15
APS4	38
APS5	31
APS6	59
EL1	34
EL2	37
SES	24
Statutory Position Holders	4
Chair ANZAC Centenary Advisory Board	1
Principal Member VRB	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>252</b>

2. a), b), c), and e).

There is no change to the answer provided since Question on Notice 38 (parts 2 to 6) from Supplementary Budget Estimates 19 October 2011.

2. d)

Accidental use of cards for personal purchases or for purchases that are not sanctioned by the Chief Executive Instructions occur occasionally. In these cases, cardholders have been required to reimburse the Department. For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 January 2013, there were two such incidences reported in the Certificate of Compliance. They were:

- (i) While overseas on official business, a member of the Senior Executive Service used his corporate card for personal use as his personal card did not work. The funds were repaid to the Department.
- (ii) Whilst on personal leave, the Principal Member of the Veterans' Review Board privately hired a car from Hertz using his personal credit card. He incurred toll expenses of \$4.95 and \$14.76 whilst using the hire car. The toll company were mistakenly advised by Hertz to charge his corporate credit card (previously provided to Hertz in relation to work related travel) rather than his private credit card. The Principal Member promptly reported the error and immediately repaid the amount in full.



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**Question 39**

**Outcome All: Program All**  
**Topic: Provision of Equipment**  
(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. For departments/agencies that provide mobile phones to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what type of mobile phone is provided and the costs.
2. For departments/agencies that provide electronic equipment to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what are the ongoing costs for this financial year to date?
3. Is electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive) provided to department/agency staff? If yes provide details of what is provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it.
4. Does the department/agency provide their Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices with any electronic equipment? If yes, provide details of what is provided, the cost and to who it is provided.

**Answer**

1. The Minister has an Apple iPhone5 mobile phone and a Blackberry 9700 and seven staff each received a Blackberry 9700.

Ongoing costs for phone and data plans and usage associated with mobile phones and blackberries are set in accordance with Whole-of-Government panel pricing arrangements.

Costs:

<b>Device</b>	<b>Purchase Price</b>	<b>Usage Costs</b>
Mobile Phone	\$999.00	\$5.00 per month plus call and SMS costs, plus \$15.00 per month 1G Data Pack and excess data charges
Blackberry	\$768.50	\$34.95 per month plus call and SMS costs and excess data charges

2. The following electronic equipment has been provided to the Minister and his offices:

**Cost of ICT equipment provided to Minister and his offices is:**

- Workstations - \$54,072 per annum (includes support);
- Printers - \$375 (for one small portable printer only);
- Video Conferencing units - \$47,259;
- Laptops - \$8,400;
- iPhone - \$999;
- iPads - \$2,712; and
- Blackberries - \$5,243.

With the exception of the workstations, costs listed above are for the one-off purchase price of the equipment. Ongoing costs for usage of printers, mobile phone plans and data plans for blackberries, iPads and laptops are in addition to these costs and are set in accordance with Whole-of-Government panel pricing arrangements as per table in Question 3 below.

3. Yes. All DVA staff are provided with a standard workstation suite of products (PC or thin client, monitor, phone, keyboard, mouse and desktop software) and support of those products is at an average annual cost of \$4,506.00 per person. Support is provided as a managed service under a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Human Services. Equipment and support costs are bundled together into a single charge for services provided to end users and cannot be separately identified.

Other equipment required by staff is issued on a case by case basis following approval of the business requirements for the item. Provision of a detailed breakdown of equipment provided to staff by cost and staff level would involve considerable time and effort and be too resource intensive. However, the following additional electronic equipment is provided by the Department via Whole-of-Government panel arrangements:

- Mobile Phones – 347
- Blackberries – 77
- iPads – 42
- Wireless broadband cards – 186

Ongoing costs for phone and data plans and usage associated with mobile phones, blackberries, and wireless broadband services for iPads and Laptops are set in accordance with Whole-of-Government panel pricing arrangements. The current cost for each device type across the whole of the agency, including the Minister and his office, is as follows:

<b>Device</b>	<b>Usage Costs</b>	<b>Total cost for Department – 2011-12</b>	<b>Total cost for Department – 2012-13 to Jan 2013</b>
Mobile Phone	\$5.00 per month, plus call and SMS costs	\$133,078	\$36,849
Blackberry	\$34.95 per month, plus call and SMS costs and excess data charges	\$90,563	\$41,785
Wireless Broadband for iPads and Laptops	\$35.00 per month, plus excess data charges	\$186,642	\$69,796

4. Please refer to the answer provided in Part 2.

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**Question 40**

**Outcome All: Program All**  
**Topic: Electricity Purchasing**  
(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. What are the details of the department/agency electricity purchasing agreement?
2. What are the department/agency electricity costs for this financial year to date?

**Answer**

1. DVA's only electricity purchasing agreement is for Lovett Tower (Canberra Office). It is with ERM Power Retail electricity, as contracted by Defence Energy Services, acting on behalf of the Whole of Government. The contract commenced on 1 July 2011 and is for a period of four years.
2. For the 2012-13 financial year to 31 December 2012, DVA's electricity costs were \$523,097. DVA has not received final billing cost for January due to inconsistent billing arrangements nationally.

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**Question 41**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Briefings for the Australian Greens and Independents**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

1. Have any briefings and/or provision of information been provided to the Australian Greens? If yes, please include:
  - a) How are briefings requests commissioned?
  - b) What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.
  - c) Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information.
  - d) Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed.
  - e) How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.
2. Have any briefings and/or provision of information been provided to Independents? If yes, please include:
  - a) How are briefings requests commissioned?
  - b) What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.
  - c) Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information.
  - d) Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed.
  - e) How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Independents? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.
  - f) Which Independents have requested briefings and/or information?

**Answer**

1. and 2.

The Prime Minister's Office coordinates requests for briefings from the Greens and Independents in relation to Government legislation. The Minister's Office was asked to brief the Greens and Independents on 19 March 2013 and the Adviser was supported by a departmental officer.

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**Question 42**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Shredders**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

Has the department/agencies purchased any shredders this financial year? If yes, provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.

**Answer**

There has been no change to the answer provided to Question on Notice 64, part 2 from Supplementary Budget Estimates 17 October 2012.

See revised response

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**REVISED Question 42**

**Question 42**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Shredders**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

Has the department/agencies purchased any shredders this financial year? If yes, provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.

**Answer**

The Department has purchased two shredders for the 2012-13 financial year to 31 May 2013 in Darwin and Perth. One was purchased at the cost of \$229 (GST inc) for the purpose of destroying paper records containing hand written information and rough drafts containing sensitive client information (personal details, dob, phone numbers and the like, draft treatment plans etc). Once the information has been transferred to the official record (VMIS / Client files), these notes are disposed of securely.

The second was purchased at a cost of \$229 (GST inc) and replaced an existing shredder which no longer functioned. The shredder is used for the purposes outlined above.

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**Question 43**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Protective Security Policy Framework**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

Provide an update for your department/agency, including what is your current compliance level, what are you doing to manage risk, what is being done to comply with the mandatory requirements and details of any department/agency specific policies and procedures.

**Answer**

The above question contains four parts which are answered individually below.

**1. What is your current compliance level?**

The Department is fully compliant with 32 of the 33 Protective Security Policy Framework (PSPF) mandatory requirements and partially compliant with the remaining directive.

The outstanding directive – 16 Personal Security 3 – states “Agencies must maintain a Designated Security Assessment Position (DSAP) register”. The Protective Security Team has developed a DSAP register and is currently in the process of implementing the system on the electronic Human Resource Management System (HRMS). This will allow for live updates and reporting and ensure ongoing compliance with directive 16. Completion of the DSAP register is expected by May 2013 which falls well inside the required timeframe for compliance of 1 August 2013.

**2. What are you doing to manage risk?**

The Department has implemented Security Risk Management framework and practices which have been developed in accordance with:

- The Australian Government Protective Security Policy Framework (PSPF);
- The Australian Standard AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 Risk Management – Principles and Guidelines; and
- The Australian Standards HB 167:2006 Security risk management.

The Protective Security Team includes trained risk management professionals who are responsible for the development and maintenance of the risk policy and for providing risk management products including (but not limited to):

- Agency Security Plan;
- international travel assessments and briefings;
- site security inspections;
- incident response and assessment;
- security awareness training for staff and contractors;
- management of personnel security clearances;
- information security compliance checks; and
- risk management register.

**3. What is being done to comply with the mandatory requirements?**

Please refer to the answer provided in Part 1.

**4. Details of any department/agency specific policies and procedures?**

The Department has a current Agency Security Plan, a departmental specific Risk Management Plan (including current Risk Register) and a current Departmental Security Policy document. These documents are supported by eight security protocols covering the following topics:

1. Bomb Threat Protocol and Checklist;
2. Critical Security Incident Protocol;
3. ICT Security Protocol;
4. Information Security Protocol;
5. Managing Critical Incident Protocol;
6. Personnel Security and Aftercare Protocol;
7. Physical Security Protocol; and
8. Management of Heightened Risk to DVA Staff and Assets.



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**Question 44**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Office Locations**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator EGGLESTON asked:**

Please provide a list of all office locations for all departments and agencies within the portfolio by:

- a. Department/Agency;
- b. Location;
- c. Leased or Owned;
- d. Size;
- e. Number of Staff at each location and classification;
- f. If rented, the amount and breakdown of rent per square metre;
- g. If owned, the value of the building;
- h. Depreciation of buildings that are owned;
- i. Type of functions and work undertaken.

**Answer**

a), b), c), d), f), g), h) and i). Please refer to Attachment A.

e) The table reflects staff (head count) by classification and location as at 31 January 2013.

<b>Classification</b>	<b>ACT</b>	<b>NSW</b>	<b>NT</b>	<b>QLD</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>TAS</b>	<b>VIC</b>	<b>WA</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>APS1</b>	6	2		7			1		16
<b>APS2</b>	9	25	1	20	4	1	4	4	68
<b>APS3</b>	13	51	2	81	40	25	51	25	288
<b>APS4</b>	74	43	4	47	13	8	38	16	243
<b>APS5</b>	56	97	2	114	45	14	69	37	434
<b>APS6</b>	160	60	2	72	29	14	69	19	425
<b>EL1</b>	175	26		45	17	1	28	8	300
<b>EL2</b>	75	9	2	20	3	2	7	2	120
<b>Advocate</b>		2		2	1		2	1	8
<b>Legal 1</b>	4	1					3		8
<b>Legal 2</b>	2						1		3
<b>MO</b>				3					3
<b>PAO 1</b>	4								4
<b>PAO 2</b>	4								4
<b>PAO 3</b>	7	1		1					9
<b>SPAO</b>	1								1
<b>SES 1</b>	16	1			1		1	1	20
<b>SES 2</b>	5	1		1			1		8
<b>Statutory</b>	4	1							5
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>1967</b>

Please note that the ACT total in the table includes three overseas-based staff: one EL2 staff member in Turkey, one EL1 staff member in France; and one APS 5 staff member in Papua New Guinea.

The Department of Veterans' Affairs Human Resource Management System (HRMS) does not group staff by office location. Therefore, the time and effort to accurately provide the detail requested would be too resource intensive.

State	1(a) Who	1(b) Property Address	1(c) Leased or Owned	1(d) SQM	1(f) Rent Per Annum*	1(g) Value (If Owned)	1(h) Depreciation of Building (If Owned)	1(i) Types of Functions / Work Undertaken **
ACT	DVA	Lvls Mezzanine - Lvl 9, Lovett Tower, 13 Keltie St, Woden 2606 ***	Leased	8,922	\$389	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
ACT	DVA	Lvls 10-22 Lovett Tower, 13 Keltie St, Woden 2606	Leased	11,352	\$389	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
ACT	VVCS	6-8 Champion St, Deakin ACT 2600	Leased	255	\$357	N/A	N/A	Outcome 2
ACT	Car	Car Parks Only - Centra Plaza #	Leased (MOU)	20	\$1,954	N/A	N/A	N/A
ACT	VAN	30 Corinna St, Woden (asa cnr 28-30 Brewer St)	Leased	312	\$485	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
NSW	DVA	Centennial Plaza, 280 Elizabeth St, Surry Hills 2010	Leased	6,638	\$407	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
NSW	VAN	Ground Floor, 250 Mann Street, Gosford 2250	Leased	160	\$288	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
NSW	VAN/VVCS	Suite 6, Conway Court, 17 Conway St, Lismore 2480	Leased	396	\$332	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
NSW	VAN/VVCS	Suite 1 & 2 Grd Flr, 6 Auckland Street, Newcastle 2300	Leased	396	\$310	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
NSW	VAN	110 George St, Parramatta 2150	Leased	133	\$426	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
NSW	VVCS	Suite 1 & 2, 88 Phillip St, Parramatta 2150	Leased	597	\$395	N/A	N/A	Outcome 2
NSW	File/Archive	120 Miller Road, Villawood 2163	Leased (MOU)	586	\$34	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
NSW	VAN	Corporate Square, 43 Burelli Street, Wollongong 2500	Leased	142	\$388	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
NT	VAN/VVCS	Cnr Hickman St & Winnellie Road, Winnellie	Leased	685	\$248	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
NT	VAN/VVCS	Grnd Flr, 2 Chung Wah Terraces, Palmerston 0830	Leased	539	\$386	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
QLD	DVA/VRB	259 Queen Street, Brisbane 4000	Leased	7,527	\$609	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
QLD	VVCS	Suit G2/340 Ross River Rd, Aitkenvale 4817	Leased	421	\$377	N/A	N/A	Outcome 2
QLD	VVCS	15 Astor Terrace, Spring Hill 4000	Leased	481	\$470	N/A	N/A	Outcome 2
QLD	VAN	520 Flinders St, Townsville 4810	Leased	522	\$347	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
State	1(a) Who	1(b) Property Address	1(c) Leased or Owned	1(d) SQM	1(f) Rent Per Annum*	1(g) Value (If Owned)	1(h) Depreciation of Building (If Owned)	1(i) Types of Functions / Work Undertaken **

QLD	VAN/VVCS	12 Short Street, Southport 4215	Leased	332	\$307	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
QLD	VAN/VVCS	Shop 2/129 Horton Parade, Maroochydore 4558	Leased	333	\$397	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
QLD	VAN	99 Russell Street, Toowoomba 4350	Leased	144	\$308	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
QLD	File Store	996 Wynnum Road, Cannon Hill 4170	Leased	1,415	\$98	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
QLD	VAN	Shop 45 Tweed Mall, Tweed Heads 2485	Leased	145	\$839	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
SA	DVA	199 Grenfell Street, Adelaide 5000	Leased	3,041	\$319	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
SA	DVA	199 Grenfell Street, Adelaide 5000	Leased	613	\$319	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
SA	VVCS	Ground Floor, 99 Frome Street, Adelaide 5000	Leased	437	\$337	N/A	N/A	Outcome 2
TAS	DVA/VVCS	Barrack Place 254-256 Liverpool St, Hobart 7000	Leased	1,850	\$423	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
TAS	VVCS	29 Elphin Road, Launceston 7250	Leased	221	\$187	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
TAS	RSC	8 Boland Street, Launceston 7250 (ASA Willis St)	Leased (MOU)	Two work points	Nil	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
TAS	VVCS	Loyd Lane, Glenorchy 7010 (File Storage Centre)	Leased (MOU)	513	\$9	N/A	N/A	Outcome 2
VIC	DVA	Lvls 11-15, 300 La Trobe Street, Melbourne 3000	Leased	4,749	\$206	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
VIC	VAN	68a McLeod Street, Bairnsdale 3875	Leased	17	\$459	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
VIC	VAN	12 Dawson Street South, Ballarat 3350	Leased	172	\$209	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
VIC	VAN	Shop 6 54-58 Wells St, Frankston	Leased	140	\$188	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
VIC	VAN	U3 200 Malop Street, Geelong 3220	Leased	130	\$287	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
VIC	VAN	10 George Street, Morwell 3840	Leased	79	\$184	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
VIC	File Store	620 to 622 Lorimer Street, Port Melbourne 3207	Leased	1,923	\$131	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
VIC	VAN	715 Raglan Parade, Warrnambool 3280	Leased	15	\$520	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
VIC	VAN/VVCS	81 Hume Street, Wodonga 3690	Leased	289	\$217	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
VIC	VVCS	Level 4 / 440 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne 3000	Leased	691	\$360	N/A	N/A	Outcome 2
WA	DVA	140 St Georges Terrace, Perth 6000	Leased	2,110	\$474	N/A	N/A	Outcomes 1-3
WA	VVCS	7 Kintail Road, Applecross 6153	Leased	502	\$400	N/A	N/A	Outcome 2

\* Rent figures under 1(f) are per SQM, per annum. Properties with 'MOU' listed under 1(f) are paid under a Memorandum of Understanding licensing arrangement.

\*\* Outcomes listed under 1(i) are detailed in the 2012-13 Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements, and descriptions are below:

*Outcome 1* : Maintain and enhance the financial wellbeing and self-sufficiency of eligible persons and their dependants through access to income support, compensation, and other support services, including advice and information about entitlements.

*Outcome 2* : Maintain and enhance the physical wellbeing and quality of life of eligible persons and their dependants through health and other care services that promote early intervention, prevention and treatment, including advice and information about health service entitlements.

*Outcome 3* : Acknowledgement and commemoration of those who served Australia and its allies in wars, conflicts and peace operations through promoting recognition of service and sacrifice, preservation of Australia's wartime heritage, and official commemorations.

\*\*\* Note: Floors Mezzanine to level 6 of Lovett Tower are sublet.

# Rent figure relates to car parks only (20 spaces in total @ \$1,954/park per annum), and is paid under a Memorandum of Understanding licensing arrangement.

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**Question 45**

**Outcome All: Program All**

**Topic: Communications Staff**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator Eggleston asked:**

1. For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:  
By Department or Agency:
  - a) How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.
  - b) How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location.
  - c) How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location.
  - d) How many are graphic designers?
  - e) How many are media managers?
  - f) How many organise events?
2. Do any departments/agencies have independent media studios? If yes, why? When was it established? What is the set up cost? What is the ongoing cost? How many staff work there and what are their classifications?

**Answer**

1. The following details are provided for all public relations, communications and media staff in the Department of Veterans' Affairs as at 31 January 2013 (it should be noted that the advice came from the Senator, that 'questions on notice do not apply to Australian War Memorial, only DVA):
  - a) There are 18 ongoing staff:
    - (i) 4 are Public Affairs Officer Grade 1  
4 are Public Affairs Officer Grade 2  
9 are Public Affairs Officer Grade 3  
1 is a Senior Public Affairs Officer
    - (ii) the work undertaken by Public Affairs Officers is outlined in the Department's 2011-12 Annual Report – see page 84.
    - (iii) 16 are located in Canberra; 1 is located in Sydney; 1 is located in Brisbane.
  - b) There are no non-ongoing staff.
  - c) There are no contracted Public Affairs Officers.
  - d) Of the 18 Public Affairs Officers, 3 perform the role of a graphic designer.
  - e) There are no media managers.
  - f) There are no event organisers.
2. The Department does not have any independent media studios.

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**Question 46**

**Outcome 1: Program 1.4**

**Topic: BEST – Round 14**

(FADT Hansard Proof 13 February 2013, p 88)

**Senator RONALDSON asked:**

**Senator RONALDSON:** I turn briefly to the response to question 80 which said:

Of the 21 Phase 2 SDI Grant recipients, 14 received more funds in BEST Round 14 than they did in BEST Round 13.

What about the other seven? What were the circumstances preventing them from accessing the additional funding, and can you tell me who they were?

**Mr Farrelly:** I am not quite sure I understand the question, Senator.

**Senator RONALDSON:** It says:

Of the 21 Phase 2 SDI Grant recipients, 14 received more funds in BEST Round 14 than they did in BEST Round 13. This excludes transition funding.

Were the other seven precluded from additional funding, or was there no application for it, or was it just part of the process?

**Mr Farrelly:** There were 28 organisations that applied for phase 2 transition funding, and 21 were granted. We understood the question to be: how many of those 21 received increased best funding in the round, setting aside transition funding?

**Senator RONALDSON:** The questions were: how many SDI grants were applied for and approved in 2011-12; which organisations applied and were successful and what was the value of each grant; and was the full \$1.5 million for SDI grants fully allocated and if not where was the money spent? I am not too sure why you made the comment about the \$1.5 million, because it was not actually part of the question. I was just trying to ascertain what was the point of that and were the other seven precluded or just not given an increase in their BEST funding?

**Mr Farrelly:** The other seven simply would not have got an increase, if I understand your question.

**Senator RONALDSON:** Can you take on notice who they were for me.

**Mr Farrelly:** Yes.

**Answer**

In BEST Round 14 a funding formula based on workload information was developed in consultation with the ESO Round Table members. This formula, which took the complexity of claims work into account, was applied to the workload information supplied on each BEST application form and funds were allocated accordingly.

All eligible BEST applicants were assessed using this funding formula including the 21 Phase 2 SDI grant recipients. This process resulted in 14 recipients receiving more than they did in Round 13, and seven receiving less.

The seven organisations who received less funding in Round 14 are:

- Geelong Surf Coast Regional Veterans Centre
- Vietnam Veterans Peacekeepers and Peacemakers Association Hastings Manning Macleay Branch
- Armed Services Assistance Centre Inc
- Beaudesert RSL Sub-branch
- RSL Tasmania (sponsoring the Tasmanian Advocacy, Welfare and Pensions Association)
- Defence Force Welfare Association VIC Inc (sponsoring the Defence Force Welfare Association (Victoria Group))
- Coffs Harbour Legacy Welfare Fund



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**Question 47**

**Outcome 1: Program 1.4**

**Topic: BEST – Funding Formula Consultation**

(FADT Hansard Proof 13 February 2013, p 91-92)

**Senator RONALDSON asked:**

**Senator RONALDSON:** Was it a majority of one or was it an overwhelming majority? Who was for it and who was against it? We will want to cross-reference this. You tell me what the margin was and who was in which camp. Most of the people who you are talking about have expressed their very real concern to me about what occurred. Tell me who they were so that we can come back and talk about this in May if need be. What was the majority?

**Mr Farrelly:** I will take that on notice.

**Senator RONALDSON:** Do you have notes?

**Mr Farrelly:** I would need to go back and see if I still have them.

**Senator RONALDSON:** Mr Farrelly, in your own words you have said what the rules were on that day. The rules were that it was by consensus and that a consensus was a majority. I do not want to hear about anything else. I want you to tell me what the majority number was and who was in the majority and who spoke against it. That is all I need to know.

**Mr Farrelly:** Let me see if this helps without naming individuals. There was a summing up. That summing up was not made by the departmental officer. There was a question asked, which was: 'Is there anybody who fundamentally disagrees with that summing up?' I believe that no-one said that they disagreed. That is what I believe happened.

**Senator RONALDSON:** It is all flooding back, Mr Farrelly, is it?

**Mr Farrelly:** It is now that we have stopped talking about voting from the floor, because that was not the process.

**Senator RONALDSON:** It is all flooding back. Are you going to give me the answer to the question?

**Senator Feeney:** He has. There was not a vote. A vote was not recorded. The mood of the meeting—

**Senator RONALDSON:** But you would have taken notes and recorded who spoke against it and who spoke for it. Out of interest, did anyone speak in favour of it or was there concern expressed around the table? Did anyone speak in favour of it?

**Mr Farrelly:** I believe so. There are different camps in the ex-service community. Some support welfare strongly. Others—

**Senator RONALDSON:** How many spoke in favour, Mr Farrelly?

**Senator Feeney:** When you get to this forensic level of questioning, Mr Farrelly can reasonably have recourse to take this on notice, look to his files and see what minutes he can offer and provide you with the detail that you seek or not as the case might be.

## **Answer**

The ESO Round Table (ESO RT) is intended to enhance the capacity of the Repatriation Commission and Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission to address issues of strategic importance to ex-service and defence communities. The ESO RT is not a body where voting on issues occur; it is set up to be a means for consultation on how government and DVA can better facilitate a common approach to veteran and ex-service issues.

Before submitting the BEST Round 14 funding recommendations to the Minister, DVA consulted with members of the ESO RT so that their views could be included in the final brief for the Minister's consideration. Ten members of the ESO RT were able to participate in this BEST specific teleconference on 26 June 2012. There was considerable discussion around the proposed DVA approach to set aside welfare workloads for funding purposes. As can happen in ESO RT meetings, not all ESOs agree on every issue.

However, the prevailing view was that, the funding principles for assessing Round 14 applications were reasonable, transparent and equitable and the general consensus was that the recommended funding outcomes provided by DVA should be put to the Minister for his decision.

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**Question 48**

**Outcome 1: Program 1.2**

**Topic: Mr David Carmody – Disability Pension**  
(FADT Hansard Proof 13 February 2013, p 92-93)

**Senator RONALDSON asked:**

**Senator RONALDSON:** .....On 15 November, I wrote to the Attorney-General about a Mr David Carmody. A copy of my letter was forwarded to the minister. I note that as yet there has been no response. It was in relation to the Social Security Appeals Tribunal broadening the interpretation of the types of income that can be used in the calculation of child support payments. As you are aware, until that decision disability pensions were specifically excluded from consideration. I wrote to Minister Roxon. I CCd you personally, Minister, and Minister Macklin. This is obviously a matter of significant concern. It is certainly a change of the previous position. I wonder whether anyone is going to give me a response. Did the department of social security approach the Department of Veterans' Affairs? Did you provide them with any advice? Was the department or the commission asked to comment about this situation by AG's or FaHCSIA? Have you not been consulted at all? When do you think I might get a response to these matters that I raised in that letter?

**Mr Campbell:** I can remember the letter and I can remember a briefing being prepared, so I am a little surprised that a response has not been sent by at least one of the ministers. I did not respond, because you wrote to ministers and it is more appropriate that there be a ministerial response. I am sorry; I will have to take that one on notice.

**Senator RONALDSON:** You were CCd as a matter of courtesy. I did not expect a reply from you.

**Mr Campbell:** I remember the letter and I know the issue. If you had asked the question in a different way, I would have said, 'A minister has responded to you.' That obviously means that what I saw being prepared as not been signed and sent to you. I will need to take that on notice and see where it is at.

**Senator RONALDSON:** This is particularly relevant. I wrote to you in your capacity as President of the Repatriation Commission, obviously. While I was probably not expecting a reply from you personally but I was expecting a reply. This is a very significant change. As you and I know full well, disability pensions have been treated in a particular way for a long time. This was a very clear break from what has previously been the case.

**Mr Campbell:** As I said, I will take this on notice. I remember the letter and I know the issue, but I am now a little surprised, because you say that you did not get a response. I need to go back and see what has happened, and that included looking at the substance of the response.

**Answer**

The Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) has been advised that the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Minister for Disability Reform, the Hon Jenny Macklin MP, being the Minister responsible for child support policy, responded to Senator Ronaldson on 3 January 2013.

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**Question 49**

**Outcome 1: Program 1.6**

**Topic: MRCA – Annual Review – Additional Information**

(FADT Hansard Proof 13 February 2013, p 98)

**Senator RONALDSON asked:**

**Senator RONALDSON:** Please hold it there. All I want is to know whether additional information has been provided as we discussed last year.

**Mr Campbell:** The answer Ms Daniel is giving you is yes.

**Senator RONALDSON:** I understand you are not going to discuss that information, but I am happy for you to do so if you are so minded, Ms Daniel or Mr Campbell.

**Mr Campbell:** No, I think we will leave it to government consideration.

**Senator RONALDSON:** It was worth a try. When was that information provided?

**Mr Campbell:** In the budget processes which evolve, you start going to ministers late in the calendar year beforehand. There is interaction between ministers, departments and the ERC between then and late March or early April.

**Senator RONALDSON:** So what is the answer to my question, Mr Campbell? When was it provided? I do not want a dissertation on the budget process. I am acutely aware of it. Just tell me when it was provided. Was it last week or the end of the calendar year or when? It is hardly a trick question.

**Mr Campbell:** The answer to your question is that it has been provided in a number of ways over a period of time as the budget process unfolded.

**Senator RONALDSON:** Has there been a series of additional pieces of information provided or was the additional information provided in one document?

**Mr Campbell:** There was a series of documents because of the way the budget process unfolds.

**Senator RONALDSON:** Have your partners who knocked it back come back and requested further information about that additional information as part of that budget process?

**Mr Campbell:** Not that I am aware of.

**Senator RONALDSON:** Thank you. Will you take that on notice for me?

**Mr Campbell:** Yes.

**Answer**

Subsequent to the 2011 MRCA Review report, the ADF *Mental Health & Wellbeing Prevalence Study* has provided further information, including prevalence rates of deployed and non deployed ADF personnel. This additional information has been incorporated in materials submitted to Government through the 2013-14 budget process. There has been the usual process of discussion and comment between officials as part of the standard budget consideration, but there have been no requests for further information outside of this process.

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**Question 50**

**Outcome 2: Program 2.4**

**Topic: Booked Car with Driver – Bribie Island**

(FADT Hansard Proof 13 February 2013, p 93)

**Senator RONALDSON asked:**

**Senator RONALDSON:** As you would understand, if I had got the letter I probably would have been asking about the contents of the letter, so I certainly have not received anything. We discussed in July last year the Booked Car With Driver service and particularly Mr Goold of Bribie Bayside Cabs. Who is our Booked Car with Driver service expert? July is a long time ago now.

**Mr Campbell:** The same two officers are our experts, Ms Daniel and Dr McPaul

**Senator RONALDSON:** Question 91 from me in the October estimates says:

- (a) The Minister indicates in a letter to me that there was 'increasing workload' on Bribie Island. What is the nature of this increasing workload and how is this measured?
- (b) Was the issue of increasing workload ever raised with the previous sole provider? If yes, what was the outcome?

In your answer, you said to me:

In March 2012, the Department slightly amended the Bribie Island geographic area of operation to include some additional surrounding suburbs. This amendment facilitates better booking procedures.

Did the department announce these changes before the tender was called for? In other words, was Mr Goold aware when he applied for the tender that the boundaries had changed?

**Ms Daniel:** We will have to check that and get back to you.

**Senator RONALDSON:** You have nothing there at all?

**Ms Daniel:** No detail on how the areas were specified in the tender. I would have to go back and check that. I will endeavour to make a call during the break and get back to you tonight.

## Answer

Yes, Mr Goold was made aware of the introduction of the Transport Booking and Invoicing System (TBIS) Bribie Island area of operation prior to the tender release.

Prior to the implementation of TBIS, work around the fringe areas of the Bribie Island Taxi region such as Godwin Beach and Ningi was carried out by both Brisbane-based providers and Bribie Bayside Cabs. The implementation of TBIS in QLD from May 2011 formally identified these areas as part of the TBIS Bribie Island area of operation while providers were engaged under existing contractual arrangements.

Consequently, as a DVA transport contractor, Mr Goold began receiving work for the new Bribie Island TBIS area of operation from this time, which was approximately one month prior to the release of the tender on 24 June 2011.

The national Booked Car Scheme Request For Tenders (RFT) asked each tenderer to detail their preferred areas of operation in section 4.1 (refer below):

*4.1 Please nominate in table 4a below the area(s) in which you are licensed to operate and the areas where you have vehicle representation. This area must not be outside of the licensed operating area determined by the relevant state/territory regulatory authority. You should describe the area(s) of operation by postcode and suburb or local government area*

Areas of operation and the requirement outlined in section 4.1 of the RFT were discussed at the tender industry briefing which was held on 5 July 2011. Mr Goold is registered as attending this briefing.

All transport providers, including Mr Goold, were advised of their TBIS operating areas prior to the implementation of the new contracts. The implementation of the new contracts in March 2012 formally recognised these areas of operation contractually from that date.

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**Question 51**

**Outcome 2: Program 2.4**

**Topic: Booked Car with Driver – Multiple Providers**

(FADT Hansard Proof 13 February 2013, p 94-95)

**Senator RONALDSON asked:**

**Senator RONALDSON:** The taxi company may well be providing an appropriate level of service. You and I would be far more concerned if they were not providing an appropriate level of service. That is part of their contract. You and I are not going to get out a big elephant and put it on their homework page for providing the service they are contracted to do. What I am asking you is: what work was undertaken to ascertain that the volume of work was such that it identified that multiple providers were required? I want you to come back and tell me what was done to ascertain that, because that was the basis on which this decision was made, and that is in your answer. If you could come back please.

**Ms Daniel:** Yes, we will come back on notice.

**Answer**

The Department's Transport Booking & Invoicing System (TBIS) was implemented nationally from May 2011. Core to TBIS automatic booking allocation functionality is the ability to define areas of operation based on post codes and the provisions for Closest Practical Providers (CPP). Currently, there are about 400 areas of operation throughout Australia defined in TBIS.

Management information such as the number of journeys to and from areas of operation is readily available from TBIS. Average service demands in each TBIS area of operation across Australia were determined by analysing actual service usage in the period July 2011 to September 2011.

The analysis of the service demand assisted in identifying the projected amount of work undertaken in each area, and therefore the number of providers/vehicles that would generally be required to adequately service that area. It was identified that in many metropolitan cities and adjacent regional centres throughout Australia, including Bribie Island, more than one provider was required to adequately service the area. Apart from ensuring sufficient service coverage in all areas, having multiple service providers ensures that DVA meets the core principle of competition contained within the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines.

After identifying service level demands, the actual number of providers required to service an area was determined by considering the fleet size of each provider and the number of vehicles that would be available to undertake DVA work, including the availability of wheelchair accessible vehicles, the capacity of the provider to service peak time, and transport providers' state/territory licensing/accreditation. This methodology was endorsed by the independent Probitry Adviser and was a key component of the Tender Management Plan developed prior to the conduct of the tender.

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**Question 52**

**Outcome 2 Program 2.5**

**Topic: Mental Health – Research Strategy**  
(FADT Hansard Proof 13 February 2013, p 96)

**Senator RONALDSON asked:**

**Ms Daniel:** No. At this point, and as Stephanie mentioned, we have been looking at our research strategy and have made some decisions about how we will move our research forward in the future with what we see as a far more strategic approach to funding research.

**Senator RONALDSON:** What was not strategic about this application that came on the back of the initial report and I presume—and I do not know—was suggested by the report? What was not strategic about that?

**Ms Daniel:** If I could just elaborate—

**Senator RONALDSON:** No, there must be a reason why something that was actually suggested in an initial report which everyone has lauded would not have been funded. Is it your view that it was not actually identifying areas that the department had viewed as being of concern or interest? Was it a lack of funding? What exactly was the reason?

**Ms Daniel:** Firstly let me be clear that there have been no reductions in the funding that the department has available for research. The process by which we have looked at our strategic research directions has taken us a little bit of time, but the initiatives and priorities that we will fund for the balance of this financial year and obviously going forward are something that we will be looking at.

**Senator RONALDSON:** Is there a timetable being placed on using this data for further studies? Is there a rolling program? What is likely to be funded as part of this strategic overview?

**Ms Daniel:** I would expect when we are here next time that we will be able to map out for you far more than we can at the moment where we intend to go. We have identified what we see as our four priority areas in research—longitudinal studies, which is very much what we are talking about here; predictive modelling; families; and interventions.

**Senator RONALDSON:** Just out of interest, when did you get this study?

**Ms Daniel:** The 2011 study? We had briefings from Defence personally when it was finalised.

**Senator RONALDSON:** Was that early 2011?

**Ms Daniel:** I would have to go back and check the dates.

**Senator RONALDSON:** Can you check that for me because my understanding of your study was that it identified some very key areas that needed addressing and further investigation.

**Answer**

DVA officers from the former Health & Services Division were members of the ADF Mental Health Advisory Group which assisted in the development of the Mental Health Strategy to address the research findings. Specific briefings on the research findings and strategy for the Advisory Group were held on 19 August and 26 September 2011.

Representatives from the Department of Defence, including Major General Paul Alexander (former Chief of Joint Health Command), briefed the DVA Executive on 18 October 2011.



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**Question 53**

**Outcome 2: Program 2.5**

**Topic: Health Contract – Minister Discussions with Defence**

(FADT Hansard Proof 13 February 2013, p 103-104)

**Senator RONALDSON asked:**

**Senator RONALDSON:** I will ask you a further question. Given his dual role, was Minister Snowdon consulted in relation to this matter?

**Mr Campbell:** That is a question I would have to take on notice for the minister to answer.

**Senator RONALDSON:** Were you present when any discussions were held with the minister either with his defence hat on or his DVA hat on?

**Mr Campbell:** I have never been present at a meeting that the minister had had that has been involved on his defence responsibilities talking about health.

**Senator RONALDSON:** Would Minister Snowdon have been aware of these discussions between DVA and Defence in relation to this health contract?

**Mr Campbell:** Minister Snowdon became Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Minister for Defence Science and Personnel in late September 2010. I am not sure at that point of time where Defence were with their process of doing the RFT. I would have to check that. I cannot speak for the minister as to what he knew with his responsibility as the Minister for Defence Science and Personnel.

**Senator RONALDSON:** Was there a brief prepared for Minister Snowdon in relation to this issue?

**Mr Campbell:** By DVA?

**Senator RONALDSON:** By DVA.

**Mr Campbell:** Certainly not that I can recall in that period of time when they were doing the tendering. My answer is: I don't think so—but I will have to go back and check.

**Answer**

No.

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**Question 54**

**Outcome 3: Program 3.1**

**Topic: Centenary of Anzac – Forums – Survey Responses**

(FADT Hansard Proof 13 February 2013, p 107)

**Senator RONALDSON asked:**

**Senator RONALDSON:**...Using the information provided, I think there were only about 208 people who attended the first 18 forums. In Whyalla I think there were only two, and it was just as well that the local member's wife happened to be walking down the main street and mentioned it to a couple of people; otherwise there would have been no-one there. Can you advise me of the number of on-line surveys that were completed and the number, if any, of written submissions received by the department?

**Mr Campbell:** I will ask Mr Evans to answer that.

**Mr Evans:** The total number of survey responses—both on-line and written submissions—was 947. If you wanted a break-up between those that were on-line and those that were written, I would have to take that on notice.

**Senator RONALDSON:** And you might want to take on notice whether that also included feedback forms provided by those who attended the forums. Is that figure of 947 everything that you have received?

**Mr Evans:** We received information in three ways. So there were the 947 survey results: the information collected at each of the 36 public forms—the forums were recorded and both a transcript and a summary of discussion was provided and then collated—and there were meetings with certain special interest groups such as tour operators and certain state and territory agencies. Again, notes were taken from those meetings and collated. I would not be able to tell you what surveys were necessarily completed by people who also attended a public forum.

**Answer**

891 survey responses were submitted on-line and 56 hard-copy survey responses were mailed to the Department.

Survey responses were anonymous, therefore it cannot be determined if those who attended a public forum also lodged a survey response.

The Department has also received 64 submissions, not in the form of a survey response, since the commencement of the public consultation process on 26 September 2012. Of these, 12 were received by post and 52 by email.

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**Question 55**

**Outcome 3: Program 3.1**

**Topic: Centenary of Anzac - Capacity**

(FADT Hansard Proof 13 February 2013, p 114)

**Senator RONALDSON asked:**

**Senator RONALDSON:** I refer to an interview Mr Snowden did with David Speers on Sky on 13 December.

**CHAIR:** This is in relation to another matter, is it?

**Senator RONALDSON:** Yes. In that interview, the minister said that, once advice had been received back from Turkey, he would be pleased to make the consultant's report available. I suggest that the quickest way to take the heat out of this—and there is considerable heat, as you are all aware—is for that consultant's report to be released. The minister has undertaken to do it. Parliamentary Secretary, I ask you to pass on to the minister that he has undertaken to do it, that I think he should do it and that I think it will take the heat out of it. Given that there was a public undertaking, I ask that that be done.

**Senator Feeney:** I will take that on notice.

**Answer**

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs is currently considering the release of the Providence Consulting Group report.

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**Question 56**

**Outcome 3: Program 3.1**

**Topic: Centenary of Anzac**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator RONALDSON asked:**

Will the Department release the full consultants' report prepared by Providence Consultant Group Pty Ltd in relation to capacity at Gallipoli commemorative precinct?

In addition, will the Department provide:

- the date the tender for the consultancy was let,
- the number of consultants who applied for the work,
- the date the tender closed,
- the date the tender was finalised,
- the date the report was commenced,
- the date it was completed,
- the date it was handed to the Department, the Minister and the Anzac Centenary Advisory Board.

**Answer**

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs is currently considering the release of the PCG report.

Providence Consulting Group (PCG) was engaged via direct sourcing through its inclusion on several current standing offer arrangements within the Defence portfolio. The company has extensive experience in undertaking risk, security and engineering assessments, and is proficient with event safety standards.

PCG was engaged on 15 July 2011.

PCG delivered its report to the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) and Veterans' Affairs New Zealand on 24 October 2011.

DVA briefed the Minister for Veterans' Affairs on 7 December 2011 on the PCG report and its findings. The Anzac Centenary Advisory Board was briefed on the PCG report and its findings on 20 December 2011.

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**Question 57**

**Outcome 3: Program 3.1**

**Topic: Commemoration**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator RONALDSON asked:**

In addition to matters taken on notice in Question 101 from Supplementary Estimates in October 2012, can the Department confirm that the Federation Guard was also in attendance at the Bomber Command memorial dedication in London? If yes, how many personnel travelled and who met the cost for this?

**Answer**

13 members of Australia's Federation Guard attended the Bomber Command memorial dedication in London. Also travelling to London from the Australian Defence Force were the bugler, chaplain, public affairs officer and Regimental Sergeant Major (RSM) Ceremonial. The Chief of Air Force, supported by an ADC, also attended the dedication. Associated costs were met by the Australian Defence Force.

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**Question 58**

**Outcome 3: Program 3.1**

**Topic: Commemoration**

(Written Question on Notice)

**Senator RONALDSON asked:**

In addition to the matters taken on notice in Question 102 from Supplementary Estimates in October 2012, can the Department confirm the final total cost for the mission?

**Answer**

The final total cost for the Bomber Command mission was \$1.588 million. This includes the cost of the commemorative mission and the grants to those veterans travelling independently.