

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Public Service Commission
Outcome/Program: Cross Portfolio
Topic: Social Media

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: 96

Type of question: Written

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Number of pages: 1

Question:

Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and useage of Youtube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since publication of the Australian Public Service Commission's Circular 2012/1: Revisions to the Commission's guidance on making public comment and participating online? If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issue. If no, please explain why not.

Answer:

There has been no change to the Commission's policy regarding access to Social media forums for staff since the publication of the Australian Public Service Commission's Circular 2012/1.

The Commission's policy on Social Media is contained within the Commission's IT Users' Policy which all staff are required to read and acknowledge before receiving a computer access account. This policy contains guidance to staff on the use of Social Media. The current policy covers the main points of advice covered by Circular 2012/1. While Circular 2012/1 contains more detailed advice than the current IT Users' Policy, the degree of difference between the documents was not considered sufficiently substantive to require an urgent revision to the IT Users' Policy.