

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates 11-14 February 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** 1.1.3 Support Services for Government Operations

**Topic:** Provision of Equipment

**Senator:** Senator Ryan

**Question reference number:** 80

**Type of Question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 2 April 2013

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

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. A Blackberry has an upfront cost of approximately \$700 (excluding GST).
2. Ongoing or running costs for electronic equipment provided for current and former Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries supported by PM&C are as follows:

1 July 2012 to 31 January 2013 (excluding GST):

The Prime Minister and the Prime Minister's office	\$136,446.33
Mr Dreyfus and his office	\$12,590.09
Senator McLucas and her office	\$24,814.44

3. Yes. The type of equipment that is provided and unit cost is as follows:

Equipment	Cost (GST	Allocation
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	Excl)	
Blackberry	\$700	Based on work requirement
Laptop	\$1,200	Based on work requirement
Wireless Card – Laptop	\$227	Based on work requirement
RSA Token	\$165	Based on work requirement
IPad:		Based on work requirement
• iPad	\$830	
• 3G card (internet connection)	\$430	
• Software licences and configuration	\$830	
	<u>\$2,090</u>	

Total ongoing costs for electronic equipment (such as iPad, laptop, wireless card, RSA token, blackberry, mobile phone) for the Department (excluding GST) for the period 1 July 2012 to 31 January 2013 (Administered and Departmental) were \$513,319.57.

Items such as thumb drives are purchased as stationery items and are not included in the above total. Expenditure for thumb drives is not itemised separately.

The Department does not record allocation of electronic equipment by staff classification. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

4. Consistent with its role as the Minister's Portfolio Department responsible for meeting costs for computer equipment and additional equipment, the Department provides computer and other electronic equipment to the ministerial offices of the Prime Minister, the former Cabinet Secretary and the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister.

The type of equipment that is provided and unit cost is as per the table in 3 above. Total expenditure on these items for the period 1 July 2012 to 31 January 2013 was (excluding GST):

The Prime Minister and the Prime Minister's office	\$54,098.00
Minister Dreyfus and his office	\$1,500.00
Senator McLucas and her office (no equipment provided so far this FY)	\$0.00