

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates Hearing 27 May-6 June 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Provision of Equipment

Senator: Senator Ryan

Question reference number: 107

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 12 July 2013

Number of pages: 3

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. Blackberry at an upfront cost of approximately \$500 (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 May 2013 (excluding GST):

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The former Prime Minister, the Hon Julia Gillard MP, and the former Prime Minister's office	\$203,650.07
The Minister for the Public Service and Integrity, the Hon Mark Dreyfus QC MP, and his office	\$14,456.10
The former Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, Senator the Hon Jan McLucas, and her office	\$28,488.22
The former Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, the Hon Dr Andrew Leigh and his office (April & May 2013 only)	\$1,875.25
The former Cabinet Secretary, the Honourable Jason Clare MP, and his office (March – May 2013 only)	\$550.08

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

Equipment	Cost (GST Excl)	Allocation
Blackberry	\$500	Based on work requirement
Laptop	\$1,700	Based on work requirement
Wireless Card – Laptop	\$152	Based on work requirement
RSA Token	\$165	Based on work requirement
iPad: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iPad • 3G card (internet connection) • Software licences and configuration 	\$795 \$430 \$830 <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/> \$2,055	Based on work requirement

Total one off purchase costs for electronic equipment (such as iPad, laptop, wireless card, RSA token, blackberry, mobile phone) for the Department for the period 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013 (Administered and Departmental) was \$653,755.92 (excluding GST).

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.

Total ongoing cost for electronic equipment (such as iPad, laptop, wireless card, RSA token, blackberry, mobile phone) for the Department for the period 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013 (Administered and Departmental) was \$494,973.00 (excluding GST).

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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 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 May 2013 was (excluding GST):

The former Prime Minister, the Hon Julia Gillard MP, and the former Prime Minister's office	\$123,752.00
The Minister for the Public Service and Integrity, the Hon Mark Dreyfus QC MP, and his office	\$1,500.00
The former Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, Senator the Hon Jan McLucas, and her office	\$491.82
The former Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, the Hon Dr Andrew Leigh and his office	\$3,956.92