

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Finance and Administration

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing – October 2006

Question: F30

Outcome 3, Output 3.1

Topic: Cost of telephone directory listing

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Senator Robert Ray asked:

I just noticed my phone bill. The thing that prompted this is that you look at the average of your phone bill and suddenly in one month it jumped. When I rang and checked the reason for the jump, it was because they had billed my phone for advertised MPs' office telephones. So, firstly, I am questioning the cost of that and, secondly, I am asking why it is attributed to that telephone and whether it is properly attributed to that phone.

Answer:

The cost of Senator Ray's telephone directory listings are:

Main number 9804 5630 - \$1,384 GST exclusive; and
Fax number 9804 5638 - \$350 GST exclusive.

The costs for the listings are attributed to the telephone numbers actually listed in the directory. Senator Ray has his main telephone number listed, which has four lines, and his fax number listed, so the costs are attributed against these two numbers and billed annually in conjunction with the telephone bill.