

**Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing – October 2009

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

**Outcome 3, Program 3.1**

**Topic: TelePresence - Establishment Costs**

**Question reference number: F20**

**Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 15, Tuesday, 20 October 2009**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 December 2009**

**Number of Pages: 1**

**Senator BERNARDI asked:**

What is the cost of establishing a telepresence centre?

**Mr Tune replied:** It is reasonably large. I do not think I have the detail with me. I can take it on notice if you wish.

**Answer:**

The National TelePresence Network Project is to provide a system of 20 TelePresence Rooms (Centres) across all Federal and State jurisdictions. Each interstate Commonwealth Parliamentary Office and each State/Territory Government will host a centre that will be either a TelePresence 3000 (three screen configuration), a TelePresence 1000 or 500 (one screen configurations). There will be four TelePresence 3000 systems Installed. Two 3000 style centres will be in Parliament House, one at the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (3000) and one at the Department of Finance and Deregulation.

The State and Territory jurisdictions will contribute the full cost of their equipment, fit out, communications and ongoing costs through a Memorandum of Understanding.

Total cost of the project is \$13.8m. State and Territory Governments have provided \$4.6m to the project. \$6.2m is allocated to the capital cost of equipment. The remaining \$3m provides the cost of the interstate data lines, installation and staff charges, and ongoing maintenance.