

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Supplementary Estimates Hearing – October 2010

Outcome General, Program General

Topic: Social Media

Question reference number: F73

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 3 December 2010

Number of Pages: 1

Senator Bernardi asked:

- a) Is the utilisation of social media by employees of the Department monitored? If no, why not? If yes, please provide details including the details of what level staff monitor, how they monitor and the time spent monitoring.
- b) Is there a process in place to allow for a Finance employee to make a complaint against another Finance employee's usage of social media? If no, why not? If yes, please provide details.
- c) Is there a process in place to allow for a non Finance employee to make a complaint against a Finance employee's usage of social media? If no, why not? If yes, please provide details.
- d) Are there any limits or restrictions as to how employees of the Department can utilise social media?

Answer:

- a) Finance does not monitor the hours spent by staff on social media sites. However, the Department collects aggregated statistics of all internet site visits on a monthly basis. Staff spend less than two hours a month collecting this data through the use of a software tool.
- b) Yes. Finance employees can make a complaint using the procedures set out in the Department's 'addressing inappropriate behaviour in the workplace' policy and where warranted the Department's Code of Conduct Procedures.
- c) Yes. People can lodge complaints directly to the Department via phone, email or through the feedback feature on the Department's website.
- d) Yes.