

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Attorney-General's Portfolio

Department/Agency: Office of the Australian Information Commissioner
Outcome/Program:
Topic: Privacy and technology advancements

Senator: Senator Rhiannon

Question reference number: 176

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 December 2011

Number of pages: 1

Question:

How does the OAIC ensure that it is sufficiently informed about technical aspects of privacy and information management issues, given the increasing complexity of relevant domains including social media, telecommunications, identity management, and IT security?

Answer:

OAIC staff stay abreast of technological developments by:

- utilising stakeholder liaison and privacy contact networks across both the public and private sectors
- monitoring press coverage of privacy and technology matters through the Media Monitors service
- monitoring coverage of privacy and technical matters through journal and periodic publication subscriptions
- maintaining strong links with other information regulators and policy makers at both the federal (i.e., Australian Government Information Management Office, Australian Communications and Media Authority, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Attorney-General's Department) and state levels
- conducting in-house research
- enabling staff to attend conferences and undertake ongoing training on information management, policy, and technological developments.