

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Supplementary Budget Estimates 17-20 October 2011

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** 1.1.4 Support Services for Government Operations

**Topic:** PMO - Communication costs

**Senator:** Senator Ryan

**Question reference number:** 29 & 30

**Type of Question:** F&PA, p 82-83, 17 October

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

**Number of pages:** 3

**Question:**

Ms Leon: The material I have is that it includes telephones, postage and freight, newspapers and clippings? that is, media monitoring? and subscriptions. So it is all communications.

Senator RYAN: Could you break that down so that I have a cost for each of those?

Ms Leon: I will take that on notice and provide you with the information I can.

Senator RYAN: I would also be interested, as you said media monitoring clippings, in whether or not that includes the provision of transcripts or just clippings.

Ms Leon: I will take that on notice.

Senator RYAN: How much is budgeted for this year, 2011-12?

Ms Leon: I can tell you the amount that has been spent this year so far, which is \$34,523. I would have to take on notice how much it has budgeted for this year.

Senator RYAN: Do you have any information on, over the course of 2010-11, a monthly budgeted cost for that?

Ms Leon: I do not have it with me, but I can take that on notice.

Senator RYAN: I particularly ask for that breakdown along the lines of subscriptions, media monitoring and publications. Could I ask that for 2010-11 there be a monthly breakdown of those?

[...]

Senator RYAN: I just want to emphasise this point. I made the point about saying I would like to see what the department paid, because I presume that if you cannot break it down then at least I can see the bill for Media Monitors. You might not be able to break it down between news clippings and transcripts, but, presumably, you

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will have an invoice and a cheque that was written out for them, or whatever the electronic equivalent is.

**Answer:**

**Breakdown of the cost for the whole communications spend for the Prime Minister's office for 2010-11:**

	\$
Telecommunications	394,916
Media (Including TV, Newspapers, Magazines)	44,885
Postage and Printing	17,048
<b>Total</b>	<b>456,849</b>

**Do media monitoring clippings include the provision of transcripts or just clippings?**

Media monitoring includes the provision of transcripts and clippings.

**How much is budgeted for media monitoring this year, 2011-12?**

Media monitoring services to the department are provided under a "single site contract", which includes the Minister's office and the department. A breakdown cannot be provided for the Prime Minister's office, however details of the costs of these services are provided in the response to PM 138.

**I particularly ask for that breakdown along the lines of subscriptions, media monitoring and publications. Could I ask that for 2010-11 there be a monthly breakdown of those?**

Breakdown of the cost for subscriptions and publications for the Prime Minister's office for 2010-11:

Newspaper subscriptions average \$3,597 per month

Publications average \$84 per month

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Media monitoring services to the department are provided under a “single site contract”, which includes the Minister’s office and the department. A breakdown cannot be provided for the Prime Minister’s office, however the monthly average cost to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet for 2010-11 was \$17,911. Details of the costs of media monitoring is provided in the response to PM 138.