

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Supplementary Budget Estimates 15-18 October 2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

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

**Outcome/Program:** 1.1.3 Support Services for Government Operations

**Topic:** Media Subscriptions

**Senator:** Senator Ryan

**Question reference number:** 113

**Type of Question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 30 November 2012

**Number of pages:** 3

**Question:**

1. Has there been any change to your pay TV subscription since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012)?
  - a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.
  - b. What is the cost for this financial year to date?
  
2. Has there been any change to your newspaper subscriptions since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012)?
  - a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.
  - b. What is the cost for this financial year to date?
  
3. Has there been any change to your magazine subscriptions since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012)?
  - a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.
  - b. What is the cost for this financial year to date?
  
4. What was the 2011-12 cost for:
  - a. TV subscriptions
  - b. Newspaper subscriptions
  - c. Magazine subscriptions

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5. Does the department/agency provide any media subscriptions to its Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries? If yes, provide details of what is provided and the cost this financial year to date and for 2011-12.

**Answer:**

The response only refers to information relating to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. The Department does not maintain separate records in a way that would readily allow a breakdown between newspaper and magazine costs. Therefore costs in response to Q2 and 3 are combined. To attempt to separate these costs would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.

1. No.
  - a. Not applicable.
  - b. The cost for this financial year to date is \$3,301.16.
  
2. No.
  - a. Not applicable.
  - b. The cost for the financial year to date is \$128,004.80
  
3. No.
  - a. Not applicable
  - b. The cost for the financial year to date is included in the answer to 2b.
  
4. The costs for 2011-12 were:
  - a. TV subscriptions was \$20,197.17
  - b. Newspaper subscriptions was \$23,542.24
  - c. Magazine subscriptions was \$170,581.07

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5. Yes.
  - a. Access to the media monitoring service, as part of the Department's contract and Zallcom Press Reader
  - b. The costs for the financial year to date (i.e. a full-year subscription) is \$12,117.13
  - c. The costs for the financial year 2011-12 was \$11,154.90