

# 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:** Social Media

**Senator:** Senator Ryan

**Question reference number:** 99

**Type of Question:** written

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

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

1. Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and usage of Youtube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since May 2012 Budget Estimates? If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issue.
2. Does the department/agency monitor usage of social media?  
If yes, provide details of the usage (for example details could include average hours per employee, hours when usage peaks)  
If no, will the department/agency monitor usage in the future?
3. Does social media impact on employee productivity? Provide details (details could include increased internet usage in general or increased internet usage in standard business hours)?

**Answer:**

1. There have not been any changes to the social media policies within the Department since the APSC circular 2012/1 was released. The PM&C Social Media and Web 2.0 guidelines are still pertinent and current.
2. The Department logs all usage, classified by category (i.e. Social Media), in a database. Reports are generated once a month to identify any excessive use not related to business requirements.
3. The Department has not done any analysis that would enable this question to be answered.