

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

**Portfolio**

**Question No. 87**

**Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 14 February 2012:**

Media Subscriptions

1. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)?
  - a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.
  - b) What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?
  - c) What is the cost for this financial year to date?
  
2. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to newspapers?
  - a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.
  - b) What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?
  - c) What is the cost for this financial year to date?
  
3. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to magazines?
  - a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.
  - b) What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?
  - c) What is the cost for this financial year to date?

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

Attorney-General's Department

1. Yes
  - a) To monitor daily news and incident reporting. BBC, CNN, Fox News, Sky News
  - b) \$10,308
  - c) \$6,878
  
2. Yes
  - a) The Attorney-General's Department subscribes to newspapers for staff awareness of current events - The Newspapers to which the Department subscribes to are Canberra Times, Daily Telegraph, The Age, The Sydney Morning Herald, The Australian, Financial Review and The Herald Sun.

b) Estimated cost for 2011-12 is \$37,304

c) The cost to date is \$21,957

3. Yes

a) Lloyds List, The Economist, Harvard Business Review, Mis Financial Review, The Land, Aq, The Australian Quarterly, Arena Magazine, Australian Creative, Cio, Desktop, The Economist, Government News , Lawyers Weekly, The Monthly, Position, Quadrant, Time, Variety, Screen International, Filmlink, Empire Magazine, Managing Intellectual Property, American Journal Of Disaster Medicine, Business Continuity Journal, Crisis Response Journal, Disaster Recovery Journal, Government News , Greenworld, International Journal Of Emergency Mental Health, International Journal Of Mass Emergencies And Disasters, Jems : Journal Of Emergency Medical Services, Journal Of Business Continuity & Emergency Planning, Journal Of Emergency Management, Journal Of Traumatic Stress, Performance Improvement, Position Magazine , Power Equipment Australasia, Risk Management, Risk Management Today, Training And Development In Australia, New Scientist, Time Australia, Community Development Journal, International Journal Of Critical Infrastructures, International Journal Of Emergency Management, Natural Hazards, Natural Hazards Review, Pre Hospital And Disaster Medicine, Risk Management, Disaster Prevention And Management, International Journal Of Disaster Resilience In Built Environments, Journal Of Emergency Services, Emerald, Proquest, Ebsco Business Continuity, Business Review Weekly (BRW) and Disaster Recovery.

b) Estimated cost for 2011-12 is \$52,920.

c) Estimated cost to date is \$34,994

#### Administrative Appeals Tribunal

1. No

2. Yes.

a) The Administrative Appeals Tribunal subscribes to newspapers to keep members and staff up to date with current affairs, policy developments and developments in courts, tribunals and legal affairs. The newspapers to which the Tribunal subscribes are: Adelaide Advertiser, The Age, The Australian, Australian Financial Review, Canberra Times, Courier Mail and Sunday Mail, Herald Sun Sydney Morning Herald and The West Australian.

b) \$12,300

c) \$8,188.21 (ex GST)

3. Yes.

a) The Administrative Appeals Tribunal subscribes to certain magazines to keep members and staff up to date with legal, business and information technology news. The magazines to which the Tribunal subscribes are: Australian PC User, Business Review Weekly, ComputerWorld and

Lawyers Weekly. (The AAT also subscribes to a number of legal and other scholarly periodicals. These titles have not been included here.)

b) \$350

c) \$118 (ex GST)

Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity

1. Nil

2.

(a) Yes – staff awareness of current events, average monthly cost is \$150.00 (GST inclusive).  
Papers obtained are Canberra Times, Financial Review, The Australian and The Age.

(b) Estimated cost for 2011-12 is \$2,500 (GST inclusive).

(c) Expenditure FYTD is \$1,650 (GST inclusive)

3. Nil

Australian Crime Commission

1. a) Yes. Foxtel. The purpose of the access is to provide 24 hour news updates used by the ACC's telephone interception and operational areas. Staff are required to be abreast of current and significant news items as part of core business activities in intelligence gathering and reporting. The basic package with news channels is purchased.

b) The estimated costs are \$1,700

c) \$1,211

2. a) Yes, to inform staff of current news.

b) estimated costs at \$12,000

c) \$6,885

3. a) No

b) N/A

c) N/A

Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

1. Yes.

- a) Pay television subscriptions are utilised for the monitoring of news events. The package currently purchased is the Foxtel “Business Information and Sport” bundled package, which has been assessed as the most cost effective and relevant package for business. Additionally, as part of the employment agreement for staff posted overseas who do not have access to an English language broadcast television services, a pay television subscription in English is provided
- b) The estimated cost of pay TV for the 2011-2012 financial year, based on year to date data as at 29/02/2012, is \$9,884.
- c) The estimated cost of pay TV for the financial year to date is \$6,525.

2. Yes

- a) Customs and Border Protection subscribes to newspapers for media monitoring practices, to confirm and cross reference information provided by Media Monitors, for information gathering purposes and for Executive staff. Newspapers subscribed to include The Canberra Times, The Sydney Morning Herald, The Australian, The Daily Telegraph, The Herald Sun, The Financial Review, The Mercury and The Courier Mail. Costs are provided in part (c ) of this question
- b) The estimated cost of newspaper subscriptions for 2011-12, based on year to date data as at 29/02/2012, is approximately \$59,287.
- c) The costs of newspaper subscriptions for the financial year as at 29/02/2012 is \$47,429.32.

3. Yes

- a) Customs and Border Protection subscribes to magazines as part of information gathering processes, to allow for improved operational targeting and for technical information of staff. Subscriptions include The Harvard Business Review, Australian Customs Law and Practice, Civil Aviation Orders, Aviation Security International, Counter Terror Gazette, Air Cargo Asia Pacific, Cargo Security International, Deloitte Access Economics Business Outlook and Bloomberg Business Week. Costs are stated in the answer to part c. below
- b) The estimated cost of magazines for 2011-12, based on year to date data, is approximately \$66,550;
- c) The cost of magazines for the financial year to date is \$44,367

Australian Federal Police

1. Yes.

- a) The AFP subscribes to Foxtel, Austar (Business package), Parliamentary TV, Transact TV, Cable, and Pay TV. The particular service utilised across the AFP’s Global footprint depends on availability of the service within the respective location. Foxtel package subscriptions vary

depending on the requirements of each business area. The following packages are utilised by the AFP: Business Value, Business Premium, News and Sports.

Pay TV is an operational requirement predominantly used within the organisation as a source to acquire and maintain current and up-to-date information/coverage of local and international events and disasters. Certain programs are also recorded and used for training purposes. Additionally, as part of the employment agreement for staff posted overseas who do not have access to an English language broadcast television services, a pay television subscription in English is provided.

Pay TV is utilised across the AFPs global footprint with several locations across the 8 states and territories, 11 airports, 5 police stations and several training facilities and operational centres domestically and over 51 international locations including:

- Headquarters in Canberra
- The training college in Canberra
- Regional offices and airports
- AFP Operations Coordination Centre
- Specialist response and security facility
- Uniform Protection sites
- International liaison network
- International missions
- ACT Police stations

b) The estimated cost for the AFP's Pay TV subscriptions for the 2011-12 financial year, excluding GST, is \$232,867.

c) The cost for the AFP's Pay TV subscriptions between 1 July 2011 and 29 February 2012, excluding GST, has been \$156,583.

2. Yes.

a) The AFP subscribes to the following local, national and international newspapers: The Canberra Times, The Daily Telegraph, The Australian, Australian Financial Review, Sydney Morning Herald, The Age, The Advertiser, Courier Mail, Hobart Mercury, Melbourne Age, The West Australian, NT News, Gold Coast Bulletin, Local newspapers in Vanuatu - The Independent and The Daily Post, Local Indonesian newspapers – Jakarta Post and Jakarta Globe, Bangkok Post, The Nation, China Daily English Newspaper, People Public Security News (Chinese), Xinjing Daily (Chinese), Local Cambodian newspaper - El Tiempo, Local Bangladesh newspapers – The Daily Star and the Economist, Local Dubai newspaper – Gulf News, Local Malaysian newspapers – The Star, New Straights Times and The Sun, Local Philippines newspapers – Philippine Star, Manila Bulletin and Philippine Inquirer, Local Indian newspapers – The Times of India, The Daily News,

The Hindu, The Hindustan Times and The Indian Express, Local Papua New Guinea newspapers – The National and Post Courier, Local South African newspapers - Pretoria News, The Mail and Guardian, Local Singapore newspaper – Straits Times, Local Suva newspaper and Solomon Star. Newspaper subscriptions are used within the organisation as a source to acquire and maintain current and up-to-date information with current affairs both domestically on local jurisdictional matters and worldwide. They are also used to monitor political news that may be relevant to operational and other strategic issues.

b) The estimated cost for the AFP's newspaper subscriptions for the 2011-12 financial year, excluding GST, is \$73,030

c) The cost for the AFP's newspaper subscriptions between 1 July 2011 and 29 February 2012, excluding GST, has been \$47,278

3. Yes. The AFP Library and AFP functions subscribes to magazines.

a) The AFP subscribes to Harvard Business Review and Business Review Weekly (BRW). Magazine subscriptions are used as a source to retain current information on the business world. The AFP Library does subscribe to a very broad range of scientific and policing journals to add to our collection for evidence based research, training and currency. There are over 200 titles and in a blend of hard and digital copy format.

b) The estimated cost for the AFP's magazine subscriptions for the 2011-12 financial year, excluding GST, is \$60,553.

c) The cost for the AFP's magazine subscriptions between 1 July 2011 and 29 February 2012 is \$58,478.

#### Australian Government Solicitor

1. Not applicable

2. Yes

a) Staff awareness of current events and policy debate as part of AGS's role in providing legal and related services to government and its agencies. As a national operation, AGS subscribes to a range of national and capital city-based newspapers with local work areas determining their specific subscription requirements.

b) \$26,000

c) \$17,335

3. Yes.

a) AGS subscribes to Business Review Weekly and Harvard Business Review to facilitate staff awareness of current business and management issues relevant to the operation of a commercial government business.

b) \$529

c) \$529

### Australian Human Rights Commission

1.

- a) Yes. The Commission uses pay TV to monitor media coverage of our Commissioners and human rights issues on Sky Television and other news and current affairs channels. We subscribe to the IQ2 channel package, costing 220/month.(inc GST)
- b) \$3500 (incl GST). The cost for this financial year to date is \$2303.

2.

- a) Yes. The Commission subscribes to key newspapers for media monitoring. The estimated cost is \$7500 pa for subscriptions to The Australian, Financial Review, Daily Telegraph and the Sydney Morning Herald.
- b) \$7500
- c) \$4,456

3. Yes

- a) Link disability magazine, needed to aid disability work- \$124  
Indigenous law bulletin, needed to aid legal work- \$66  
Alternative law journal, needed to aid legal work- \$160
- b) \$500
- c) \$350.29

### Australian Institute of Criminology

1. No

2. Yes – Australian/Canberra Times/ Financial review

Reason is to enable access and keep abreast of Local and National Crime and Justice and Financial and Cybercrime issues in the Media. Cost - \$1040 per annum

b) \$1,040

c) \$691 to 29 February 2012

3. Not applicable

### Australian Law Reform Commission

1. The ALRC does not subscribe to pay TV.

2.

- a) The ALRC subscribes to the following newspapers for the purpose of being informed of current policy debates and issues across the Australian community, and in particular to keep abreast of any issues relevant to current or past areas under ALRC review. The ALRC

subscribes to the Koori Mail to inform its legal officers of issues specifically relevant to the Indigenous community and as part of our RAP commitment. The ALRC subscribes to the following newspapers—

The Financial Review \$709

The Australian \$465

The Sydney Morning Herald \$340

Koori Mail \$59

b) Estimated cost for 2011-12 is \$1573

c) Total paid to date this financial year is \$529

3. The ALRC does not subscribe to magazines.

#### Australian Security Intelligence Organisation

1.

a) Yes – subscriptions of this kind are a matter for specific work areas to determine, in accordance with relevant policies and guidelines. The information in questions is therefore spread across the Organisation, depending on the particular business requirements. To extract, analyse and consolidate the data from each separate record would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.

b) Estimated cost for 2011-12 is \$56,334.

c) Total cost FYTD February 2012 is \$33,099.

2. Yes

a) Please refer to response for 1a).

b) Estimated cost for 2011-12 is \$35,825.

c) Total cost FYTD (29 February 2012) is \$23,883.

3. The information sought is not readily available. The relevant figures are included in response for 2 b) and 2 c). The resources that would be required to identify and collate the information sought are considered unreasonable.

#### Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre

1. No

2. Yes.

a) To keep members of the executive, managers and staff informed on current affairs and issues that might be relevant to, or impact upon, the agency and/or the operation of its functions. For cost, refer to b) below. The newspapers are: The Financial Review, The Australian, The Melbourne Age, The Canberra Times, and The Brisbane Courier Mail.

b) \$19,000.

c) \$13,239.

3. Yes.



a) To keep members of the executive, managers and staff informed on current affairs and issues that might be relevant to, or impact upon, the agency and/or the operation of its functions. For cost, refer to b) below. The magazine is the *Economist*.

b) \$329.

c) Nil (subscription renewals not due until April 2012).

#### The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions

1. Nil

2. Nil

3. Nil

#### CrimTrac

1. Yes

a) To monitor news and science programs, and keep abreast of current affairs. CrimTrac currently subscribes to A-Pac, Sky News Australia, Sky News for Business, BBC World, Bloomberg Television, CNBC, CNN, Crime and Investigation Network, Discovery Channel, Discovery Science, Fox News Channel, Weather Channel. The cost is \$428 per month.

b) The estimated cost for 2011-12 is \$5000

c) The cost to date for this financial year is \$2,968

2. Yes

a) To monitor the news. CrimTrac currently subscribes to The Australian and the Canberra Times. The cost is \$69 per month.

b) The estimated cost for 2011-12 is \$3000.

c) The cost to date for this financial year is \$2,427

3. CrimTrac corporate communication does not subscribe to any magazines.

#### Family Court of Australia

1. Yes, TransAct Capital Communications

a) TransAct provide Parliamentary Services channels at a cost of \$49.95 per month

b) \$599

c) \$349 as at YTD Jan 2012

2. Accounting for Newspaper & Magazines are combined and the court is unable to distinguish the two and unable to identify individual publications. Therefore part 2 & 3 of QON 87 will be combined

a) Up to date news and information \$44,841 YTD Jan 2012

b) \$76,870

c) \$44,841 YTD Jan 2012

3. Accounting for Newspaper & Magazines are combined and the court is unable to distinguish the two and unable to identify individual publications. Therefore part 2 & 3 of QON 87 will be combined

a) Up to date news and information \$44,841 YTD Jan 2012

b) \$76,870

c) \$44,841 YTD Jan 2012

#### Federal Court of Australia

1. No

2. Yes

a) Newspapers are provided to judges as part of their judicial entitlement. Newspapers are also provided to senior staff to check court lists and to be informed about current events. The Newspapers provided are: West Australian, The Australian, The Financial Review, Canberra Times, Sydney Morning Herald, Northern Territory News, Courier Mail and Mercury.

b) 2011-12: \$53,338

c) YTD: \$36,242

3. Yes

a) Subscriptions to magazines are provided to judges as part of their judicial entitlement. The Magazines are: Economist, UK Times, UK Financial Times, Spectator, The New York Review, Quadrant and Good Health

b) 2011-12: \$1,124

c) YTD: \$63

## Federal Magistrates Court of Australia

1. No

2. Accounting for Newspaper & Magazines are combined and the court is unable to distinguish the two and unable to identify individual publications. Therefore part 2 & 3 of QON 87 will be combined.

a) Up to date news and information \$15,129 YTD Jan 2012.

b) \$20,533

c) \$15,129 YTD Jan 2012

3. Accounting for Newspaper & Magazines are combined and the court is unable to distinguish the two and unable to identify individual publications. Therefore part 2 & 3 of QON 87 will be combined.

a) Up to date news and information \$15,129 YTD Jan 2012.

b) \$20,533

c) \$15,129 YTD Jan 2012

## Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia

1.

a) The cost is \$87 per month (from Dec 2011, previously \$81 per month). Pay television subscriptions are utilised for the monitoring of news services. The package currently purchased is the Foxtel Business Value package.

b) \$1014

c) \$579

2.

a) To keep informed of issues relevant to Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia's business areas. The Australian, The Financial Review, The Canberra Times, The Advertiser, The Koori Mail, The Courier Mail

b) \$6,300

c) \$4,202

3.

a) To keep informed of issues relevant to Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia's business areas. The Insolvency Journal is subscribed to at a cost of \$200 per annum.

b) \$200

c) \$200

National Native Title Tribunal

1. No, the NNTT does not subscribe to pay TV

a) Not applicable

b) Not applicable

c) Not applicable

2.

a) Yes, to keep NNTT members, management and staff up to date with business, economic and political developments and native title issues. The following newspapers are purchased at an average monthly cost of \$1226:

West Australian, The Australian, Saturday West Australian, Weekend Australian, Financial Review, Sunday Times, Townsville Bulletin, Courier Bulletin, Cairns Post, Koori Mail, Sydney Morning, Herald Advertiser, Broome Advertiser, WA Business News, Pilbara News, National Indigenous Times, North Queensland Register, Tablelands Advertiser, Torres News : the Voice of the Islands

b) The estimated cost for 2011-12 is \$14,720

c) The cost for this financial year to date is \$8141

3.

a) Yes, the NNTT subscribes to the magazines and journals set out in **Table A**. The NNTT subscribes to these magazines and journals in order to keep abreast of legal affairs and policy and legislative debate as they impact on native title and the native title system.

b) The estimated cost for 2011-12 is \$35,000

c) The cost for this financial year to date is \$22,586

<b>Subscriptions to:</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Aboriginal history	Gratis
AMPLA yearbook	\$230
Australasian Dispute Resolution Journal	\$755
Australian Aboriginal Studies : journal of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies	\$130
Australian Indigenous Law Review	\$440
Australian Law Journal	\$1,013
Australian Law Librarian	\$115

Australian resources and energy law journal.	\$310
Business review weekly : BRW.	\$215
CCH National Daily Headlines	\$557
Choice magazine	\$138
Environmental and Planning Law Journal	\$1,030
G magazine	\$42
Good reading: the magazine for book lovers.	\$89
Harvard Business Review	\$209
HR monthly.	\$165
Indigenous law bulletin	\$198
The Indigenous Law Journal at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law.	\$50
Journal of Indigenous policy.	\$90
Land, Rights, Laws: Issues of Native Title [Regional agreements papers]	Gratis
Law review University of Notre Dame, Australia	Gratis
Legal Briefing / Australian Government Solicitor	Gratis
Litigation Notes / Australian Government Solicitor	Gratis
Memento : news from the National Archives	Gratis
MiningNews.net	\$297
The monthly: Australian politics, society & culture.	\$65
Namalata thusi.	Gratis
The National Library magazine.	Gratis
Native Title Bulletin	Gratis
Native Title News	\$1,555
Native Title Newsletter	Gratis
Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies [AIATSIS]	Gratis
Negotiation [electronic resource] :Harvard Business School Publishing and the Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School	\$142
New scientist	\$249
Oceania	\$220
Placenames Australia: newsletter of the Australian National Placenames Survey.	Gratis

Prospect : Western Australia's international magazine of State Development	Gratis
Reconciliation News	Gratis
Resource stocks.	\$96
<b>Specialist/Technical Journal Subscriptions</b>	
Australian Law Reports	\$3,107
Commonwealth law reports	\$3,118
Federal Court Reports	\$3,681
Federal Law Reports	\$3,273

Office of the Australian Information Commissioner

1.
  - a) The OAIC subscribes to the Foxtel Business Value Package. The OAIC took out this subscription so that it could watch parliamentary proceedings, Sky News and the Australian Public Affairs Channel. The cost of the subscription is set out in parts b) and c) of the response to this question.
  - b) \$1260 (including GST)
  - c) \$711 (including GST)
2.
  - a) The OAIC subscribes to Canberra-based and national newspapers to keep abreast of key privacy, freedom of information and information policy issues. The cost of the subscriptions is set out in parts b) and c) of the response to this question.
  - b) \$744 (including GST)
  - c) \$430 (including GST)
3.
  - a) The OAIC subscribes to Harvard Business Review (HBR). The OAIC took out this subscription because the HBR is a key source for information about leadership and management issues. The cost of the subscription is set out in parts b) and c) of the response to this question.
  - b) \$168 (including GST)
  - c) \$335 (including GST). A two year subscription has been purchased.

Office of Parliamentary Counsel

1. Not applicable

2. Yes

a) For staff to keep up to date with current events relevant to their work; \$70.95 per week; The Age, The Australian, Canberra Times, Australian Financial Review, Melbourne Herald Sun, Sydney Morning Herald and Daily Telegraph.

b) \$3,689

c) \$2,186

3. Yes

a) For staff to keep up to date with current events and information relevant to their work; \$22.29 per week; Business Review Weekly, The Economist and Australian Personal Computer.

b) \$1,159

c) \$730