

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 17 OCTOBER 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE11/0125) Program: Internal Product

Senator Humphries asked:

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 2011? Please explain.

Answer:

Currently departmental staff who want access to social media platforms need an approved business case, authorised at Assistant Secretary level.

There has been no change to departmental protocols about staff access to YouTube and online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter, online discussions forums and blogs since May 2011.

The department introduced a govspace blog in June 2011. A *Departmental Blogging: Guidelines and Procedures* document has been endorsed by the Executive.

The department's social media policy for staff was launched on 12 April 2010 and provides a handy list of dos and don'ts around the use of blogs, wikis and social media platforms. The social media instruction is incorporated into the department's code of conduct guidelines.