

## **Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee**

### **ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES - 16 FEBRUARY 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **Human Services Portfolio**

**Topic:** Social Media

**Question reference number:** HSW 46

**Senator:** McKenzie

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 29 March 2012

**Number of pages:** 1

#### **Question:**

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 discussion forums and blogs since publication of the Australian Public Service Commission's Circular 2012/1: Revisions to the Commission's guidance on making public comment and participating online?

If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issued. If no, please explain why not.

#### **Answer:**

There has been no change in protocols in relation to 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.

Staff only have access to these social media platforms through the Human Services network if it is required for work purposes. A small team is responsible for monitoring and managing the department's social media presence. These staff have access to social media as part of this role.

The department released a Social Media Policy on 20 April 2011. It provides guidelines for staff on the use of social media and making public comment online. The department's policy reflects the principles outlined in the circular.