

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

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

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Digital TV Switchover Household Assistance Scheme

Question reference number: HS 20

Senator: Fierravanti-Wells

Type of question: Hansard pages 114-115

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: In relation to the digital set-top boxes, how many staff does Centrelink have currently allocated to that program?

Ms Campbell: I will check whether we have those figures with us.

Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: There are three here.

Ms Campbell: We do not have that answer. We will take that on notice for you.

- b) Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: Have you allocated any funding to advertising the rollout of the program?

Mr Bridge: We do have some communication activity. The department of broadband cover the majority of that, but we do have some. I do not have a number for that at the moment.

Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: Could you take on notice how much has been spent on that?

Mr Bridge: Yes.

- c) Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: And what has been the cost of the program to date?

Mr Bridge: I would take that on notice.

Ms Campbell: Senator, are you talking about the Centrelink costs?

Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: Yes.

Answer:

- a) For the 2011-12 financial year, the department has been funded for 83.7 positions.

- b) The department has not been funded for advertising; this is the responsibility of the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy. The department has communicated with customers by way of invitation letters which included an information leaflet.

- c) The department has been funded to implement the program as follows:

2008-09	\$0.054 million
2009-10	\$6.683 million
2010-11	\$4.929 million
2011-12	\$10.458 million