

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2011-12 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** Cross

**Question No:** 47

**Topic:** Social Media

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator McKenzie** 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 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:**

Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

There has been no change to Departmental social media or protocols about staff access to and usage of social media 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* on 13 January 2012.

FaHCSIA's existing protocols and guidelines align with the advice provided in Circular 2012/1.

Portfolio bodies

**Aboriginal Hostels Limited**

No change since APSC Circular 2012/1.

**Anindilyakwa Land Council**

No change since APSC Circular 2012/1.

**Australian Institute of Family Studies**

No change since APSC Circular 2012/1 as guidelines and policy are already consistent with Circular 2012/1.

**Central Land Council**

No change since APSC Circular 2012/1. Staff are not employed under the Public Service Act 1999.

**Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency**

No change since APSC Circular 2012/1.

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**Indigenous Business Australia**

No change since APSC Circular 2012/1. Staff are not employed under the Public Service Act 1999 but IBA reviews APSC circulars for areas of better practice.

**Indigenous Land Corporation**

No change since APSC Circular 2012/1. Staff are not employed under the Public Service Act 1999.

**Northern Land Council**

No change since APSC Circular 2012/1.

**Outback Stores Pty Ltd**

A social media policy (copy attached) has been distributed to all Outback Stores staff including guiding principles on the appropriate use of social media. Staff are not employed under the Public Service Act 1999.

**Social Security Appeals Tribunal**

Policy under review as a result of APSC Circular 2012/1.

**Tiwi Land Council**

No change since APSC Circular 2012/1.

**Torres Strait Regional Authority**

No change since APSC Circular 2012/1.

**Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council**

Draft policies/protocols are currently being developed in line with APS Commission Circular 2012/1. Staff are not employed under the Public Service Act 1999.