

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 30 & 31 May and 1 June 2012

Question: E12-133

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Provision of equipment

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Number of pages: 2

Senator: Senator McKenzie

Question:

Is electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive (not an inclusive list)) provided to department/agency staff? If yes provide details of what is provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it.

Answer:

Yes. iPads, laptops, mobile broadband devices, blackberrys, mobile phones and thumb drives are available to staff.

Details of what is provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives equipment is detailed below:

iPads – The Department of Health and Ageing has procured 27 iPads

- the Department procured 14 iPads at a cost of approximately \$899.00 each and 13 iPad2s at a cost of \$569.00 each;
- a mobile internet data plan is provided with each iPad that attracts a monthly charge of \$39.00 (\$468.00 annually); and
- SES Band 3 and 4 and senior ministerial staff are provided with iPads.

Blackberry – The Department has 438 active Blackberry devices.

- the current department standard Blackberry Handset is the Blackberry 9900 from Optus. The handset cost is \$566.50 inc GST;
- a monthly Blackberry data plan is provided with each Blackberry device that attracts a monthly charge of \$29.95. Actual phone call charges are in addition to this;
- departmental policy allows provision of Blackberrys to all SES staff and more broadly to departmental staff where a business justification exists; and
- where a business justification exists, non-standard BlackBerrys and mobile carriage will be procured and provided on a case by case basis.

Mobile phones.

- the standard Departmental approved handset is the Nokia C5 from Optus. The handset cost is \$236.50 inc GST;
- there is no monthly plan cost. Actual phone call charges are billed against each mobile account;
- mobile phones are available to all departmental staff where a business justification exists; and
- where a business justification exists, non-standard mobile phones and mobile carriage will be procured and provided on a case by case basis.

Mobile Broadband Devices

- the Optus E180 is the standard device approved by the Department. The device cost is \$159.00 inc GST;
- the Department pays \$1000.00 a month for a mobile data pool shared between all devices;
- broadband devices are available to all staff for use with departmental laptops where connectivity to the department network is required from remote locations; and
- where a business justification exists, non-standard mobile broadband devices and mobile carriage will be procured and provided on a case by case basis.

Laptops

- the Department is currently updating its desktop fleet including laptops. As at May 2012, the Department had 802 active laptops. As part of the desktop refresh the Department is consolidating its laptop fleet and the number of required laptops is expected to reduce;
- the Department pays a monthly support charge of \$80.69 per laptop; and
- for the refresh the Department has procured 420 laptops (including peripherals) at a cost of \$ 676,806.02.

Thumb drives

- no records are kept on the number of thumb drives within the Department as these are managed by each Divisional unit; and
- physical protection policies apply in relation to the physical handling of thumb drives.