

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES (SUPPLEMENTARY HEARINGS) 2013-2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman

Outcome/Program:

Outcome 1. Fair and accountable administrative action by Australian Government agencies by investigating complaints, reviewing administrative action and inspecting statutory compliance by law enforcement agencies.

Topic: Media Subscriptions

Senator: Senator Ludwig

Question reference number: 165

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 17 January 2014

Number of pages: 2

Question:

- (1) What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have?
 - a. Please provide a list of what channels and the reason for each channel.
 - b. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?
 - c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?
 - d. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?

- (2) What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have?
 - a. Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each.
 - b. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?
 - c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?
 - d. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?

- (3) What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have?
 - a. Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each.
 - b. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?
 - c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?
 - d. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?

- (4) What publications does your department/agency purchase?
 - a. Please provide a list of publications purchased by the department and the reason for each.
 - b. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?
 - c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?
 - d. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?

Answer:

(1) The Office does not pay for any pay TV subscriptions.

(2) The Office subscribes to the following newspapers:

- Adelaide Advertiser
- Canberra Times
- Courier Mail
- Financial Review
- Herald Sun
- Sydney Morning Herald
- The Age
- The Australian.

The newspapers are for staff reference in relation to local and national issues and activities pertinent to their areas of responsibility.

The financial management information system used by the Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman can only provide this data on a monthly basis. The cost of the newspapers from 1 September 2013 to 30 November 2013 was \$1,643.24.

The Office does not provide newspapers to the Minister or their office.

(3) The Office does not pay for any magazine subscriptions nor does it provide any to the Minister or their office.

(4) The Office did not pay for any publications nor does it provide any to the Minister or their office.