

## Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2012-2013

#### Cross Portfolio

**DEEWR Question No.** EW0946\_13

**Senator Abetz asked on 13 February 2013 , Hansard page 123**

*Refers to previous DEEWR QoN No. EW0688\_13*

#### Question

##### Media Monitoring Services

Senator ABETZ: There is an answer that tells us: Senator Abetz asked on 18 October 2012—Hansard page 4—about the cost of media monitoring. I then asked, with such a huge bill, what the extra cost would be to the Australian taxpayer if a humble underfunded opposition spokesman were to get the benefit of this media monitoring service. There was an unkind intervention by the chair at that stage, but we will not go into that. CHAIR: I probably nearly made it again. Senator ABETZ: Yes, but we will not go into that. Ms Paul: It was me that took it on notice. Senator ABETZ: Clearly it is on the Hansard and I have been asking for this now— Ms Paul: Correct. Senator ABETZ: I think, at every single estimates. Ms Paul: Right; about costs. Indeed, I took it on notice and it is the department's answer and it is the same answer I have given before. If you would like us to take it on notice— Senator ABETZ: Yes. I am sorry, Secretary; the minister makes the decision, surely, or are you saying— Ms Paul: If you would like us to take it on notice— CHAIR: Let us be clear. Senator Abetz is now asking the minister specifically. He is not asking the department; he is asking the minister. Senator ABETZ: That is right; thank you. CHAIR: Senator Collins, will you take that question on notice? Senator Jacinta Collins: Yes, I am happy to take the question on notice. I am still rereading the past question to see where the specific request is. Ms Paul: The question was— Senator ABETZ: Ms Paul is aware that there have been requests made, Parliamentary Secretary. CHAIR: Regardless of that, the question has been asked again specifically of the minister. You have taken it on notice and there are 31 minutes to go.

#### Answer

It has been the practice that the Opposition is not provided with copies of the press clippings for this portfolio.