

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

Cross Portfolio

DEEWR Question No. EW0521_12

Senator Back provided in writing.

Question

Media Subscriptions

"1. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)? a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels. b) What was the cost for 2010-11? c) What is the estimated cost for 2011-12? 2. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to newspapers? a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers. b) What was the cost for 2010-11? c) What is the estimated cost for 2011-12? 3. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to magazines? a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines. b) What was the cost for 2010-11? c) What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?"

Answer

Pay television subscriptions in the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Portfolio for 2010-11 were as follows:

- The department subscribed to Foxtel's Sky News channel at an annual cost of \$7,932.12.
- The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority subscribed to Foxtel's Business Value Pack at an annual cost of \$2,410.00.
- The Office of the Australian Building and Construction Commissioner subscribed to Foxtel's Business Value pack at an annual cost of \$4,494.46.
- The Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) subscribed to Foxtel's Business Value Pack at an annual cost of \$1,698.00.
- Minister Ellis subscribed to Foxtel's Business and Sports Pack at an annual cost of \$1,200.00.
- Minister Evans subscribed to Foxtel's Business Value Pack at an annual cost of \$2,539.68.

For 2011-12 the estimated costs are as follows:

- The department subscribed to Foxtel's Sky News channel at an annual cost of \$3,346.44.
- The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority subscribed to Foxtel's Business Value Pack at an annual cost of \$1,800.00.
- The Office of the Australian Building and Construction Commissioner subscribed to Foxtel's Business Value pack at an annual cost of \$2,847.24.

- The Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) subscribed to Foxtel's Business Value Pack at an annual cost of \$1,700.
- Minister Ellis subscribed to Foxtel's Business and Sports Pack at an annual cost of \$1,200.00.
- Minister Evans subscribed to Foxtel's Business Value Pack at an annual cost of \$1,944.00.

The subscriptions provide both national and international perspectives and breaking news on a broad range of issues which both directly and indirectly impact on the work of agencies in the portfolio.

The department and portfolio agencies subscribe to the newspapers and magazines listed in the table below. The reasons for the subscriptions include: monitoring of articles on government policy with reference to Government programs delivered by the department; current local, national and international political issues; providing access to up to date international research and analysis on key issues to the department; and emerging issues relevant to the department.

¹ The Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) and the Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency (TEQSA) commenced operations in 2011-12.

The Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC) is in the process of being wound up. All financial and administrative records are in the hands of the liquidators and therefore no information is able to be provided at this time.