

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EM0070_14

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Media Monitoring

Question

1. What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office from 7 September 2013 to date? a) Which agency or agencies provided these services? b) What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13? c) What has been spent providing these services from 7 September 2013 to date? What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency from 7 September 2013 to date? a) Which agency or agencies provided these services? b) What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13? c) What has been spent providing these services from 7 September 2013 to date?

Answer

The following responses cover media monitoring arrangements for the former Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) and, since the changes to the Administrative Arrangement Orders on 18 September 2013, the Department of Employment and the Department of Education, as media monitoring arrangements continue to be shared between the departments.

What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office from 7 September 2013 to date?

a) Which agency or agencies provided these services?

Australian Associated Press (AAP).

b) What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13?

The cost of media monitoring for the former Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations portfolio ministers and the Department of Employment and portfolio ministers is part of the overall expenditure on media monitoring. There is no set budget for ministers' offices.

c) What has been spent providing these services from 7 September 2013 to date?

The provision of media monitoring services to ministers' offices is included in the overall media monitoring contract. The departments do not attribute a portion of the general media monitoring to ministerial offices.

What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency from 7 September 2013 to date?

a) Which agency or agencies provided these services?

Australian Associated Press (AAP).

b) What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13?

In the 2012-13 financial year, the then Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations spent \$745,225 (excluding GST) on media monitoring services.

c) What has been spent providing these services from 7 September 2013 to date?

The Department of Employment and the Department of Education have shared media monitoring services, pending a decision about contractual arrangements following the machinery of government changes. During this period \$77,730 (excluding GST) has been spent on media monitoring.