

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee:  
Answers to written Questions on Notice Budget Estimates 2014–15  
Parliamentary Departments Portfolio  
May 2014**

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**Department** Parliamentary Budget Office  
**Topic** Media subscriptions

**Senator** Senator Ludwig

**Question reference number** 106

**Type of question** Written

**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 Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date?
  - c What is provided to the Minister or their office?
  - d What is the cost for this from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 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 Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date?
  - c What is provided to the Minister or their office?
  - d What is the cost for this from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 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 Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date?
  - c What is provided to the Minister or their office?
  - d What is the cost for this from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 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 Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date?
  - c What is provided to the Minister or their office?
  - d What is the cost for this from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date?

## Answer

- 1 Not applicable.
- 2
  - a The Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) receives two copies of The Australian, three copies of the Australian Financial Review (AFR) and one copy of The Canberra Times each business day. The PBO has three digital subscriptions to the Australian Financial Review and one digital subscription to The Australian.
  - b For the period 1 March 2014 to 31 May 2014, the PBO paid \$3,125.22 for newspaper subscriptions which included three annual subscription renewals to the AFR. The estimated average monthly cost for newspaper subscriptions is \$585.00 per month.
  - c Not applicable.
  - d Not applicable.
- 3
  - a The PBO has a three year subscription to the Economist magazine.
  - b Nil.
  - c Not applicable.
  - d Not applicable.
- 4
  - a The PBO has a two year subscription to the IBIS World publication and purchased two minor publications during the period.
  - b For the period 1 March to 31 May 2014, the PBO expensed \$1,147.00 for these publications. The annual cost for the IBIS World Publication is \$4,015.00 per annum.
  - c Not applicable.
  - d Not applicable

The PBO subscribes to the above publications to keep informed of current events and to access data and research material for use in its analytical and costing work.