

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio

Budget Estimates

28 May 2012

**Question:** BR50  
**Topic:** Media Subscriptions  
**Proof Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bushby asked:**

1. Has there been any change to your pay TV subscription since the 2011-12 Additional Estimates (February 2012)?
  - a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.
  - b) What is the cost for this financial year to date?
2. Has there been any change to your newspaper subscriptions since the 2011-12 Additional Estimates (February 2012)?
  - a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.
  - b) What is the cost for this financial year to date?
3. Has there been any change to your magazine subscriptions since the 2011-12 Additional Estimates (February 2012)?
  - a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.
  - b) What is the cost for this financial year to date?

**Answer:**

***Department***

1.
  - a) There has been no change to the Department's pay TV subscriptions since February 2012.
  - b) \$8,840.
2.
  - a) Yes. The Department decreased the number and type of newspapers. The Department now purchases less copies of The Canberra Times, The Sydney Morning Herald, The Australian and The Financial Review. The reason for the decrease is increased use of electronic media and to reduce costs across the Department. The reduction in newspapers will save the Department approximately \$7,500 per annum.
  - b) \$33,213.50.
3.
  - a) Yes. The Department decreased the number and type of magazines. The Department now purchases less copies of BRW and The Economist. The reason for the decrease is to reduce costs across the Department. The reduction in newspapers will save the Department approximately \$1,500 per annum.
  - b) \$98,710.48

***Tourism Australia***

1. a) There was no change to Tourism Australia's (TA) pay TV subscription since February 2012. TA subscribes to Foxtel to ensure that the organisation is across all media channels.  
b) \$4,868.
2. a) There has been no change in TA's newspaper subscription since February 2012.  
b) \$109,183. This includes both newspapers and magazines.
3. a) There has been no change to TA's magazine subscriptions since February 2012.  
b) \$109,183. This includes both newspapers and magazines.

***Geoscience Australia***

1. a) There has been no change to Geoscience Australia's (GA) pay TV subscriptions since February 2012.  
b) \$2,668.86 GST exclusive.
2. a) There has been no change to GA's newspaper subscriptions since February 2012.  
b) \$2185.41 GST exclusive.
3. a) There has been no change to GA's magazine subscriptions since February 2012.  
b) Nil.