

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES - 16 FEBRUARY 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Digital TV Switchover Household Assistance Scheme

Question reference number: HS 20

Senator: Fierravanti-Wells

Type of question: Hansard pages 114-115

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 29 March 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

a) Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: In relation to the digital set-top boxes, how many staff does Centrelink have currently allocated to that program?

Ms Campbell: I will check whether we have those figures with us.

Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: There are three here.

Ms Campbell: We do not have that answer. We will take that on notice for you.

b) Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: Have you allocated any funding to advertising the rollout of the program?

Mr Bridge: We do have some communication activity. The department of broadband cover the majority of that, but we do have some. I do not have a number for that at the moment.

Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: Could you take on notice how much has been spent on that?

Mr Bridge: Yes.

c) Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: And what has been the cost of the program to date?

Mr Bridge: I would take that on notice.

Ms Campbell: Senator, are you talking about the Centrelink costs?

Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: Yes.

Answer:

a) For the 2011-12 financial year, the department has been funded for 83.7 positions.

b) The department has not been funded for advertising; this is the responsibility of the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy. The department has communicated with customers by way of invitation letters which included an information leaflet.

c) The department has been funded to implement the program as follows:

2008-09	\$0.054 million
2009-10	\$6.683 million
2010-11	\$4.929 million
2011-12	\$10.458 million