

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES - 27 FEBRUARY 2014 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Media Subscriptions

Question reference number: HS 129

Senator: Ludwig

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 24 April 2014

Number of pages: 2

Question:

I refer to HS 16 concerning media subscriptions. Please update answers (a) to (d).

Answer:

a) Pay TV subscriptions

- 1) Some areas of the department purchase subscription television services to support departmental operations. There is no central register of service details. The financial management information system is set up to combine all subscriptions which include purchase of books (technical and non-technical), videos, periodicals, journals, newspapers and subscriptions. For the department to provide a specific breakdown of pay TV costs for the financial year to date would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.
- 2) The total cost for all subscriptions for the period 7 September 2013 to 28 February 2014 was \$397,281.
- 3) The department does not provide pay TV subscription to the Minister's office.
- 4) Not applicable.

b) Newspapers subscriptions

- 1) Some areas of the department purchase newspaper subscriptions to support departmental operations. There is no central register of newspaper subscription details. The financial management information system is set up to combine all subscriptions which include purchase of books (technical and non-technical), videos, periodicals, journals, newspapers and subscriptions. For the department to provide a specific breakdown of newspaper subscription costs for the financial year to date would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.
- 2) The total cost for all subscriptions for the period 7 September 2013 to 28 February 2014 was \$397,281.
- 3) The following newspapers are provided to the Minister's office:
 - The Australian;
 - The Australian Financial Review;

- The Canberra Times;
 - The Sydney Morning Herald; and
 - The Daily Telegraph.
- 4) As at 28 February 2014, the total expenditure on newspaper subscriptions since 7 September 2013 was \$1,499.84 (excluding GST).

c) Magazine subscriptions

- 1) Some areas of the department purchase magazine subscriptions to support departmental operations. There is no central register of magazine subscription details. The financial management information system is set up to combine all subscriptions which include purchase of books (technical and non-technical), videos, periodicals, journals, newspapers and subscriptions. For the department to provide a specific breakdown of magazine costs for the financial year to date would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.
- 2) The total cost for all subscriptions for the period 7 September 2013 to 28 February 2014 was \$397,281.
- 3) No magazine subscriptions were provided to the Minister's office.
- 4) Not applicable.

d) Publications

- 1) Some areas of the department purchase publications to support departmental operations. There is no central register of purchased publications. The financial management information system is set up to combine all subscriptions which include purchase of books (technical and non-technical), videos, periodicals, journals, newspapers and subscriptions. For the department to provide a specific breakdown of publications costs for the financial year to date would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.
- 2) The total cost for all subscriptions for the period 7 September 2013 to 28 February 2014 was \$397,281.
- 3) No publications were provided to the Minister's office.
- 4) Not applicable.