

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016, 10 February 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000148

OUTCOME: 0 - Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Media Subscriptions

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Ludwig, Joe

Question:

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have?
 - a) Please provide a list of channels and the reason for each channel.
 - b) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
 - c) What is provided to the Minister or their office?
 - d) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
2. What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have?
 - a) Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each.
 - b) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
 - c) What is provided to the Minister or their office?
 - d) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
3. What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have?
 - a) Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each.
 - b) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
 - c) What is provided to the Minister or their office?
 - d) What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
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 has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
 - c) What is provided to the Minister or their office?

Answer:

There have been no new corporate level subscriptions since 14 September 2015.

1. The Department of Health has Pay TV subscriptions with Foxtel.
 - a) The purpose is to provide the department with an insight into the environment in which policies and programmes are developed, implemented and managed. It also allows an effective response to emerging issues, particularly in the event of a health emergency, international health issues; for example Ebola and Zika outbreaks and the department's responsibility for sport. Access is mostly limited to the National Incident Room and Communication Branch. The channels

subscribed to are:

A-PAC
Al Jazeera
BBC World
Bloomberg Television
CCTV News \ NHK World
CNBC
CNN
Fox News Channel
Metro (NDS)
Sky News Australia
Sky News for Business
Fox Sports 1
Fox Sports 2
Fox Sports 3
Fox Sports 4
Fox Sports 5
Fox Sports News

- b) The cost of the Foxtel subscriptions for the specified period was \$2870.
 - c) The Department did not provide Pay TV subscription services to the Minister or their office during the specified period.
 - d) Not applicable.
2. Newspaper articles are reported under the department's media monitoring service. There are no corporate level subscriptions. Individual areas within the department may have local subscriptions; however the coordination required to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.
- a) See answer to 2. above.
 - b) See answer to 2. above.
 - c) The following newspapers are provided to the Ministerial Offices:
 - The Australian
 - Sydney Morning Herald
 - Financial Review
 - The Land
 - Courier Mail
 - The Age
 - Daily Telegraph
 - Herald Sun
 - The West Australian
 - d) The cost for newspapers to the Ministerial Offices between 14 September 2015 and 29 February 2016 was \$6,375.
3. a) – d)
There are no corporate level magazine subscriptions. Individual areas within the department may have local subscriptions; however the coordination required to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources. No magazines have been provided to the Ministerial Office since 14 September 2015.
4. (a – c)
See answer to 3. above.