

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017**

**Ref No:** SQ17-000254

**OUTCOME:** 0 - Whole of Portfolio

**Topic:** Media and Public Relations

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Bilyk, Catryna

**Question:**

- a) How much has the Department spent on media monitoring since 1 October 2016 (GST inclusive)? Can a list of all Contract Notice IDs for the AusTender website in relation to media monitoring contracts please be provided?
- b) How many media or public relations advisers are employed in the Department? At what APS level (eg EL2, APS5) is each staff member employed? Can an organisational chart for the relevant area of the Department please be provided? What was the total cost of employing relevant staff in calendar year 2016 (please provide a global figure)?

**Answer:**

- a) The Department of Health has spent \$479,402 (GST inclusive) on media monitoring from 1 October 2016 to 28 February 2017.

The Contract Notice of the department's media monitoring contract, available on the AusTender website, is CN3280322-A2.

- b) As at 28 February 2017, six officers were engaged to provide public affairs advice as part of their duties. Two are classified as Public Affairs Officer Grade 3, two as Executive Level 1, and two as APS6. They are located in the Strategy and Delivery section of the Communication and Change Branch which also manages the media liaison and issues management contract. This branch is part of the Chief Operating Officer Group.

The estimated cost of employing staff whose duties included public relations advice in the 2016 calendar year is \$622,140. This is based on the current number of officers.