

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES - 18 OCTOBER 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Media Subscriptions

Question reference number: HS 102

Senator: Boyce

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 7 December 2012

Number of pages: 2

Question:

- a) Has there been any change to your pay TV subscription since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012)?
 - If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.
 - What is the cost for this financial year to date?
- b) Has there been any change to your newspaper subscriptions since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012)?
 - If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.
 - What is the cost for this financial year to date?
- c) Has there been any change to your magazine subscriptions since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012)?
 - If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.
 - What is the cost for this financial year to date?
- d) What was the 2011-12 cost for:
 - TV subscriptions?
 - Newspaper subscriptions?
 - Magazine subscriptions?
- e) Does the department/agency provide any media subscriptions to its Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries? If yes, provide details of what is provided and the cost this financial year to date and for 2011-12.

Answer:

- a), b) & c) Some areas of the Department purchase subscription media services to support departmental operations. There is no central register of service details. To collect the information requested would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.

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. Total cost for all subscriptions for the period 1 July 2012 to 31 October 2012 was \$91,199.

- d) The financial management information system is set up to combine all subscriptions which includes purchase of books (technical and non-technical), videos, periodicals, journals, newspapers and subscriptions. To collect the information requested would require an unreasonable diversion of resources. The total cost for all subscriptions for the 2011-12 year was \$483,688.
- e) Yes, the Department provides the Minister's office with various newspaper and other subscriptions for information and reference to support portfolio operations. These were provided to three Ministers during the financial year 2011-12. The cost this financial year to date (as at 17 October 2012) was \$6,930.30, while total cost for the 2011-12 financial year was \$18,174.77.