

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Additional Estimates Hearing February 2017**

**Communications Portfolio**

**Department of Communications and the Arts**

**Question No: 30**

**Department of Communications and the Arts**

**Hansard Ref: Written, 10/03/2017**

**Topic: Subscriptions**

**Senator Bilyk, Catryna asked:**

1. What was the total cost (GST inclusive) of subscriptions to print and online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals etc. in calendar year 2016 for the Department? Please provide a complete list of each service top which the Department subscribed.
2. What was the total cost (GST inclusive) of subscriptions to print and online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals etc. in calendar year 2016 for Ministers in the portfolio? Please provide a complete list of each service top which ministerial offices subscribed.

**Answer:**

Total expenses for the subscriptions print and online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals for the 2016 calendar year:

<b>Subscription</b>	<b>Expense (GST Exc.) Departmental (1) excluding Minister office</b>	<b>Expense (GST Exc.) Ministers (2)</b>
Newspapers	\$ 5,190	\$21,449
Magazines	\$ 17,725	\$0
Other Publications	\$438,799	\$0
Other Subscriptions	\$ 72,734	\$24,004
TV Subscriptions	\$2,849	\$0

1. The Department subscribes to a variety of news services, both print and online, including the Sydney Morning Herald, The Canberra Times, The Australian, The Australian Financial Review, the Herald Sun, The Age, The Daily Telegraph and the West Australian.

The Department subscribes to Foxtel for the APAC, Sky News, Sky Business and CNN channels.

The Department's financial systems do not record expenditure of magazines, publications and other subscriptions that would readily allow this information to be identified separately. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.

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2. The Minister's Office subscribes to eight news services, both print and online, including the Sydney Morning Herald, The Canberra Times, The Australian, The Australian Financial Review, the Herald Sun, The Age, The Daily Telegraph and the West Australian.

The Department's financial systems do not record expenditure of magazines, publications and other subscriptions that would readily allow this information to be identified separately. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.