

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Budget Estimates Hearings May 2014
Communications Portfolio
Department of Communications

Question No: 523

Program No. 1.1

Hansard Ref: Page 55 (29/5/2014)

Topic: Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA)

Senator Fawcett asked:

How much of that is operational in terms of implementation of policy and how much of that was actually policy development work around the shape of the organisation?

If you could take on notice that split, it would be interesting to know. Can you tell me the aggregate value of the commitments that TUSMA administers that have been made over the 12- to 32-month period to Telstra? You can take that on notice, if you like?

Answer:

1. The total value of the contract was \$4,524,000 (GST exclusive). The contract did not include a breakdown that enables accurate separation of policy development and implementation costs.
2. TUSMA administers two contracts with Telstra. Information on these contracts, including the contract amounts, is available on its website at www.tusma.gov.au.

Under the TUSMA Agreement, covering the supply of standard telephone services and payphones under the Universal Service Obligation, emergency call services and voice-only migration, TUSMA **paid \$285.964m** (GST exclusive) [2012-13 - \$0.0m and 2013-14 - \$285.964m] to Telstra during 2012-13 and 2013-14.

Under the contract with Telstra for the supply of untimed local calls in the extended zones, TUSMA **paid \$3.090m** (GST exclusive). [2012-13 \$1.545m and 2013-14 - \$1.545m] to Telstra during 2012-13 and 2013-14.