

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: 567

Program No. 1.2

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Advancing Australia as a digital economy

Senator Urquhart asked:

At the hearing the Department was asked the about the 34 separate digital productivity initiatives that had been already funded that were listed in appendix C of 'Advancing Australia as a digital economy.' The Department was asked whether any of these 34 projects been discontinued. The answer referred to your answer to QoN 201 which referred to the 24 initiatives in Appendix B.

- a. Can the original question be answered?
- b. Will a further update report be provided to update progress and outcomes of these 34 initiatives?
- c. Can you provide to the committee an update on these?
- d. Is the Government considering funding further initiatives to demonstrate the value of broadband delivered services?

Answer:

- a. Yes.
- b. Yes. Please see attached response also provided for Question on Notice 564.
- c. Yes. Please see attached response also provided for Question on Notice 564.
- d. The digital productivity trials will be evaluated to assess their effectiveness against the stated objectives. These evaluations will help inform future policy consideration on broadband-enabled services.