

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Environment portfolio

Question No: 238
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Corporate
Programme: Policy and Communications Division (PCD)
Topic: Portfolio wide – media training
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 26 May 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Ludwig asked:

1. In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date:
 - a) Total spending on these services
 - b) an itemised cost breakdown of these services
 - c) The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification
 - d) The number of employees who have utilised these services and their employment classification
 - e) The names of all service providers engaged
 - f) the location that this training was provided
2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (1), please provide:
 - a) The name and nature of the service purchased
 - b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based
 - c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d) The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - e) The total amount spent on the service
 - f) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)
3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:
 - a) The location used
 - b) The number of employees who took part on each occasion
 - c) The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)
 - d) Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location

Answer:

1. No media training services were purchased by the Department of the Environment, National Water Commission, the Clean Energy Regulator, the Climate Change Authority, the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust or the Director of National Parks during this period.

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA)

- 1 a) \$4,000 (excluding GST).
 - b) The service was provided over two days and included preparation time as follows:
 - April 2014 –
 - One-day preparation and consultation \$1,200 (excluding GST)
 - One-day training and feedback \$1,200 (excluding GST)
 - May 2014 –
 - 1/3 day preparation and consultation \$400 (excluding GST)
 - One-day training and feedback \$1,200 (excluding GST)
 - c) Ten employees were offered these services. Their employment classifications are:
 - 1 x APS 5
 - 3 x Executive Level 1
 - 4 x Executive Level 2
 - 2 x SES Level 1
 - d) Ten employees have utilised these services. Their employment classifications are:
 - 1 x APS 5
 - 3 x Executive Level 1
 - 4 x Executive Level 2
 - 2 x SES Level 1
 - e) Kate Bradstreet Communications.
 - f) The training was provided at the MDBA offices in Allara Street, Canberra City.
2. a) The service purchased was media training focusing on interview practice and developing and delivering key messages to improve staff's ability to explain complex concepts and information about the MDBA's work.
 - b) The service was group based.
 - c) Ten employees received the service. Their employment classifications are:
 - 1 x APS 5
 - 3 x Executive Level 1
 - 4 x Executive Level 2
 - 2 x SES Level 1
 - d) Two sessions each 4.5 hours long totalled nine hours of training.
 - Each APS and executive level officer spent a total of 4.5 hours in training.
 - e) The total amount spent on the service for two training sessions was \$4,000 (excluding GST).
 - f) The fees charged were \$1,200 per day.
3. a) Not applicable.
 - b) Not applicable.
 - c) Not applicable.
 - d) Not applicable.

Bureau of Meteorology (the Bureau)

The Bureau provides the Australian public with essential information on weather and warnings. This is often delivered through media channels, including regular radio and television interviews. Media training supports the provision of these essential services to the community.

1. a) \$10,780 (including GST).
 - b) The Bureau purchased two one-day media training workshops that included one hour tutorials with each participant. The itemised cost breakdown for each workshop and tutorial package is:
 - One-day media training workshops at \$2,750 per workshop (including GST) including a one-hour individual tutorial and assessment session for each participant at \$440 per session (including GST).
 - c) Twelve employees were offered this service and their classifications are provided below:
 - 4 x APS6
 - 4 x EL1
 - 4 x EL2
 - d) Twelve employees utilised these services and their classifications are provided below:
 - 4 x APS6
 - 4 x EL1
 - 4 x EL2
 - e) Voice Coach.
 - f) All training was provided on Bureau of Meteorology premises in Melbourne and Sydney.
2. a) One-day media training workshops including one hour tutorials and assessment session for each participant.
 - b) Combination of group based and one-on-one.
 - c) Answer same as 1d)
 - d) The total number of hours involved for all employees and their classification were:

Classification	Workshop (7 hours in length)	Tutorial (1 hour)	Total hours by classification
APS6	4 employees	4 employees	32 hours
EL1	4 employees	4 employees	32 hours
EL2	4 employees	4 employees	32 hours
		<i>Total workshop hours</i>	96 hours

- e) \$10,780 (including GST), as per 1a).

f) \$2,750 (including GST) per one day media training workshop and \$440 (including GST) per one-hour individual tutorial and assessment session, as per 1b).

3. a) Not applicable.
b) Not applicable.
c) Not applicable.
d) Not applicable.