

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

Question No: 74

Program 1.1

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Media monitoring

Senator Ludwig, Joe asked:

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

1. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office during the specified period?
 1. Which agency or agencies provided these services?
 2. What has been spent providing these services during the specified period?
 3. Itemise these expenses.
2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency during the specified period?
 1. Which agency or agencies provided these services?
 2. What has been spent providing these services during the specified period?
 3. Itemise these expenses

Answer:

- 1-2. The Department has one media monitoring contract for these services, which includes the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary's offices, and these expenses cannot be split.
 1. Media monitoring services are provided by iSentia Pty Ltd.
 2. The total expense for May 2014 – 31 October 2014 was \$180,007.82 (GST excl).
 3. The Department's financial management system does not readily track expenses to this level. To provide expense data at that level would require an unreasonable diversion of Departmental resources.