

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**  
**Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings October 2016**  
**Communications Portfolio**  
**Department of Communications and the Arts**

**Question No: 22**

**Program 1.1**

**Hansard Ref: Page 124, 18/10/2016**

**Topic: nbn - 2013 Strategic Review**

**Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:**

**Senator URQUHART:** Well, I am going to ask a question. The 2013 strategic review was \$41 billion; that was what I understand the cost-benefit was based on. Is that correct, Mr Robinson?

**Mr Robinson:** I am not personally sure of the answer to that question. I have taken it on notice.

**Senator URQUHART:** There are a plethora of people sitting behind you.

**Senator O'NEILL:** Somebody has to have the report, surely.

**Senator URQUHART:** Surely, someone can help you to answer the question in relation to figures. I cannot believe that someone has not run up there with a sheet of paper to actually give you the numbers. You do not have anyone there behind you among all those people, all the people in the department, who can actually provide you with the substantiated number that we are talking about?

**Mr Robinson:** I can ask one of our officers to look at the cost-benefit document that is on our website.

**Answer:**

The modelling that was undertaken as part of the 2013 strategic review was used as an input to the cost benefit analysis (CBA).

It should be noted that the strategic review and the CBA used different methodologies to estimate costs. While the strategic review cost modelling examined the financial costs to nbn for deploying, operating and maintaining the National Broadband Network, the CBA considered the economic costs associated with those activities.