

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

2016 - 2017

Division/Agency: Budget Policy Division

Question No: 220

Topic: 2016-17 MYEFO measure – Regional Broadband Scheme

Reference: Written

Senator: Ketter, Chris

Question:

1. Provide the profile of the measure in underlying cash balance terms
2. Provide the assumption in the costing for what the “proportionate contribution” is for eligible fixed-line superfast broadband network operators
3. Provide an explanation for the expense line for the ACCC in 2016-17 (what is the reason for the \$0.2m spend), the ACMA spend in 2017-18 and 2018-19 (what is the reason for the \$0.2m spend over the two years), the DCA spend in 2017-18 to 2019-20, and the ACMA capital spend of \$0.5m in 2016-17 and 2017-18

Answer:

1*. The profile of the measure in underlying cash balance terms (\$ million) is:

2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total
0	-0.6	-0.1	0.6	0.1	..

.. Not zero, but rounded to zero.

2. The details of the charge are available in the documents released by the Department of Communications and the Arts (DoCA) on 12 December 2016 for the *Consultation on the Telecommunications Reform Package* available at <https://www.communications.gov.au/have-your-say/consultation-telecommunications-reform-package>.

3*. The Department of Finance have advised:

ACCC expense

The ACCC expense of \$0.2 million in 2016-17 is for the ACCC to undertake data gathering and provide a pricing model to the DoCA to assist in calculating a levy to fund NBN non-commercial activities.

ACMA expense

The ACMA expense of \$0.2 million (from 2017-18 to 2018-19) is for the costs of a contractor to administer the new industry reporting and payment process under the Regional Broadband Scheme.

The measure also provided \$0.5 million in capital funding (from 2016-17 to 2017-18) to upgrade the IT systems necessary for the ACMA to manage this new industry reporting and payment process.

DoCA expense

SQ17-000229

* Input provided by the Department of Finance

The DoCA expenses (from 2017-18 to 2019-20) represent payments made to NBN Co Limited under the Regional Broadband Scheme.