

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

29 May – 31 May 2012

Question: BET 744

Topic: Social Media (ASIC)

Hansard Page: Written (Received from Committee 13 June 2012)

Senator Bushby asked:

744. Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and useage of Youtube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since publication of the Australian Public Service Commission's Circular 2012/1: Revisions to the Commission's guidance on making public comment and participating online?

If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issue. If no, please explain why not.

Answer:

ASIC has not made any changes to the Agency social media policy or protocols since the publication of the APSC Circular 2012/1. ASIC continues to maintain its policy of restricting the use of online social media (YouTube, Facebook, MySpace, Twitter), and other selected online discussion forums and blogs that are not considered related to ASIC's business. A small number of ASIC's business units are using social media (in particular Twitter and Facebook accounts) as a channel of communication to external stakeholders or as a tool in investigations. ASIC also has several clips on YouTube, which promote financial literacy. Outside of the business units directly involved in these channels of communication, ASIC employees continue to have no access to social media sites through ASIC's systems inside and outside of business hours.

ASIC issued a revision to its public comment guidance on 20 February 2012, can be found here: [www.asic.gov.au/asic/pdflib.nsf/LookupByFileName/INFO_152_Public_Comment.pdf/\\$file/INFO_152_Public_Comment.pdf](http://www.asic.gov.au/asic/pdflib.nsf/LookupByFileName/INFO_152_Public_Comment.pdf/$file/INFO_152_Public_Comment.pdf)