

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EM1336_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Media subscriptions

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014: 1. What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have? a. Please provide a list of channels and the reason for each channel. b. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period? c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period? 2. What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have? a. Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each. b. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period? c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period? 3. What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have? a. Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each. b. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period? c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period? 4. What publications does your department/agency purchase? a. Please provide a list of publications purchased by the department and the reason for each. b. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period? c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period.

Answer

1. The Department of Employment's Pay TV subscription is a package containing Sky News, Sky Business and Australian Public Affairs (APAC) channels. The subscriptions provide both national and international perspectives and breaking news on a broad range of issues which both directly and indirectly impact on the work of the department.

For the period 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014 the Department of Employment paid \$1,147.45 for pay TV services. These services are paid for by the Shared Services Centre and consumed by both the Department of Employment and the Department of Education.

The Employment Ministers' offices are provided with the Business Premium package. For the period 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014 the Employment Ministers' offices paid \$498.11 for pay TV services.

2 and 3. The department subscribes to the newspapers and magazines listed in the table below. The reasons for the subscriptions include: monitoring of articles on government policy with reference to Government programs delivered by the

department; current local, national and international employment and workplace relations issues; providing access to up to date international research and analysis on key issues to the department; and emerging issues relevant to the department.

Details of magazine and newspaper subscriptions for the Department of Employment for the period 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014 are below. The total cost for this period was \$8,521.46.

Publication
Harvard Business Review
The Age
The Advertiser (Adelaide)
The Australian
The Australian Financial Review
The Canberra Times
The Courier Mail
The Daily Telegraph
The Economist
The Herald Sun
The Indigenous Times
The Koori Mail
The Land
The Mercury
The Northern Territory News
The Sydney Morning Herald
The Weekend Australian
The Weekly Times

Details of magazine and newspaper subscriptions for the Employment Ministers' offices for the period 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014 are below. The total cost for this period was \$3,388.36.

Publication
The Age
The Australian
The Australian Financial Review
The Daily Telegraph
The Hobart Mercury
The Herald Sun
The Sydney Morning Herald
News Digital
The Canberra Times

4. The department purchases a range of publications in order to maintain current knowledge of government policy with reference to Government programs delivered by the department; current local, national and international employment and workplace relations issues; international research and analysis on key issues to the department; and emerging issues relevant to the department. To provide a listing of all publications would be an unnecessary diversion of resources.

For the period 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014 the Department of Employment paid \$29,126.89 for publications.

The Shared Services Centre paid an additional \$15,844.76. Note that the majority of this expense relates to publications purchased on behalf of the department by the Shared Services Centre Library which is a resource shared by the Department of Employment and the Department of Education.

For the period 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014, the Employment Ministers' offices paid \$0 for publications.