

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

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

Agency - Comcare

Department of Employment Question No. EM1338_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Comcare - 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. 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?

Comcare does not pay for pay TV subscriptions.

2. What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have? a. Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each.

Comcare subscribes to the following newspapers:

- The Australian
- Sydney Morning Herald
- Canberra Times
- The Age

- West Australian
- Herald Sun
- Australian Financial Review – cancelled on 3 July 2014
- Courier Mail.

The reason Comcare subscribes to the above newspapers is to supply information relevant to Comcare's jurisdiction and operating environment.

b. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?

The cost of the above newspaper subscriptions since Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 31 October 2014 is \$2,894.81.

c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?

Nil.

3. What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have? a. Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each. c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?

Crikey magazine was cancelled on 3 July 2014.

b. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?

\$80.

c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?

Nil.

4. What publications does your department/agency purchase? a. Please provide a list of publications purchased by the department and the reason for each.

Since the Budget Estimates in June Comcare has purchased the following publications/subscriptions:

- IBISWorld Licence
- Lexis Nexis Butts Direct On-line
- Softlaw – SRCA Commentary
- Fair Work Act
- Comlaw publication
- Acts Interpretation Act
- National Library articles
- EBSCO Australia subscription
- Softlaw – Annotated SRC Act
- Occupational Health News
- OHS Alert
- SAI Global – On-line select additions
- Investigative Interviewing
- Living abled & healthy: your guide to injury and illness recovery
- Guides to the evaluation of permanent impairment
- Fitness for work: the medical aspects

- Managing Intelligence
- *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988*
- *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*
- *Work Health and Safety (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 2011*
- *Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011*

Comcare purchased/subscribed to the above publications to provide easy access to important information to support employees in undertaking their duties. This includes information on:

- legislative change;
- work related medical conditions including diagnostic criteria, treatment, expected length of disability and return to work considerations;
- tools to assist in better decision making particularly in relation to the duration of incapacity and return to work;
- the most up to date research and precedent legal information; and
- tools to assist Comcare staff who provide policy advice.

b. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?

\$88,493.55

c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?"

Nil.