

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee  
—Additional Estimates Hearing—24 February 2014**

**Answers to Questions on Notice**

**Parliamentary Departments: Department of Parliamentary Services**

Topic: **Coalition Advisory Service**

**Question**

**Senator WONG:** Have you billed DoF for the CAS services and for how much?

**Answer:**

Invoices are being held while the Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Finance and the Department of Parliamentary Services is being finalised.

**Question:**

**Senator WONG:** How much is the taxpayer in fact paying—over and above the \$25½ thousand they have already paid for the laptops et cetera—for calls for this advisory service?

**Answer:**

Phones were issued on 9 December 2013. \$615.84 was incurred for call charges up to 9 January 2014.

**Question:**

**Senator WONG:** Can you explain to me why you provided laptops and not desktop computers?

**Answer:**

On 4 December 2013 a request was received from the Parliamentary Liaison and Coordination Office in the Department of Finance, advising that the Coalition Advisory Service 'is to be supported in the same manner as the former CCT'.

**Question:**

**Senator WONG:** Who requested it?

**Answer:**

The request came from the Parliamentary Liaison and Coordination Office in the Department of Finance as per the email of 4 December 2013.

**Question:**

**Senator WONG:** Do you know who requested it of them?

**Answer:**

The request came to DPS from the Parliamentary Liaison and Coordination Office as per the email of 4 December 2013. The email does not show where the request originated.

**Question:**

**Senator WONG:** So can we be really clear: who took the request that it be laptops, not desktop computers?

**Answer:**

The request came to DPS from the Parliamentary Liaison and Coordination Office (DoF) as per the email of 4 December 2013 to support the CAS 'in the same manner as the former CCT'. The CCT had laptops, so these were provided again.

**CCT and CSA Equipment**

Device	Start MOU	CCT Changes (1)							CAS Changes		
	Feb -12	Feb -12	Apr-12	Feb-13	May-13	Jul-13	Sep-13	Total	Dec-13	Jan-14	Totals
Standard Desktop PC	1	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Standard Monitor	5	1	1	1	1	0	0	9	7	2	9
Standard Notebook	5	1	1	2	1	-1	0	9	7	2	9
Docking Station	3	1	1	2	1	1	0	9	7	2	9
Laser Printer optional feed bin	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Laser Printer	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Smart Label Printer	2	0	0	0	0	0	-1	1	0	0	0
Wireless Broadband Modem	5	1	1	1	1	-1	-1	7	7	2	9
RSA Tokens	5	1	1	2	1	-1	0	9	7	2	9
Multi Function Device [MFD] (3)							0	0	0	1	1
Smart Phones (4)							0	0	0	7	7

**Notes:**

1. Changes are as requested by DoF - Parliamentary Liaison and Coordination Office
2. Equipment of 4 February 2012 was transferred from DoF to DPS
3. The CCT printers were replaced with a single MFD for CAS
4. Phones for CCT were provided directly by DoF

**Question:**

**Senator FAULKNER:** If you could you take it on notice to provide the method of communication and a copy of the email or emails or other communications that might save a bit of time. Thank you for that.

**Answer:**

The method of communication regarding the provisioning of CAS and CCT has been via email. Attached is a copy of the relevant email between DoF and DPS.

**Question:**

**Senator WONG:** So are the unit costs the same (between desktops and laptops)—the cradle et cetera?

**Answer:**

Equipment is acquired through the AGIMO whole of government Desktop Hardware and Associated Services. The prices under this panel are revised quarterly. Each individual purchase will use the then current price. In December 2013 panel prices were: Laptop: \$1,045, Desktop \$905, Monitor \$282, docking stations \$159.

**Question:**

**Senator WONG:** Can you indicate to me the unit cost of these as opposed to the unit cost of things on your menu, as you describe it? The second thing is: when you had the request for this particular configuration, is it a configuration that, for example, members and senators are entitled to?

**Answer:**

The laptops purchased in December 2013 cost \$1045 per unit (via the whole of government panel).

Equipment for Senators and Members under their entitlement is also acquired through this panel.

The configuration provided to CAS is the same standard DPS configuration which is also available to Senators and Members under the ICT Services Catalogue.

**Question:**

**Senator WONG:** Are you able to tell me if there has been any other equipment provided since the date of that answer?

**Answer:**

Since the answer to QoN 164, two laptops with docking station and monitor, one Multi Function Device and one external DVD device have been provided.

**Question:**

**Senator WONG:** What call charges have been incurred by the CAS?

**Answer:**

Phones were issued on 9 December 2013. \$615.84 was incurred for call charges up to 9 January 2014.