

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013-2014

Finance Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance
Outcome/Program: AEC
Topic: Media Subscriptions Response

Senator: Faulkner

Question reference number: F27

Type of question: Hansard F&PA Committee, Page 103, 19 November 2013

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 17 January 2014

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator FAULKNER: I have one question; it will not take long. It is probably to you, Minister, and relates to the committee processes here. I am perplexed by this. We got a note from the committee secretariat saying: 'Please find attached a further answer to an estimates question on notice regarding media subscription for the Finance and Deregulation portfolio'—as it was then called—from Senator Ryan. Please note the secretariat was advised that the AEC's response to the question was intentionally left blank at the request of Minister Ronaldson's Special Minister of State office. I was just glancing through them, and this is one of Senator Ryan's questions on notice relating to pay TV, newspaper and magazine subscriptions in the relevant agency, which is the AEC in this case. You are probably aware of it I just wondered if someone could explain why that is intentionally left blank.

Senator Ronaldson: I have no idea and I will take it on notice.

Answer:

AEC's response to the question asked by Senator Ryan was left blank as a result of an administrative oversight.

The response for AEC to question F98 from Budget Estimates 2013-14 is as follows:

Question:

1. What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have?
 - a) Please provide a list of what channels and the reason for each channel.
 - b) What is the cost for this financial year to date?
2. What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have?
 - a) Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each.
 - b) What is the cost for this financial year to date?
3. What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have?

- a) Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each.
- b) What is the cost for this financial year to date?

Answer:

1.

- a) Parliamentary TV, to observe the work of the Parliament.
- b) The AEC's annual subscription commitment is \$7,229. The invoice is yet to be received for the current Financial Year.

2.

- a) – b) The AEC's chart of accounts does not provide the level of detail necessary to provide this detailed cost information.

3.

- a) – b) The AEC's chart of accounts does not provide the level of detail necessary to provide this detailed cost information.