

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee:
Answers to written Questions on Notice
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014–15
Parliamentary Departments Portfolio
October 2014**

Department Parliamentary Budget Office
Topic Media subscriptions

Senator Senator Ludwig

Question reference number 157

Type of question Written

Question

Since Budget Estimates in June 2014:

- 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 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 Not applicable.
- 2
 - a The Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) receives two copies of The Australian, three copies of the Australian Financial Review (AFR) and one copy of The Canberra Times each business day. The PBO has three digital subscriptions to the Australian Financial Review and one digital subscription to The Australian.
 - b For the period 1 June to 31 October 2014, the PBO paid \$1,761.74 (GST exclusive) for newspaper subscriptions which included three annual subscription renewals to the AFR. The estimated average monthly cost for newspaper subscriptions is \$536.00 (GST exclusive) per month.
 - c Not applicable.
 - d Not applicable.
- 3
 - a The PBO has a three year subscription to the Economist magazine.
 - b Nil.
 - c Not applicable.
 - d Not applicable.
- 4
 - a The PBO has a two year subscription to the IBIS World publication and purchased five minor publications during the period.
 - b For the period 1 June to 31 October 2014, the PBO expensed \$3,103.54 (GST exclusive) for these publications. The annual cost for the IBIS World publication is \$4,015.00 (GST exclusive) per annum.
 - c Not applicable.
 - d Not applicable.

The PBO subscribes to the above publications to keep informed of current events and to access data and research material for use in its analytical and costing work.