

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing—October 2014**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Media subscriptions**

Question: **263**

Written: **Senator Ludwig**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 31 December 2014

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

1a. The following pay TV channels are provided free of charge to DPS for distribution throughout Parliament House:

- SKY Business Channel
- SKY News
- CNN International
- BBC World
- CNBC Australia
- Al Jazeera
- A-PAC
- Bloomberg
- Fox Sports 1, 2 and 3
- Fox News
- Sky News Weather

- Australia Network

The channels provide Senators, Members of the House of Representatives, their staff and staff of parliamentary departments with access to the content of publicly broadcast TV, current affairs programs, documentaries and other programs of interest that relate to their parliamentary and representational duties.

1b. Not applicable.

1c. TV channels are provided on the basis of equality of access to all Senators and Members.

1d. Not applicable.

2a The Parliamentary Library subscribes to hardcopy regional, national and overseas newspapers for use by Senators and Members and their staff, as well as Library and other DPS officers. This supports the provision of information, analysis and advice to Senators and Members and their staff.

Regional newspapers

Norfolk Islander
 Geelong Advertiser
 Barrier Daily Truth
 Border Mail
 Goulburn Post
 Herald - Newcastle
 Maitland Mercury
 Northern Star
 Cairns Post
 Chronicle Toowoomba
 Gold Coast Bulletin
 Tasmanian Country
 Sunshine Coast Daily
 Townsville Bulletin
 Yorke Peninsula Country Times
 Advocate - Burnie
 Examiner - Launceston
 Bendigo Advertiser
 Northern Times
 Spectator - Hamilton
 Sunraysia daily
 Wimmera Mail Times
 The Kalgoorlie Miner
 Queensland Country Life

Overseas newspapers

Papua New Guinea Post Courier
 Jakarta Post
 Guardian weekly

National newspapers

Canberra Times (including Saturday & Sunday editions)

Sydney Morning Herald (including weekend edition)
The Age (including Saturday and Sunday editions)
The Australian (including weekend edition)
Australian Financial Review (including weekend edition)
The Saturday Paper

Online newspapers are also available through iSentia MediaPortal, NewsBank, Library Press Display and ANZ Newsstand.

- 2b. From 1 July 2014 to 30 September 2014, the Library spent \$14,906.32 (GST excl.) on print newspaper subscriptions (FYI – these were all Australian titles; no international titles were purchased during this period).
- 2c. Library services are provided on the basis of equality of access to all Senators and Members.
- 2d. Not applicable.
- 3a. The Parliamentary Library subscribes to 3,674 print and 27,724 electronic magazines/journals (serials) for use by Senators and Members and their staff, staff of the Library, and other parliamentary service staff to support the provision of information, analysis and advice. These titles are listed in the Library's catalogue; it is not practicable to include a full list of these titles here. Additionally, DPS work areas sometimes require magazine subscriptions to assist with their operational activities (e.g. technical manuals). These resources are classified as working tools and, although managed by the Parliamentary Library, are paid by the user areas.
- 3b. Magazines/journals for the Parliamentary Library collections are purchased by annual subscription. From 1 July 2014 to 30 September 2014, the Library spent \$284,145.36 (GST excl.) on such subscriptions and DPS expended a further \$16,206.77 (GST excl.) on them.
- 3c. Library services are provided on the basis of equality of access to all Senators and Members.
- 3d. Not applicable.
- 4a. As a routine part of collection management, the Parliamentary Library purchases hardcopy publications for use by Senators and Members and their staff, as well as Library and other DPS officers. This supports the provision of information, analysis and advice to Senators and Members and their staff. These titles are listed in the Library's catalogue; it is not practicable to include a full list of these titles here.
- 4b. From 1 July 2014 to 30 September 2014, the Library spent \$55,872.71 (GST excl.) on publications.
- 4c. Library services are provided on the basis of equality of access to all Senators and Members.
- 4d. Not applicable.