

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO

Program: Portfolio

Question No. AE16/101

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 9 February 2016:

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. Other than phones, iPads or computers – please list the electronic equipment provided to the Minister's office.
 1. List the items
 2. List the items location or normal location
 3. List if the item is in the possession of the office or an individual staff member of minister, if with an individual list their employment classification level
 4. List the total cost of the items
 5. List an itemised cost breakdown of these items
 6. List the date they were provided to the office
 7. Note if the items were requested by the office or proactively provided by the department

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

1. Other than iPhones, iPads and computers, the Attorney-General's Department provides the following electronic equipment to ministerial offices, as required, to assist them in undertaking their duties:
 - business card scanners
 - desktop scanners
 - desktop speakers
 - desktop teleconference machines
 - digital cameras
 - digital voice recorders
 - facsimile machines
 - internet protocol (IP) phones
 - portable radio/stereo
 - printers/multi-function devices
 - remote access tokens
 - shredders
 - televisions
 - transcription equipment
 - USB storage devices
 - wireless internet dongles
 - wireless telephone headsets
2. Equipment is provided to individuals and in designated Parliament House suites, Commonwealth Parliamentary Offices and other offices within Australia depending on business requirements.

3. It would be an unreasonable diversion of resources to detail for each item of equipment whether it is provided to a ministerial office or individual staff member and the classification of each individual staff member.
4. Expenditure in the department's financial management system is recorded in such a way that to extract the relevant information would require an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.
5. Expenditure in the department's financial management system is recorded in such a way that to extract the relevant information would require an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.
6. It would require an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources to provide the date each individual item was provided to ministerial offices.
7. The Attorney-General's Department proactively provides a range of equipment to ministerial offices and also provides items at the request of the offices to meet their requirements.