

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

23 – 24 February 2011

Question No: AET 59

Topic: ACCC – Media Subscriptions

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bushby asked:

If your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel). please advise the cost to date this financial year.

If your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to newspapers please advise the cost to date this financial year.

If your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to magazines please advise the cost to date this financial year.

Answer:

The ACCC has paid television subscriptions to Foxtel in two of its offices (Canberra and Melbourne). This service provides the full range of news channels offered by Foxtel. The year to date costs for the 2010–11 financial year is \$1,220 (ex GST). Access to news channels is essential for ACCC staff to be quickly aware of issues which may have a bearing on the ACCC's work, and also to monitor coverage of ACCC media activity.

The ACCC has offices located throughout Australia, with a national office in Canberra and regional offices located in each State and Territory capital city and Townsville. As a result, the ACCC subscribes to a variety of national and local newspapers. In 2010–11 the cost associated with newspapers for the ACCC for the financial year to date is \$35,028 (ex GST). Newspaper subscriptions allow ACCC staff to be quickly aware of issues which may have a bearing on the ACCC's work, and also to monitor coverage of ACCC media activity.

The ACCC has periodical journals and magazine subscriptions. The costs of these subscriptions for the current 2010–11 financial year to date is \$103,741 (ex GST). These subscriptions allow ACCC staff to be aware of broader issues which may have bearing on the ACCC's work.