

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2013-2014**

Cross Portfolio

Department of Education Question No. ED0342_14

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Dept/Ag - Media subscriptions

Media subscriptions 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 from 7 September 2013 to date? c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What is the cost for this from 7 September 2013 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 from 7 September 2013 to date? c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What is the cost for this from 7 September 2013 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 from 7 September 2013 to date? c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What is the cost for this from 7 September 2013 to date? 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 is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date? c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What is the cost for this from 7 September 2013 to date?

Answer

The Department of Education was established on 18 September 2013. Previously the functions were delivered by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR).

1. The Department of Education and the Department of Employment continue to share the same Pay TV subscription package and the associated cost cannot be disaggregated between the departments. The package contains Sky News, Sky Business and Australian Public Affairs (APAC) channels. The subscriptions provide both national and international perspectives and breaking news on a broad range of issues which both directly and indirectly impact on the work of the department.

For the period 18 September 2013 to 28 February 2014 the combined expenditure by both departments on pay TV services was \$1,656.18.

The Education Ministers' offices are provided with the Business Premium package. For the period 18 September 2013 to 28 February 2014 the cost of pay TV services for Education Ministers' offices was \$907.50.

2 and 3. The department subscribes to the newspapers and magazines listed in the table below. The reasons for the subscriptions include: monitoring of articles on government policy with reference to Government programmes delivered by the department; current local, national and international political issues; providing access to up to date international research and analysis on key issues to the department; and emerging issues relevant to the department.

Details of magazine and newspaper subscriptions for the Department of Education for the period 18 September 2013 to 28 February 2014 are below.

In the 2013-14 financial year, it is not possible to fully disaggregate expenditure between the Department of Education and the Department of Employment. Expenditure on magazine and newspaper subscriptions by the Department of Education for the period 18 September 2013 to 28 February 2014 for was \$3029.80. Expenditure on magazine and newspaper subscriptions by the corporate areas of both departments and the former DEEWR state network for the same period was \$35,084.49

Publication
Campus Review
Harvard Business Review
The Age
The Advertiser (Adelaide)
The Australian
The Australian Financial Review
The Canberra Times
The Courier Mail
The Daily Telegraph
The Economist
The Herald Sun
The Indigenous Times
The Koori Mail
The Land
The Mercury
The Northern Territory News
The Sydney Morning Herald
The Weekend Australian
The Weekly Times

Details of magazine and newspaper subscriptions for the Education Ministers' offices for the period 18 September 2013 to 28 February 2014 are below. The total cost for this period was \$559.00.

Publication
The Age
The Australian
The Australian Financial Review
The Daily Telegraph
The Hobart Mercury
The Herald Sun
The Sydney Morning Herald
News Digital

4. The department purchases a range of publications in order to maintain current knowledge of government policy with reference to Government programmes delivered by the department; current local, national and international political issues; international research and analysis on key issues to the department; and emerging issues relevant to the department. To provide a listing of all publications would be an unnecessary diversion of resources.

In the 2013-14 financial year, it is not possible to fully disaggregate expenditure between the Department of Education and the Department of Employment. Expenditure on publications by the Department of Education for the period 18 September 2013 to 28 February 2014 for was \$560.04. Expenditure on publications by the corporate areas of both departments and the former DEEWR state network for the same period was \$8,697.32

For the period 18 September to 30 November, the cost of publications for the Education Ministers' offices was \$4,196. No new publications, other than the newspapers and magazines detailed above, were purchased for the Education Ministers' offices since the supplementary budget estimates hearings.