

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2012-2013**

Cross Portfolio

DEEWR Question No. EW0064_13

Senator Back provided in writing.

Question - Media Monitoring

"What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for this financial year to date? • Which agency or agencies provided these services? • What is the estimated budget to provide these same services for the year 2011-12? • What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date? What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for this financial year to date? • Which agency or agencies provided these services? • What is the estimated budget to provide these same services for the year 2011-12? • What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?"

Answer

1. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Ministers' office for this financial year to date?

The department does not attribute a portion of general media monitoring expenditure to ministers and the parliamentary secretary: only orders relating to transcripts, audio files and video ordered by ministerial offices. The cost for Ministers' offices (including former ministers) for the financial year 2011-12 to end June 2012, was \$46,594.54 (GST exclusive).

2. Which agency or agencies provided these services?

AAP (Australian Associated Press)

3. What is the estimated budget to provide these same services for the year 2011-12?

Expenditure for these services in the financial year 2011-12 was dependent on the amount of media items/issues that arise; the department did not specify an estimated budget for these items. However the departmental spending on media monitoring has been trending downward.

4. What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?

See answer to question 1.

5. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for this financial year to date?

In the financial year 2011-12 to end June 2012, the department's spending on media monitoring services was \$ 686,629.80 (GST exclusive).

6. Which agency or agencies provided these services?

AAP (Australian Associated Press)

7. What is the estimated budget to provide these same services for the year 2011-12?

Expenditure for these services in the financial year 2011-12 was dependent on the amount of media items/issues that arose; the department did not specify an estimated budget for these items. However the departmental spending on media monitoring has been trending down.

8. What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?

See answer to question 5.