

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates Hearing 27 May-6 June 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Cyberpolicy coordination budget

Senator: Senator Ludlam

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Question:

Senator LUDLAM: You had eight, but it is 12. Lastly—and this will probably go on notice as well—what did the establishment of the centre cost taxpayers? How much is it expected to cost over the forward estimates?

Mr McKinnon: We will take that on notice and provide an answer to you

Answer:

The Government does not comment on the specifics of national security funding. However, the Government can confirm that there is no new funding. The cost to establish the Australian Cyber Security Centre is being covered from within existing portfolio budgets. Each agency that participates in the ACSC contributes to the cost – the Defence portfolio will be contributing approximately 73 per cent of the total funding, while the Attorney General's portfolio will be contributing the remaining 27 per cent. All ACSC agencies come from these two portfolios.