

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Supplementary Estimates Hearing – October 2010

Outcome General, Program General

Topic: Social Media

Question reference number: F70

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 3 December 2010

Number of Pages: 1

Senator Bernardi asked:

- a) Do Finance employees utilise these social media websites on work equipment such as their workstation computer? If yes, please explain how this is a good use of Commonwealth resources.
- b) How many employees of the Department engage in social media on equipment provided by Finance such as, but not limited to, blackberrys and laptops?
- c) At what times can Finance employees use social media at work? Please explain.

Answer:

- a) Yes. Finance encourages its staff to make efficient use of all departmental resources for business purposes.
- b) This information is not collected by Finance.
- c) Finance staff are able to use internet resources at work for business purposes. Personal use must be incidental to formal duties. This is consistent with policies related to similar facilities such as phone, email and internet browsing.