

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing—October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Provision of equipment**

Questions:

Written **Senator Ryan**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 30 November 2012

- For departments/agencies that provide mobile phones to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what type of mobile phone is provided and the costs.
- For departments/agencies that provide electronic equipment to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what are the ongoing costs for this financial year to date? What were the running costs for 2009-10 and 2010-11?
- Is electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive) provided to department/agency staff? If yes provide details of what is provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it.
- Please update if there have been any changes since Budget Estimates 2011-12 (May 2012):
Does the department/agency provide their Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices with any electronic equipment? If yes, provide details of what is provided, the cost and to who it is provided.

Answer

- Not applicable. DPS is a parliamentary department.
- Not applicable. DPS is not responsible for providing electronic equipment to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries.

Note that DPS provides electronic equipment to the electorate offices of all Senators and Members, according to entitlement policy established under the *Parliamentary Entitlements Act 1990*.

- Yes.

Mobile phones (including BlackBerry)

Mobile phone services (including BlackBerry) are currently issued to staff from PSL1 to SES levels.

Financial year	Number of mobile services	Telecommunication Costs
2011–12	167	\$29,059
2012–13 (to 30 September)	159	\$7,483

Financial year	Number of new phones purchased	Total cost	Unit cost per phone
2011–12	35	\$16,657	\$90 to \$930
2012–13 (to 30 September)	2	\$1,030	\$515

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iPads

DPS has 57 iPads available across all its branches for departmental use including 5 iPads for the Presiding Officers and staff. The iPads are currently used by staff from PSL4 to SES levels. The cost of purchasing the iPads has ranged from \$385 to \$835 per device depending on model and purchase date; plus a 6% administration fee that AGIMO charges for each device purchased.

The estimated setup cost for each device is \$140 for software licensing and staff time, and the estimated yearly support cost is approximately \$160 which covers helpdesk and management software maintenance. Most iPads only connect through the DPS wireless network in Parliament House, so there is no cost for connection or data plans for these.

There are 7 staff who have iPads with data plans—total cost for these is \$273 per month.

Laptops

The DPS has 288 laptops as at 8 November 2012—distributed to staff as follows:

Personal issue	108
Pooled for business use	88
Ready for disposal	34
Whips Office	6
Stock waiting for allocation	48
Missing at last stocktake	4

The cost of purchasing the laptops has ranged in price from \$1,710 to \$3,933 each, depending on the model and date purchased. The estimated setup cost for each laptop is \$717 for software licensing and staff time, and the estimated yearly support cost is approximately \$850, which covers helpdesk and management software maintenance.

RSA tokens

DPS provides RSA tokens for users requiring remote access to the Parliamentary Computing Network (PCN). There are 244 active token users within DPS from PSL4 to SES. The cost of each RSA token is approximately \$70 for three years of use.

d) Not applicable. See answer to b) above.