

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Supplementary Budget Estimates 15-18 October 2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** 1.1.3 Support Services for Government Operations

**Topic:** Shredder Purchases

**Senator:** Senator Ryan

**Question reference number:** 137

**Type of Question:** Written

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

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

Did the department/agencies purchased any shredders in 2011-12? If yes, provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.

Has the department/agencies purchased any shredders since Budget Estimates 2011-12 (May 2012)? If yes, provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.

**Answer:**

In 2011-12 the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet purchased 12 shredders at a total cost of \$40,920.

The cost of each shredder (excl. GST) is as follows:

- 2 shredders at a cost of \$3,495 each;
- 2 shredders at a cost of \$5,695 each;
- 4 shredders at a cost of \$1,995 each; and
- 4 shredders at a cost of \$3,640 each.

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The shredders were purchased to ensure the Department complied with the Australian Government Protective Security Policy Framework and the Department's security guidelines, which require that information classified 'Secret' and above be disposed of using an 'A' class shredder.

Six of the shredders listed above were purchased in the period since Budget Estimates 2011-12 (May 2012) at a total cost of \$19,370.

The cost of each shredder (excl. GST) is as follows:

- 2 shredders at a cost of \$5,695 each; and
- 4 shredders at a cost of \$1,995 each.

The shredders were purchased to ensure the Department complied with the Australian Government Protective Security Policy Framework and the Department's security guidelines, which require that information classified 'Secret' and above be disposed of using an 'A' class shredder.