

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### **(441) Program: Internal Product**

Senator Barnett asked:

#### Media Subscriptions

- 1) Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.
- 2) Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to newspapers? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.
- 3) Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to magazines? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.

*Answer:*

1) The department subscribes to pay TV in Australia and at some of its overseas posts. In Australia, pay TV is provided by Foxtel and Austar. The expenditure for the financial year 2009-10 for Foxtel and Austar was \$5 273.66. Subscription to pay TV, specifically to capture breaking news, media conferences and interviews on Sky News, Sky Business, CNN, Bloomberg, CNBC, BBC and APAC, is an essential element of the department's media monitoring operations.

Additionally, the two most senior officers' in the Torres Strait are provided with an annual subscription to AUSTAR to their homes. This service is in place of normal free-to-air television where reception is either problematic or non-existent.

2) The department subscribes to newspapers because not all of the information in the major metropolitan newspapers is necessarily available on-line. The expenditure for the financial year 2009-10 was \$53 784. The newspapers purchased includes: The Australian Financial Review, The Australian, The Canberra Times, The Sydney Morning Herald, The Daily Telegraph, The Age, Herald Sun, Guardian Weekly, Courier Mail, Torres News, Cairns Bulletin, The Adelaide Advertiser, Neos Cosmos, Jewish News, The Sunday Telegraph and Sun Herald.

3) The department does subscribe to magazines so as to provide up-to-date information on refugee related issues, including refugee law and commentary on administrative decision-making; up-to-date country of origin information; trends in management and governance; and to help guide decision making around the establishment of a new performance management framework. The expenditure for the financial year 2009-10 was \$13 414.39. Magazine

subscriptions include International Journal of Refugee Law, Journal of Refugee Studies, Refugee Survey Quarterly, Refuge, The Economist, International Journal of Refugee Law, Journal of Refugee Studies, Refugee Survey Quarterly, Refuge, The Economist, Harvard Business Review, Journal of South Asian Studies, China Journal, China Study Journal, The Middle East, Journal of South Asian Studies, and Harvard Business Review - Balanced Scorecard.