

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 17 OCTOBER 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE11/0045) Program: Internal Product

Senator Humphries asked:

Does your Department within your portfolio subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)? a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels. b) What was the cost for 2010-11? c) What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?

Answer:

Department of Immigration and Citizenship

a) 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 to capture breaking news, media conferences and interviews on Sky News, Sky Business, CNN, Bloomberg, CNBC, BBC and APAC. This is an essential element of the department's media monitoring operations and to support evidence based decision and policy making.

The department also provides Foxtel provision to clients in Immigration Detention Centres.

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.

b) The expenditure for the financial year 2010-11 for Foxtel and AUSTAR was \$44 767.

(c) Estimated cost for financial year 2011-12 is \$30 158.

MRT/RRT

MRT/RRT at present has no subscriptions for pay TV.