

**Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**National Capital Authority**

**Budget Estimates 30 May 2013**

**Question: 118 - 130**

**Topic: Mobile Devices**

**Asked By: Senator HUMHPRIES**

**Type of Question: Written**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 26 July 2013**

**Number of pages: 3**

1. When did the NCA start providing mobile devices to staff?
2. What was the reason to provide mobile devices to staff?
3. Was any trial period undertaken? Yes/no
4. Can you please tell us what mobile devices you have, how many of each and the costs (just try and get this on the record).
5. Do all employees have a mobile device? If not, how many do?
6. How much has been spent in total (including internet access, handset purchase or hire etc) since mobile device issue began?
7. Have these devices (in particular the ipads) replaced normal desktop computers for these employees? If no, does that mean employees have both a desktop computer and an ipad or other device?
8. Who pays for the upkeep, and any potential repairs of the devices?
9. Who pays for internet access?
10. How do these devices, like an ipad, assist with field work? Could an employee undertake field work without an ipad?
11. How do these devices, like an ipad, assist with general day to day NCA business? Could an employee undertake general day to day NCA business without an ipad?
12. Why does each employee need their own device?
13. Have the ipads increased productivity?

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**Answer:**

- 1-2. The NCA Mobile Device Work Use Program began in October 2012, to increase productivity and innovation, reduce the use of paper in the office, and promote work/life balance.
3. Yes.
4. As at 30 June 2013, the total number of devices currently allocated to NCA staff consists of five Blackberries, 18 mobile devices, 52 iPads and five laptops.
5. Most NCA employees, except casual employees, employees who have their own mobile devices and those employees on a short-term contract, have been provided with a mobile device, where they have been able to demonstrate an appropriate level of work use for the device to his/her supervisor.
6. The purchase cost of the equipment listed above is \$46,829.  
The ongoing cost of this equipment varies based on the usage by the individuals and the terms of the relevant plan for each device. For example, most iPads work on the regular NCA WiFi network and incur little to no ongoing cost.
7. No, these devices aid employees involved in field work, out of hours contact and general day to day NCA business such as internal and external meetings.
- 8-9. The ongoing cost of this equipment varies based on the usage by the individuals and the terms of the relevant plan for each device. For example, most iPads work on the regular NCA WiFi network and incur little to no ongoing cost.
10. The devices provide field workers and visitor service assistants with real time data on Scrivener Dam's performance, allows accurate weather monitoring which is crucial in flood events and facilitates immediate uploading of visitation numbers at the National Capital Exhibition.
11. Board and executive meetings are conducted electronically; eliminating the requirement for printing meeting papers in excess of 800 pages per attendee and if required allows videoconferencing to occur without the purchase of additional hardware and/or software.

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12. Not all employees have their own device. The device used to capture visitation numbers at the National Capital Exhibition is used by many visitor service assistants.
13. Yes, eliminated printing and collating meeting papers and provides real time access to information. In the first six months of the NCA's Mobile Device Work Use Program the cost of purchasing paper has halved. The number of pages printed and/or photocopied has also reduced. The flow on affect in staff saving (time not spent collating meeting papers and briefing packs) has been significant. The NCA currently operates without any dedicated executive assistance/personal assistant positions. That saving has been reinvested in direct output programs such as information and education and estate management. In the field asset condition monitoring is occurring with greater regularity and this is reflected in feedback from the community.

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**Question: 131**

**Topic: NCA Staffing**

**Asked By: Senator HUMHPRIES**

**Type of Question: Written**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 26 July 2013**

**Number of pages: 1**

How many staff are employed at the NCA?

**Answer:**

As at 31 May 2013, the National Capital Authority employed 62 staff (50.71 Full Time Equivalent).

These figures exclude the Chief Executive and four employees who have been on unpaid or paid leave for periods in excess of one month (e.g. maternity leave or leave without pay for private purposes).