

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2013-14 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross Outcome - Across Programs

Question No: 110

Topic: Christmas party costs

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Ludwig asked:

List what functions were held by the department/agency for either Christmas or end of calendar year since 7 September 2013.

- a. What was the cost of each of these functions?
- b. How was the money identified?
- c. What was the location of these functions?
- d. Provide a table of food and alcohol purchased for the function

Answer:

Department of Social Services (including Social Security Appeals Tribunal – SSAT)

Hospitality is used for business purposes, when required and may include spending on planned events across Australia to recognise important and significant dates such as:

- Australia Day Awards
- National Families Week
- Seniors Week
- Mental Health Week
- International Day for People with Disability
- White Ribbon Day
- Donate Life Week
- Carers Week

The breakdown of events information is not readily available for the Department. To identify this information would require a significant diversion of resources.

National Disability Insurance Agency

Christmas functions were held in each site office. These were not funded by the National Disability Insurance Agency.

Australian Aged Care Quality Agency

Brisbane \$2,867 for 33 employees
Parramatta \$5,572 for 102 employees
Melbourne \$3,713 for 50 employees
Adelaide \$1,184 for 20 employees
Perth \$1,014 for 16 employees.