

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES – 11 FEBRUARY 2016 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Kitchen Appliances

Question reference number: HS 57

Senator: Ludwig

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 April 2016

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- a) Has the department/agency purchased, leased or rented any kitchen appliances over the value of \$1,000?
 - 1) If yes, provide a list that includes the type of appliance, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of consumables and when the appliance was purchased?
 - 2) Why were the appliances purchased?
 - 3) Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since the appliances were purchased? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?
 - 4) Where did the funding for the appliances come from?
 - 5) Who has access?
 - 6) Who is responsible for the maintenance of the appliances? How much was spent on maintenance, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?
 - 7) What are the other ongoing costs of the appliances?

Answer:

- a) Since 14 September 2015, the department has not leased any kitchen appliances and has purchased three items.

1)

Type of Appliance	Cost	Ongoing costs	Purchase date
Fridge	\$5,715	nil	18/11/2015
Fridge	\$2,800	nil	19/11/2015
Fridge	\$2,070	nil	9/12/2015

- 2) The appliances were purchased to replace equipment that had reached its end of useable life.

- 3) As the appliances replaced existing equipment, there has been no noticeable difference in staff productivity and there has been no change in staff leaving the office premises.
- 4) The appliances were purchased from the department's appropriation.
- 5) Staff at the office where the appliances are located have access.
- 6) The department is responsible for maintenance of the appliances. Since 14 September 2015, no funds have been spent maintaining these appliances. In the event that maintenance was required, it would be funded from the department's appropriation.
- 7) Other ongoing costs of these appliances would be limited to the use of electricity.