

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES – 11 FEBRUARY 2016 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Staff awards

Question reference number: HS 97

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 given out awards to staff for any reason? If yes:
 - 1) What was the reason for the awards?
 - 2) What was the criteria for the awards?
 - 3) What form did the award take? (e.g. Certificate, gift vouchers etc.)
 - 4) How much was spent on the award?
- b) How were the awards presented?
- c) Who presented the awards?
- d) Was there a ceremony or party for the awards? If yes:
 - 1) Where was it held?
 - 2) Was there a fee for the venue? If yes, how much?
 - 3) How much was spent on catering?
 - 4) How many people attended?
 - 5) Did the minister attend?
 - 6) Did the minister's staff attend? If yes, how many?

Answer:

- a) Yes.
 - 1) 2016 Australia Day Achievement Awards and Service Recognition Awards.
 - 2) The Australia Day Achievement Awards include the following criteria:
 - the nominee has made a significant contribution to the department, which in turn has had a positive impact upon the Australian community we serve;
 - the nominee represents the department in an exemplary manner, is considered a role model for others, and consistently demonstrates our culture and our core behaviours; or

- the nominee demonstrates a high level of commitment and excellence in their specific field of expertise, and has achieved and sustained performance results above and beyond their core duties, for a period of time.

The Service Recognition Awards include the following criterion:

- the staff member must have completed Commonwealth Australian Public Service continuous employment of 10, 20, 25, 30, 40 or 50 years.
- 3) Recipients of the Australia Day Achievement Awards received a certificate and a National Australia Day Council medallion. Recipients of the Service Recognition Award receive a certificate and service pin. Recipients achieving a 20, 30, 40 or 50 year milestone also receive a gift.
 - 4) The Australia Day Achievement Awards cost \$796.50. The Service Recognition Awards, for the period 14 September 2015 to 31 January 2016 cost \$38,650.94 with 757 staff achieving a service milestone.
- b) The department acknowledges a recipient's achievements through all staff announcements and news stories, published on the department's intranet site.
 - c) The recipient's line manager. The Secretary presented a Service Recognition Award on 27 October 2015.
 - d) No.