

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES - 4 JUNE 2013 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Meeting Costs

Question reference number: HS 49

Senator: Smith

Type of question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) What is the Department/Agency's meeting spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs.
- b) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total meeting spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.
- c) What meeting spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
- d) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what meeting spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.

Answer:

- a) The Department's spending on meetings is included in the combined hospitality, food and beverage expenditure, as shown in HS 48. As at 31 May 2013, expenditure was \$1.07 million. The majority of meetings within the Department do not include catering and drinks costs.
For the Department to provide details of the date, location, purpose and cost of meetings would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.
- b) This data is not readily available and compilation of the answer would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.
- c) The Department expects the cost of hospitality, food and beverage for the year ending 30 June 2013 to be \$1.19 million. The majority of meetings within the Department do not include catering and drinks costs.
- d) This data is not readily available and compilation of the answer would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.