

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2015-16, 1 - 2 June 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000555

OUTCOME: 10 – Sport and Recreation

Topic: Kosher Food in the AIS Dining Hall

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Bernardi, Cory

Question:

The manual [AIS information Manual] also states that “The only means we have of catering to a Kosher diet is to order the required ingredients on an as needs basis. As there is a substantial cost for this request, the cost will be passed on to the consumer.”

- a) How much is this ‘substantial cost’ for Kosher food?
- b) How many athletes have requested Kosher food over the last five years?
- c) Why was the decision made to make consumers pay for the cost of kosher food, rather than having the AIS/ASC absorb the additional costs?
- d) When was this decision made?
- e) Who made this decision?

Answer:

- a) The Australian Institute of Sport’s (AIS) catering contract service provider has informed the AIS that the price for Kosher meals varies from \$50 for a frozen meal to \$150 for a deluxe meal.
- b) No athletes have requested Kosher food over the last five years.
- c) Customers would pay for a kosher meal if ordered due to the substantial costs and to maintain commercial and competitive neutrality.
- d) It is a long standing decision (greater than five years) which was reviewed again in March 2015.
- e) The decision was reviewed in March 2015 by the Director, Site Commercial.