

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 17 & 19 October 2012

Question: E12-097

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: HOSPITALITY AND ENTERTAINMENT

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Number of pages: 2

Senator: Senator Boyce

Question:

- a) What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
- b) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.
- c) What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
- d) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.
- e) What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
- f) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.
- g) What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
- h) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.
- i) Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved and what are the estimated savings over each year of the forward estimates?

Answer:

- a) The Department of Health and Ageing's hospitality expenditure for the period 1 July 2012 to 30 September 2012 was \$7,565 as per the itemised list below.

Payment Date	Location	Purpose	Cost of Hospitality (GST inclusive)
11-Jul-12	National Press Club, Canberra	Staff attendance at speech by National President of Alzheimer's Australia	\$79
18-Jul-12	Marriott Hotel, Brisbane	Pacific Senior Health Officials Networks conference dinner in Brisbane 7-9 November 2012	\$3,500
1-Aug-12	National Press Club, Canberra	Staff attendance at speech by Chair of the National Mental Health Commission	\$314
9-Aug-12	Hotel Realm, Canberra	Executive Assistant of the Year annual dinner.	\$1,440
9-Aug-12	Lake Burley Griffin, Canberra	Department's registration for Dragon Boat Challenge Regatta, run by Dragons Abreast for breast cancer survivors, as part of the Department's Health and Life Strategy.	\$900
24-Aug-12	Department of Health and Ageing, Canberra	Staff awards and recognition function	\$241
24-Aug-12	Hotel Realm, Canberra	Business planning forum	\$341
13-Sep-12	Customs House, Brisbane	Pacific Senior Health Officials Networks conference dinner in Brisbane 7-9 November 2012	\$750

- b) Nil.
- c) Note that hospitality and entertainment have the same definition under the Department's Finance Business Rules. Refer to answer provided to Question on Notice E12-97 a).
- d) Nil.
- e) The corporate systems do not allow for this information to be collected in one report. Therefore, to provide the level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources which the Department is not currently in a position to undertake.
- f) Nil.
- g) Refer to answer at part e).
- h) Nil.
- i) The Department continues to seek to reduce and minimise expenditure on hospitality, for example utilising the Departments' own facilities including our video conferencing facility which was implemented in early 2012 where possible and appropriate. The Department does not specifically budget in the forward estimates by this class of expenditure.