

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO**

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

**Question: E12-102**

**OUTCOME 0:** Whole of Portfolio

**Topic:** COMMUNITY CABINET MEETINGS

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Number of pages:** 1

**Senator:** Senator Boyce

**Question:**

- a) How many Community Cabinet meetings has the Minister attended this financial year to date? List date and location.
- b) How many Departmental Officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? List travel type, accommodation and any other expenses. Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Departmental Officers attend? List date and location.
- c) What was the total cost to the Department and the Minister's office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date?

**Answer:**

- a) To date, there have been four (4) Community Cabinet meetings held during the 2012-13 financial year.

With the exception of the 3 October 2012 Community Cabinet meeting held in Launceston, Tasmania, one or more of the Portfolio Ministers and Parliamentary Secretary attended the meetings as outlined below:

- 10 July 2012 – Ipswich, Queensland (Parliamentary Secretary King)
- 5 September 2012 – Perth, Western Australia (Minister Plibersek, Minister Butler, Minister Snowdon)
- 3 October 2012 – Launceston, Tasmania\*
- 14 November 2012 – Kippa-Ring, Queensland (Minister Plibersek, Minister Butler)

\* Minister Butler was unable to attend the Community Cabinet held at Launceston, Tasmania, on 3 October 2012 and was represented by an Advisor.

- b) Between one (1) and two (2) Departmental Officers attended each of the Community Cabinet Meetings held this financial year.

The total cost of this travel, accommodation, and other expenses was \$2,178.83. The table below provides a breakdown of these costs

	Ipswich (10 July)	Perth (5 Sept)	Launceston (3 October)	Kippa-Ring (14 November)
Number of Departmental staff attending	2	1	1	2
Travel	\$37.30 (Taxi fare)	-	\$1,417.43 (Air fare)	\$35.30 (Taxi fare)
Accommodation	-	\$380.00	\$171.00	
Other expenses	-	-	\$137.80	
Totals	\$37.30	\$380.00	\$1,726.23	\$35.30

- c) The Department of Health and Ageing is unable to answer this question as travel costs for Ministers and their offices is managed by the Department of Finance and Deregulation.