

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

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

Question: E12-103

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: COMMUNITY CABINET MEETINGS

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Number of pages: 2

Senator: Senator Boyce

Question:

- a) How many Community Cabinet meetings did the Minister attend in 2011-12? List date and location.
- b) How many Departmental Officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for 2011-12? 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 2011-12?

Answer:

- a) There were five (5) Community Cabinet meetings during the 2011-12 financial year. One or more of the Health and Ageing Portfolio Ministers and Parliamentary Secretary attended the meetings as outlined below:
 - 1 September 2011 – Brisbane, Queensland (Minister Roxon)
 - 3 October 2011 – Kingston, Tasmania (Minister Roxon, Minister Butler)
 - 9 November 2011 – Werribee, Victoria (Minister Roxon, Minister Butler, Parliamentary Secretary King)
 - 4 April 2012 – Parramatta, New South Wales (Minister Plibersek)
 - 16 May 2012 – Berwick, Victoria (Minister Plibersek)
- b) One Departmental Officer was in attendance with the Minister(s) / Parliamentary Secretary at each of the five Community Cabinet Meetings held in the 2011-12 financial year.

The total cost of this travel, accommodation, and other expenses was \$5,214.48. The table below provides a breakdown of these costs:

	Brisbane (1 Sep 2011)	Kingston (3 Oct 2011)	Werribee (9 Nov 2011)	Parramatta (4 Apr 2012)	Berwick (16 May 2012)
Number of Dept staff attending	1	1	1	1	1
Airfare	\$1345.25	-	-	\$576.27	\$1522.33
Travel Allowance	\$243.90	-	\$424.00	\$424.00	\$198.90
Accommodation	\$205.00	\$50.00	-	-	\$195.00
Other expenses	-	-	-	\$29.83	-
Totals	\$1794.15	\$50.00	\$424.00	\$1030.10	\$1916.23

- 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.