

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**  
**Additional Estimates Hearings February 2016**  
**Communications Portfolio**  
**Australian Broadcasting Corporation**

**Question No: 165(b)**

**Australian Broadcasting Corporation**

**Hansard Ref: Written, 19/02/2016**

**Topic: Hospitality and Entertainment**

**Senator Ludwig, Joe asked:**

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. What has been the Department/Agency's hospitality spend including any catering and drinks costs.
2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
3. What has been the Department/Agency's entertainment spend? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
5. What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
6. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
7. What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
8. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
9. Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved?

**Answer:**

1. Hospitality spend is not separately identified and is considered as 'entertainment' in accordance with the ABC's Entertainment and Functions policy (refer response to sub-question 3, below).
2. Not applicable.

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3. It is not feasible to determine entertainment spend incurred specifically from 14 September 2015, so information has been provided for the period 1 September 2015 to 31 January 2016.

Expenditure on entertainment over this period amounted to approximately \$163,940. It is not feasible to separately identify items of entertainment due to the high volume and small nature of transactions.

4. Not applicable.
5. As per the ABC's response at (1) above, the ABC's hospitality spend is not separately identified and is considered as 'entertainment' in accordance with the ABC's Entertainment and Functions policy (refer response to sub-question 7, below).
6. Not applicable.
7. The ABC is currently forecasting to spend \$160,921 for the period 1 February to 30 June 2016.
8. Not applicable.
9. The ABC reviews expenditure on entertainment as part of managing the overall budget. In response to 2014 budget cuts, the ABC is reviewing expenditure on entertainment along with reviews of all other areas of expenditure.