

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings February 2016

Communications Portfolio

National Collecting Institutions

Question No: 165(k)

National Collecting Institutions

Hansard Ref: Written, 19/02/2016

Topic: Hospitality and entertainment

Senator Ludwig, Joe asked

National Cultural Institutions

- Australian National Maritime Museum
- National Film and Sound Archive
- National Gallery of Australia
- National Library of Australia
- National Museum of Australia
- National Portrait Gallery
- The Museum of Australian Democracy

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?

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Answer:

Australian National Maritime Museum

1. To attempt to provide the level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources. Hospitality expenses include public events, openings and exhibitions such as “Action Stations” and “Horrible Histories Pirates” exhibition and external engagement with volunteers and potential sponsors and partners.
2. N/A.
3. To attempt to provide the level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.
4. N/A.
5. The Museum is currently working through the 2016 calendar year budget as part of the 2016-17 budget process.
6. N/A.
7. The Museum is currently working through the 2016 calendar year budget as part of the 2016-17 budget process.
8. N/A.
9. The Museum is currently working through the 2016 calendar year budget as part of the 2016-17 budget process.

National Film and Sound Archive

1. The total cost that the NFSA has spent on hospitality in the relevant period is \$14,578.82.
2. N/A.
3. Please see answer to question 1. Entertainment costs are not allocated separately from hospitality, and the NFSA does not undertake specific entertainment activities. All hospitality relates to work related activities promoting the NFSA.
4. N/A.
5. To attempt to provide the level of detail requested would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.
6. N/A.
7. To attempt to provide the level of detail requested would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.
8. Not applicable.
9. The NFSA is currently considering how to meet the budget savings required by the 2015-16 MYEFO. No decision has been made on this issue at this point in time.

National Gallery of Australia

1. Total hospitality and entertainment expenses were \$34,117 for the period. It would be an unreasonable use of resources to provide any further details.
2. N/A.

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3. Total hospitality and entertainment expenses were \$34,117 for the period. It would be an unreasonable use of resources to provide any further details.
4. N/A.
5. Nil.
6. N/A.
7. Nil.
8. N/A.
9. The NGA is currently reviewing all expenditure in order to meet the budget savings required by the 2015-16 MYEFO.

National Library of Australia

1. As part of its public programming, the National Library of Australia presents numerous events, both free and ticketed which include catering and entertainment. To attempt to provide the level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.
2. N/A.
3. To attempt to provide the level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.
4. N/A.
5. The Library's forward events program is available at www.nla.gov.au/events.
6. N/A.
7. To attempt to provide the level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.
8. N/A.
9. No. The Library charges a modest ticket price for some public events to cover catering and entertainment costs.

National Museum of Australia

1. Museum records do not segregate hospitality and entertainment. Total cost for all hospitality since 14 September, 2015 is \$65,610 (GST Excl). To attempt to provide the level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.
2. N/A.
3. See reply to part 1.
4. N/A.
5. See reply to part 1.
6. N/A.
7. To attempt to provide the level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.
8. N/A.
9. Decisions to incur expenditure of this type are based on an assessment of the circumstances and applicable social conventions. There is no plan to change this approach.

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National Portrait Gallery

1. The National Portrait Gallery has spent \$53,333 (excluding GST) on hospitality during the reporting period 14 September 2015 to 9 February 2016.
2. N/A.
3. Nil – The National Portrait Gallery has not incurred any expense relating to entertainment during the reporting period 14 September 2015 to 9 February 2016.
4. N/A.
5. The main spend on hospitality relates to exhibition openings. To attempt to provide the level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.
6. N/A.
7. Nil – The National Portrait Gallery has no plans for any entertainment spend for the remainder of the financial year.
8. N/A.
9. The National Portrait Gallery are reviewing all areas of budget. The Gallery are unable to report at this time as to whether the budget relating to hospitality will be reduced.

The Museum of Australian Democracy

1. \$9,067.
2. N/A.
3. Advisory Council Meeting catering: \$841. Catering for Volunteers annual function: \$2,954, on site.
4. N/A.
5. To attempt to provide the level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.
6. N/A.
7. 5 April and 21 June 2016, Advisory Council Meeting, to be held at Old Parliament House. Approximate planned catering spend \$1,000.00.
Old Parliament House have three launches and three partnership events planned for this financial year, however, dates and details are not confirmed. All events will be held at Old Parliament House and any hospitality provided is for members of the public, guests and speakers.
8. N/A.
9. No; the spending is directly linked to outcomes – publicity, partnership and stakeholder relationship and volunteer recognition. Where possible, events are held onsite to minimise costs.