

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings February 2016

Communications Portfolio

Department of Communications and the Arts

Question No: 210(a)

Program 1.1

Hansard Ref: Written, 19/2/2016

Topic: Staff Awards

Senator Ludwig, Joe asked:

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

1. Has the Department / Agency given out awards to staff for any reason? If yes:
 - (a) What was the reason for the awards?
 - (b) What was the criteria for the awards?
 - (c) What form did the award take? (e.g. Certificate, gift vouchers etc)
 - (d) How much was spent on the award?
2. How were the awards presented?
3. Who presented the awards?
4. Was there a ceremony or party for the awards? If yes:
 - (a) Where was it held?
 - (b) Was there a fee for the venue? If yes, how much?
 - (c) How much was spent on catering?
 - (d) How many people attended?
 - (e) Did the minister attend?
5. Did the minister's staff attend? If yes, how many?

Answer:

1. Yes.
 - (a) The Department's annual Australia Day Achievement Awards were held on 27 January 2016 and aim to recognise outstanding achievements of individuals and teams.
 - (b) Award criteria:
 - demonstrated outstanding people management practices while achieving positive work outcomes
 - worked collaboratively and innovatively under difficult conditions to achieve positive work outcomes
 - produced a significant achievement in the departmental context while modelling effective communication and collaborative work practices with internal and/or external stakeholders
 - delivered whole-of-government work through implementing collaborative and/or innovative work practices
 - provided exemplary client service by developing productive working relationships

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- produced publicly recognisable results whilst maintaining a strong focus on internal, and where applicable, external collaboration.
- (c) Certificate and Australia Day medallion.
- (d) Total cost of awards \$1135.44
- Medallions \$315.00
 - Certificates \$68.04
 - Medallion engraving \$135.00
 - Frames \$617.40
2. Awards were presented to recipients in person.
3. Awards were presented by the Department's Secretary, Dr Heather Smith, PSM.
4. Yes, a ceremony was held to present the awards.
- (a) At the Department's Offices at 38 Sydney Avenue, Forrest.
- (b) No.
- (c) \$773.14 across Canberra, Sydney, and Melbourne offices
- (d) Approximately 100 people attended in person, and approximately 30 staff watched via web stream from Melbourne and Sydney offices.
- (e) No.
5. No.