

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

26 February 2014

Question: AET 217

Topic: SBT 470-471 Meeting Costs (ACCC)

Written: 5 March 2014

Senator LUDWIG asked:

217. I reference to question on notice SBT 470-471, I note that the ACCC has said that over \$32,000 was spent on meeting costs. They have also stated that they are unable to answer the question put to them. It is a question that has been easily answered by other far smaller agencies. It is again put to the ACCC to answer the original question put to them in Question on Notice 470-471 to give transparency to use of taxpayers' funds.

SBT 470. What is the Department/Agency's meeting spend from 7 September 2013 to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs.

SBT 471. What meeting spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.

Answer:

217.

SBT 470. The ACCC expenditure on meetings for the period from 7 September to 30 November 2013 is \$32,531 as previously reported in SBT 470. This spend, however, includes all meetings, both internal and with external parties, and includes catering for training days, workshops, presentations, and planning days. The meeting spend with external parties for the period from 7 September to 30 November 2013 is \$7,305.

Details of these meetings are set out in the below table.

Date	Location	Purpose	Cost (\$)
11/09/2013	Sydney Office	National Indigenous Strategy meeting	29.09
11/09/2013	Sydney Office	National Indigenous Strategy meeting	1.82
12/09/2013	Sydney Office	National Indigenous Strategy meeting	18.18
12/09/2013	Brisbane Office	Liaison meeting	6.55
13/09/2013	Adelaide Office	Enforcement operations	38.73
13/09/2013	Sydney Office	UK Office of Gas & Electricity meeting	128.68
13/09/2013	Melbourne Office	UK Office of Gas & Electricity meeting	200.88

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13/09/2013	Canberra Office	Energy Intermarket Surveillance Group meeting	108.55
13/09/2013	Adelaide Office	Energy Intermarket Surveillance Group meeting	146.42
15/09/2013	Canberra Office	Product safety issues	5.12
16/09/2013	Sydney Office	Enforcement operations	73.49
16/09/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	69.09
18/09/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	64.09
18/09/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	109.09
18/09/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	69.09
19/09/2013	Sydney Office	Enforcement operations	217.73
19/09/2013	Sydney Office	Enforcement operations	17.29
19/09/2013	Sydney Office	Enforcement operations	48.83
19/09/2013	Sydney Office	Enforcement operations	110.00
19/09/2013	Sydney Office	Enforcement operations	20.00
19/09/2013	Melbourne Office	Product safety issues	19.91
23/09/2013	Adelaide Office	Enforcement operations	29.55
23/09/2013	Brisbane Office	Enforcement operations	72.00
23/09/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	69.09
23/09/2013	Hobart Office	Expenditure assessment guideline meeting	25.82
24/09/2013	Perth Office	Enforcement operations	50.55
24/09/2013	Perth Office	Enforcement operations	6.95
24/09/2013	Sydney Office	Energy retail price comparator meeting	25.00
24/09/2013	Sydney Office	Energy retail price comparator meeting	25.00
24/09/2013	Perth Office	Enforcement operations	32.68
24/09/2013	Perth Office	Enforcement operations	30.70
24/09/2013	Sydney Office	Enforcement operations	64.00
24/09/2013	Sydney Office	Enforcement operations	64.00
24/09/2013	Sydney Office	National Indigenous Strategy meeting	48.00

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24/09/2013	Sydney Office	National Indigenous Strategy meeting	41.00
24/09/2013	Canberra Office	Product safety issues	67.68
24/09/2013	Sydney Office	Enforcement operations	76.00
24/09/2013	Sydney Office	Enforcement operations	73.00
25/09/2013	Adelaide Office	Expenditure assessment guideline meeting	21.59
26/09/2013	Melbourne Office	Expenditure assessment guideline meeting	54.09
27/09/2013	Sydney Office	Consumer Challenge Panel meeting	271.26
27/09/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	70.36
2/10/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	76.36
10/10/2013	Melbourne Office	Expenditure assessment guideline meeting	79.55
11/10/2013	Brisbane Office	PS OECD / ICPSC / ICPHSO / Risk Workshop 2013 meeting	50.00
11/10/2013	Townsville Office	General administrative issues	19.54
17/10/2013	Adelaide Office	Consumer Engagement meeting	12.64
17/10/2013	Sydney Office	Energy Intermarket Surveillance Group meeting	95.04
17/10/2013	Canberra Office	Energy Intermarket Surveillance Group meeting	153.11
17/10/2013	Adelaide Office	Energy Intermarket Surveillance Group meeting	208.21
17/10/2013	Melbourne Office	Energy Intermarket Surveillance Group meeting	393.02
17/10/2013	Perth Office	Small Business Consultative Committee meeting	8.05
18/10/2013	Sydney Office	Consumer Engagement meeting	139.74
18/10/2013	Sydney Office	Consumer Engagement meeting	76.04
18/10/2013	Sydney Office	Consumer Engagement meeting	79.78
18/10/2013	Canberra Office	Small Business Consultative Committee meeting	112.73
18/10/2013	Hobart Office	Small Business Consultative Committee meeting	19.36
18/10/2013	Melbourne Office	Small Business Consultative Committee meeting	78.55
18/10/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	69.09
18/10/2013	Adelaide Office	Energy Intermarket Surveillance Group meeting	226.85

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18/10/2013	Perth Office	Small Business Consultative Committee meeting	11.36
21/10/2013	Melbourne Office	Energy Intermarket Surveillance Group meeting	260.33
21/10/2013	Sydney Office	Energy Intermarket Surveillance Group meeting	85.80
21/10/2013	Canberra Office	Energy Intermarket Surveillance Group meeting	133.06
21/10/2013	Adelaide Office	Energy Intermarket Surveillance Group meeting	119.76
23/10/2013	Sydney Office	Enforcement operations	70.00
23/10/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	76.36
23/10/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	76.36
24/10/2013	Canberra Office	PS OECD / ICPSC / ICPHSO / Risk Workshop 2013 meeting	40.91
24/10/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	76.36
25/10/2013	Brisbane Office	Expos/Field days - national meeting	78.00
25/10/2013	Adelaide Office	Enforcement operations	39.09
28/10/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	94.09
28/10/2013	Perth Office	Enforcement operations	50.00
28/10/2013	Perth Office	Enforcement operations	9.00
28/10/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	70.36
29/10/2013	Hobart Office	RoLR registrations and appointments meeting	37.09
29/10/2013	Hobart Office	RoLR registrations and appointments meeting	2.90
29/10/2013	Perth Office	Small Business Consultative Committee meeting	2.64
30/10/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	76.36
30/10/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	70.36
1/11/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	122.40
1/11/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	8.50
7/11/2013	Melbourne	Enforcement operations	122.40

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	Office		
7/11/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	8.50
13/11/2013	Adelaide Office	Enforcement operations	28.55
13/11/2013	Adelaide Office	Enforcement operations	8.00
14/11/2013	Canberra Office	Legal Services Multi-Use List meeting	189.72
14/11/2013	Canberra Office	Legal Services Multi-Use List meeting	11.00
15/11/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	69.09
15/11/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	76.36
15/11/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	69.09
15/11/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	69.09
20/11/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	83.64
20/11/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	76.64
20/11/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	83.64
25/11/2013	Melbourne Office	Enforcement operations	90.91
26/11/2013	Brisbane Office	Enforcement operations	89.00
Total Cost for period 7 September to 30 November 2013			7,305.33

SBT 471. The planned expenditure on meeting catering is \$42,000 for the full 2013-14 financial year as reported in SBT 471. The budget for this expenditure is not planned down to the external/internal meeting level.

The ACCC sets the meetings budget based on previous financial year expenditure and adjusts for savings measures and cost reductions.