

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016**

Outcome: Cross Portfolio - Shared Services Centre

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000209

Senator Ludwig, Joe provided in writing

Also refer to previous hearing Question No. ED0517_15

Hospitality and entertainment

Question

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. The total hospitality expenditure for the Department of Education and Training for the period 14 September 2015 and 31 January 2016 was \$67,199.28.
- 2-3. Please refer to the tables below for a breakdown of events with a cost exceeding \$1000.00. Events costing less than \$1000.00 are grouped together with general categorisation described in the table below.

EVENT DATE	LOCATION	PURPOSE	COST (\$) (Ex GST)
21 September 2015	Benchmark Restaurant, Canberra ACT 2600	Government Partnerships for Development Project formal official dinner offsite	1512.36
22 September 2015	50 Marcus Clarke St, Canberra ACT 2600	Catering for the Japan High Level Policy Meeting	1852.73
30 September 2015	Rio De Janeiro - Brazil	Catering for the Capes Program re Climate Change	2149.92
30 September – 1 October 2015	Bayleaf Hotel, Manila - Philippines	APEC Integrated Reference Framework Project Funding	3004.11
2 October 2015	Red Spice Road, Melbourne VIC	Government Partnerships for Development Project formal dinner	1157.56
19 October 2015	50 Marcus Clarke St, Canberra ACT 2600	Catering for the Education and Recognition Event	1202.73
28 October 2015	50 Marcus Clarke St, Canberra ACT 2600	Full day meeting of the Education Council Joint Working Group to provide advice on reform for Students with Disability	1037.27
29 October 2015	Seoul - Korea	Education Forum reception	10,918.64
30 October 2015	50 Marcus Clarke St, Canberra ACT 2600	Catering for International Delegates	1484.54
4 November 2015	Seoul - Korea	Catering for the AKU Partnership Dinner	1005.25
4 November 2015	50 Marcus Clarke St, Canberra ACT 2600	The Schools and Early Learning Stakeholder Forum	1239.09
17-18 November 2015	50 Marcus Clarke St, Canberra ACT 2600	Catering for information session and workshop on compliance within Early Childhood	3029.55
24 November 2015	50 Marcus Clarke St, Canberra ACT 2600	Catering for Education Services Reception	8647.62
5 January 2016	Rio De Janeiro - Brazil	Catering for the AAS Specialists Reception	1120.11
28 January 2016	50 Marcus Clarke St, Canberra ACT 2600	Catering for benchmark projects with Thai delegates	1745.45
Subtotal			\$41,106.93

GENERAL EXPENDITURE (< \$1,000 in value per event)		
PURPOSE		
Education	General Official Hospitality includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launches attended by the media; • Hospitality associated with advisory committee functions; • Major events relating to the progress or promotion of the Department's business • Hospitality which promotes a government policy or objective; • Hosting visiting officials and dignitaries from overseas; • Hospitality which facilitates the conduct of public business and • Hospitality at functions for staff in recognition of significant events 	
Total < \$1000		\$25,975.08

2. Total entertainment spend from Ministers/Parliamentary Secretary offices:

Minister Colbeck

Event DATE	LOCATION	PURPOSE	COST (\$) (Ex GST)
2 December 2015	Parliament House	Catering for meeting with Indonesian Education Minister	\$117.27

Minister Birmingham	Nil
Minister Hartsuyker	Nil

5 – 9 The department does not collect information on specific budgets or plans for individual hospitality events.