

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Agency - Comcare

Department of Employment Question No. EM0440_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Comcare - Hospitality and entertainment

- a) What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date including any catering and drinks costs.
- b) 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.
- c) 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.
- d) Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved?

Answer

- a) *What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date including any catering and drinks costs.*

Comcare spent approximately \$31,489.20 from Additional Estimates in February 2014 to date including any catering and drink costs.

- b) *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.*

Determining Authorities Forum

The upcoming Determining Authorities Forum is scheduled for September 2014. The date, time and location are undecided at this stage. Costing may be reduced by a licensee hosting the event on behalf of Comcare.

Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission (SRCC) meetings

SRCC meetings are scheduled for 12 September and 5 December 2014 in Melbourne. The estimated cost of hospitality for both meetings will be approximately \$940.

Licensee Liaison Forum (LLF)

LLF is scheduled for 17 September in Melbourne. The estimated cost of hospitality is approximately \$600.

Seacare

Seacare meeting is scheduled for 4 December in Melbourne. The estimated cost of hospitality is approximately \$300.

Better Practice Forum

Comcare delivers Better Practice Forum to scheme employers and employees on various WHS and rehabilitation topics. Catering at times is a component cost for morning and afternoon tea. Dates and location are yet to be determined, however we estimate the cost will be approximately \$2000 for 20 forums.

Comcare Leadership Team Forums and EL1 Forums

Comcare's Leadership Team Forums will be held onsite and are scheduled for 7 August and 6 November 2014.

The EL1 Forums will be held offsite on 14 August and 13 November 2014.

The total cost is estimated to be approximately \$29,000.

- c) *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.*

Nil.

- d) *Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved?*

Comcare is planning on reducing its spending on these items by:

- No further spending is planned for the Claims and Liability Management Division
- Determining Authorities Forums held by licensees may reduce associated catering costs
- The Organisation Development team is looking to finalise the content for the remaining leadership programs. Reductions may be achieved through less participant numbers thereby reducing catering costs and whether the EL1 Forums will be able to take place onsite.