

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

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

Cross Portfolio

Department of Education Question No. ED0513_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Dept & All Agencies: Meeting costs

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014: 1. How much has the Department/Agency spent on meeting costs? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs. 2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total meeting spend from Estimates, 2014 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs. 3. 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. 4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what meeting spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.

Answer

The Department of Education financial system does not track these expense categories. To identify and estimate these costs would be an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources. Expenses incurred in the provision of official hospitality are provided in Department of Education Question ED0517_15.

Costs of official travel by Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries and their staff are met by the Department of Finance (DoF). Any questions regarding those costs or arrangements should be referred to DoF.

Agency Responses

Australian Research Council (ARC)

The year to date spend at 31 October 2014 is \$207 824. To identify and estimate these costs in any greater detail would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.

The Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA)

The year to date spend as at the end 30 September 2014 is \$964. To identify and estimate these costs in any greater detail would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.

Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority does not track these expense categories. To identify and estimate these costs would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.

Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL)

The year to date spend at 31 October is \$7 417.78 on meeting costs. To identify and estimate these costs in any greater detail would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

The year to date spend as at 31 October 2014 is \$15 734.47. To identify and estimate these costs in any greater detail would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.