

Question: 11**Topic:** Hospitality and entertainment**Written:** 22 February 2016**Senator LUDWIG asked:**

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. Since 14 September 2015 the department has spent \$38,421 on hospitality.

Date of event	Location	Purpose	Cost
Various	Parliament House	Various: Committee hearings and meetings	\$10,956
Various	Various venues external to Parliament House	Various: Committee hearings and meetings	\$17,660
Various	Parliament House	Various: meetings hosted by President	\$125
28/05/2015	Parliament House	Afternoon tea: Magna Carta book launch	\$391
07/07/2015	New Zealand	Dinner: Parliamentary Speaker of New Zealand and delegation hosted by President	\$300

Date of event	Location	Purpose	Cost
14/08/2015	Parliament House	Lunch: Senate Occasional Lecturer – Ms Jane Halton, Secretary of the Department of Finance	\$101
18/08/2015	Parliament House	Lunch: Australian Defence Force Parliamentary Program	\$393
08/09/2015	Parliament House	Dinner: French Senate Economic Committee hosted by President	\$2,539
08/09/2015	Parliament House	Cocktail reception: Inaugural Harry Evans Lecture	\$704
06/10/2015	Parliament House	Dinner: Presiding Officers with the Heads of Parliamentary Departments	\$587
07/10/2015	Parliament House	Reception: Australian National Internships Program	\$999
22/10/2015	Parliament House	Lunch: Deputy Clerk Tasmanian Parliament	\$53
30/10/2015	Parliament House	Morning tea: Magna Carta symposium	\$111
10/11/2015	Parliament House	Christmas reception for senators	\$1,718
23/11/2015	Parliament House	Reception: Head of Belgium War Graves hosted by President	\$1,004
24/11/2015	Parliament House	Reception: Heads of Diplomatic Missions to Australia hosted by Presiding Officers	\$486
04/12/2015	Parliament House	Christmas morning tea for department staff hosted by the President	\$294

Note: some of these events were held prior to 14 September 2015 with processing of invoices occurring within the period in question.

2. Not applicable.
3. None.
4. Not applicable
5. The department currently has planned, for the remainder of 2016, a small number of activities and events that will require spending on hospitality, including further Senate committee hearings and the opening of parliament following the next general election.
6. Not applicable.
7. None.
8. Not applicable.
9. The department always undertakes expenditure in accordance within relevant guidelines to ensure value for money, and identifies savings where possible.