

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2013
Communications Portfolio
Department of Communications

Question No: 23

Program No. Corporate

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Meeting costs - Ministerial

Senator Ludwig asked:

- a) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total meeting spend from 7 September 2013 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.
- b) 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's financial expenses are recorded on accrual accounting basis, with these items reconciled at the end of every month. To provide expense data at any date other than month-end would risk misstatement of the Department's position and require an unreasonable diversion of Departmental resources to rectify.

- a) There were no meeting expenses relating to the offices of the Minister or Parliamentary Secretary from 1 September 2013 to 31 October 2013.
- b) At this stage the Department is not aware of any expenses relating to meeting costs for the Minister or the Parliamentary Secretary for the remainder of the 2013-14 financial year.