

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and The Arts  
Legislation Committee**

Answers to questions on notice

**Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts portfolio**

Budget Estimates, May 2009

<b>Outcome:</b>	All	<b>Question No:</b>	227
<b>Output:</b>	All		
<b>Division/Agency:</b>	Corporate Strategies Division		
<b>Topic:</b>	Staff Training		
<b>Hansard Page ECA:</b>	Written Question on Notice		

**Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:**

1. In relation to both Departmental and Ministerial staff, please provide details of staff training activities undertaken this financial year, and planned for next financial year.
2. Please provide a breakdown of costs, the nature of the training programs run, numbers of staff involved by level of employment and any instances of external consultants being engaged.
3. Where external consultants were engaged, please detail their expertise and the specific deliverables of the program.

**Answer/s:**

1. The Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts provides staff with opportunities to access job related learning activities and individual career development activities.

Currently the Department does not record centrally details of all learning and development activities undertaken by staff. Providing specific details for each training activity would involve an extensive manual process and therefore, in the context of existing workloads, an unreasonable diversion of resources.

The Department of Finance and Deregulation has provided the following information for staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* (MOP(S) Act).

- Three staff members in the office of the Hon Peter Garrett MP have attended training since 1 July 2008. The training attended was *Writing Speeches with Impact, The Legislative Process, and Administrative Law for non-Lawyers*.
- One staff member in the office of Senator the Hon Penny Wong has attended training since 1 July 2008. The training attended was *Know Your Entitlements and Office Management*.

Training for staff employed under the MOP(S) Act is provided as part of the Professional Development Program and offered through the *Commonwealth Members of Parliament Staff Collective Agreement 2006-2009* (Collective Agreement). The training is provided on a calendar year, not a financial year, basis. The table below sets out the training courses scheduled for the 2009 calendar year.

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<b>Month</b>	<b>Course Name</b>
February	Know Your Entitlements Office Management
March	Writing Speeches with Impact The Legislative Process Administrative Law for non-Lawyers
April	The Legislative Process Administrative Law for non-Lawyers
May	No training provided in May
June	Build Better Relationships and Demonstrate Leadership in the Workplace
July	Build Better Relationships and Demonstrate Leadership in the Workplace Enhance Research and Written Communication Skills
August	Coping with Change
September	Coping with Change Strategic Thinking – Linking the Bigger Picture
October	The Budget Process
November	Communicating Effectively with Stakeholders (including Constituents)

The Professional Development Program offered under the Collective Agreement for the 2010 calendar year will be developed by Finance in the later part of 2009.

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2. As indicated above, the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts does not record centrally details of all learning and development activities undertaken by staff.

The Department of Finance and Deregulation does not maintain a breakdown of costs for individuals nor records of Ministerial staff attending by classification level.

3. Where the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts engages consultants appropriate procurement processes are followed, with the expertise of the consultants employed being relevant to the nature of the training activity.

External consultants have been engaged by the Department of Finance and Deregulation to deliver the training under the Professional Development Program for MOP(S) Act employees. The consultants used are engaged under existing contractual arrangements as part of the Department's Learning and Development panel.

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<b>Outcome:</b>	All	<b>Question No:</b>	228
<b>Output:</b>	All		
<b>Division/Agency:</b>	Corporate Strategies Division		
<b>Topic:</b>	Teleconferences		
<b>Hansard Page ECA:</b>	Written Question on Notice		

**Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:**

1. How many teleconferences have been held by the Minister(s)/Parliamentary Secretary with overseas events or conferences over the last year?
2. What funding has been provided for such teleconferences?
3. What plans does the government have to commence or increase the use of teleconferences by the Minister(s)/Parliamentary Secretary?
4. How much has been spent on teleconferences over the last year? How much is planned to be spent over the coming year?

**Answers:**

1. Twelve teleconferences have been held by the Ministers and Parliamentary Secretary with overseas events or conferences over the last year.
2. No specific funding has been allocated for teleconferences held by the Ministers and the Parliamentary Secretary. The Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts funding was utilised to cover the costs of these teleconferences.
3. The Government first announced the National Intergovernmental Telepresence System in the 2008-09 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook. The project will install and support a network of twenty Telepresence sites across Australia and is due for completion by 30 June 2010. The project has been funded to reduce interstate travel and to reduce the associated travel costs, greenhouse gas emissions and to increase productivity for inter-jurisdictional meetings, including Council of Australian Governments and Ministerial Council meetings. While the Department of Finance and Deregulation is responsible for delivering the project, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is the overall project sponsor.
4. The Ministers and Parliamentary Secretary have spent \$340.24 on teleconferences in the 2008-09 financial year. There is no specific budget allocated for teleconferences for the coming year. This information has been sourced from the Department's conference call provider (AAPT). Calls made through the Parliament House teleconference system have not been recorded as the Department does not have access to this information.

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<b>Outcome:</b>	All	<b>Question No:</b>	229
<b>Output:</b>	All		
<b>Division/Agency:</b>	Corporate Strategies Division		
<b>Topic:</b>	Graduates program		
<b>Hansard Page ECA:</b>	Written Question on Notice		

**Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:**

1. Is the department cutting back on its graduate intake?
2. If so, by how much and when, and how many graduate places are being cut?
3. To what areas in the department would these positions have gone?
4. Has a date been set for when the program will be re-established?

**Answers:**

1. No.
2. Not Applicable
3. Not Applicable
4. Not Applicable

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Budget Estimates, May 2009

**Outcome:** All **Question No:** 230  
**Output:** All  
**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategies Division  
**Topic:** Hospitality  
**Hansard Page ECA:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:**

1. What is the Department's hospitality spend for 2008/09? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
2. For each Minister/Parliamentary Secretary's office, please detail total hospitality spend for 2008-09. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.

**Answer/s:**

1. The Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Art's hospitality spend for 2008/09 is \$159,017.98. Details of date, location, purpose and cost of all events are listed in the table below. Note that the events that occurred before 1 July 2008 were paid for in 2008/09.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Cost</b>
21 May 2008	Maritim Hotel, Bonn, Germany	Catering for Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity side event hosted by Australian Government and the United Nations Environment Program - World Conservation Monitoring Centre	\$596.31
5 June 2008	Commonwealth Club, Canberra, ACT	National Portrait Gallery Board dinner	\$653.00
11 June 2008	Grand Hyatt, Tokyo, Japan	Australia/Japanese Antarctic Science Cooperation Function	\$3,961.54
13 June 2008	Tiflis Kyiv Restaurant, Kiev, Ukraine	Margins function with members of the Australian and Japanese delegations to Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting XXXI	\$716.98
23 June 2008	Old Parliament House, Canberra, ACT	Stakeholder meeting working lunch	\$43.86
25 June 2008	Explorers Inn, Emerald, Qld	Dinner with the Joint Steering Committee, Fitzroy Basin Association and staff.	\$740.00
2 July 2008	Thai Lemon Grass, Canberra, ACT	Maintaining Australia's Biodiversity Hotspots evaluation workshop.	\$635.54

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Cost</b>
4 July 2008	Sydney, NSW	Lunch with Southern Ocean research partnership	\$878.64
9 July 2008	National Film & Sound Archive, Canberra, ACT	Official NAIDOC Week event - Indigenous cultural performance and catering	\$1,363.64
21 July 2008	Deniliquin, NSW	Dinner with Murrumbidgee Irrigation Limited regarding purchasing of water	\$1,045.45
22 July 2008	Forrest, ACT	Heads of Collecting Institutions Meeting	\$404.00
24 July 2008	Darwin, NT	Northern Territory Regional Heads meeting	\$409.15
5 August 2008	Benchmark Restaurant, Canberra, ACT	Australian Heritage Council - formal dinner after meeting	\$800.00
6 August 2008	Canberra, ACT	Access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing policy development meeting with Canadian Government	\$227.36
7 August 2008	National Gallery, Parkes, ACT	Heritage Chairs and Officials of Australia & New Zealand - formal dinner after meeting	\$2,231.49
7 August 2008	South Australian Art Gallery, Adelaide, SA	Catering for the Caring for our Country presentation for the Natural Resource Policy and Program Committee (NRPPC).	\$1,004.00
12 August 2008	Darwin, NT	Northern Australia Water Futures Assessment - Inaugural Working Group Meeting Official Dinner	\$426.18
12 August 2008	Brassey Hotel, Canberra, ACT	Dinner for delegates following live import processes meeting	\$1,040.00
12 August 2008	Hyatt Hotel, Canberra, ACT	Solar Cities Forum function following forum meeting	\$2,300.00
18 August 2008	Adelaide, SA	National Water Quality Management Strategy Contact Group function	\$181.82
27 August 2008	Hotel Ashok, Bangalore, India	Meeting of Renewable and Distributed Generation Task Force of Asia-Pacific Partnership	\$590.50
4 September 2008	Commonwealth Club, Canberra, ACT	National Portrait Gallery Board dinner	\$1,204.00
5 September 2008	Old Parliament House, Canberra, ACT	National Portrait Gallery Board lunch	\$742.09
12 September 2008	Parliament House, Canberra, ACT	Presentation of the Prime Minister's Literary Awards	\$22,799.50
8 October 2008	Kingston, Tas	Meeting with Russian Ambassador regarding collaboration on Antarctic programs	\$321.25
14 October 2008	Kingston, Tas	Meeting with Japanese to discuss shared Antarctic interests.	\$131.82

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Cost</b>
16 October 2008	Canberra Southern Cross Yacht Club, Yarralumla, ACT	BBQ buffet dinner for attendees of the Performance Story Report National Summit	\$3,450.00
19 October 2008	Old Swan Brewery, Crawley, WA	Lunch meeting with representatives from Dept. of Environment Western Australia, Landvision & National Oceans Office oil and gas development, Kimberly WA	\$190.27
24 October 2008	John Gorton Building, Canberra, ACT	Catering for meeting with representatives of Western Australia, regarding their development proposal	\$70.91
7 November 2008	Sydney Olympic Park, Sydney, NSW	Catering for dinner for workshop on development of policy statement on Golden Sun Moth	\$259.09
25 November 2008	The Deck at Regatta Point, Parkes, ACT	Dinner with stakeholders who attended the MERI Strategy Stakeholder Workshop	\$4,450.00
3 December 2008	National Portrait Gallery, Parkes, ACT	Catering for opening of the new Gallery	\$49,246.60
4 December 2008	National Portrait Gallery, Parkes, ACT	Catering for My Favourite Australian exhibition launch	\$1,718.18
5 December 2008	National Portrait Gallery, Parkes, ACT	Catering for Margin to Centre conference	\$3,534.54
6 December 2008	National Portrait Gallery, Parkes, ACT	Catering for Rolf Harris and Circle of Friends Members event (entry fee charged)	\$29,798.18
10 December 2008	Cambridge, United Kingdom	Like Minded Dinner - International Whaling Commission small working group	\$390.99
15 December 2008	Canberra, ACT	Catering for Nature Conservancy meeting	\$127.18
17 December 2008	Ottoman Restaurant, Barton, ACT	Lunch with Korean Delegation	\$450.00
29 December 2008	Maritime Museum, Fremantle, WA	Reception for Joint Australian-Japanese Voyage to Antarctica	\$6,501.82
6 February 2009	Dubbo, NSW	Northern Basin Water Entitlement Purchasing information session	\$163.64
16 February 2009	Pavilion On Northbourne, Canberra, ACT	World Heritage Executive Officers Workshop Dinner	\$2,056.36
17 February 2009	Catch Restaurant, Hobart, Tas	Hosting representatives from the French Polar Institute and Japanese Antarctic Research Division	\$693.63
26 February 2009	John Gorton Building, Canberra, ACT	German delegation visit	\$244.54
27 February 2009	Maldini Restaurant, Hobart, Tas	Meeting with New Zealand Antarctic Program Director	\$554.56
3 March 2009	Old Parliament House, Canberra, ACT	Australian Heritage Council - formal dinner after meeting	\$622.73



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<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Cost</b>
5 March 2009	National Museum of Australia, Canberra, ACT	Signing ceremony at the National Museum of Australia for MOU with the Korean Cultural Heritage Administration	\$252.73
5 March 2009	Hyatt Hotel Axis Restaurant, Barton, Canberra	Lunch with delegates from Korean Cultural Heritage Administration	\$521.82
7 April 2009	Kingston, ACT	Dinner-Wetland indicators, inventory and protocols and national assessment of river and wetland health workshop dinner	\$366.91
7 April 2009	Baltimore, USA	Official function with key members of the Australian and Chinese delegations to the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting	\$1,356.50
17 April 2009	Feddish Restaurant, Melbourne, Vic	National Council on Education for Sustainability pre-meeting dinner	\$790.00
20 April 2009	Canberra, ACT	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act Review - Expert Panel Meeting	\$138.27
21 April 2009	Bardi Jawi IPA, Kimberley, WA	Lunch Ministerial visit to Indigenous Protected Area consultation project	\$54.54
28 April 2009	Canberra, ACT	Dinner for Australian Biological Resources Study Committee members	\$395.18
29 April 2009	National Portrait Gallery, Parkes, ACT	Museums Australia IMAGE education event - Information seminar on Education Section	\$257.73
4 May 2009	Woolloomooloo, NSW	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act Review - Expert Panel Meeting	\$356.82
7 May 2009	National Portrait Gallery, Parkes, ACT	Sun In Me - catering for concert to celebrate Peter Sculthorpe's 80th Birthday	\$1,309.09
11 May 2009	National Portrait Gallery, Parkes, ACT	Catering for gallery tour, discussion and presentation	\$240.54
12 May 2009	Canberra, ACT	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act Review - Expert Panel Meeting	\$155.36
13 May 2009	Birdsville Hotel, Qld	Lake Eyre Basin Aboriginal Forum dinner	\$1,940.00
18 May 2009	Lemon Grass Thai Restaurant, Canberra, ACT	Environmental Water Scientific Advisory Committee dinner	\$299.45
28 May 2009	Hobart, Tasmania	Meeting with New Zealand officials to discuss greater cooperation in the Antarctic Treaty system	\$611.70

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2. Both the Department of Finance and Deregulation and the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts are involved in recording hospitality undertaken by Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries.

The Department of Finance and Deregulation has provided the following information on Ministerial expenditure overseas.

<b>Office</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Minister The Hon Peter Garrett AM MP	26 – 28 April 2008 (exact date uncertain)	Paris, France	Reciprocal hospitality afforded to foreign government officials, Members of Parliament and Ministers	\$151.57
Minister The Hon Penny Wong	8 - 13 April 2008 (exact date uncertain)	Beijing, China	Lunch function	\$1,725.95

According to Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts records, the offices of each of the department's Ministers and Parliamentary Secretary have incurred the following hospitality expenses.

<b>Office</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Minister The Hon Penny Wong	29 August – 1 September 2008	Wagga Wagga	Catering for consultation meetings with Murrumbidgee Irrigation Ltd and Coleambally Irrigation Ltd	\$231.82

Official hospitality expenses for the Office of The Hon Peter Garrett AM MP for 2008/09 total \$151.57. The 2008/09 expense is related to the event in Paris which was held in 2007/08 but not invoiced until the following financial year.

Official hospitality expenses for the Office of Senator The Hon Penny Wong for 2008/09 total \$1,957.77. Of the 2008/09 amount \$1,725.95 relates to the lunch function in Beijing held in 2007/08 but not invoiced until the following financial year.

The Office of The Hon Dr Mike Kelly AM MP has not incurred any official hospitality expenses since Dr Kelly was sworn in as Parliamentary Secretary for Water on 25 February 2009.

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<b>Outcome:</b>	All	<b>Question No:</b>	231
<b>Output:</b>	All		
<b>Division/Agency:</b>	Corporate Strategies Division		
<b>Topic:</b>	Portfolio responsibilities – Costs		
<b>Hansard Page ECA:</b>	Written Question on Notice		

**Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:**

1. How have portfolio responsibilities been apportioned between the Ministers and Parliamentary Secretary?
2. What additional Departmental or MoPS Act staff have been provided to the Parliamentary Secretary? What are their salaries?
3. What other costs are associated with the appointment of the Parliamentary Secretary?

**Answers:**

1. Responsibilities of the Minister for Climate Change and Water and the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts are allocated in accordance with the Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) signed by the Governor-General on 25 January 2008.

Allocation of responsibilities for the Minister for Climate Change and Water include all legislative responsibilities and matters dealt with by the Department of Climate Change listed under part 4 of the AAO in addition to water policy and resources matters and water-related legislation listed under the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts in part 7 of the AAO.

Allocation of responsibilities for the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts includes all matters and legislation listed under the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts in part 7 of the AAO other than water policy and resources matters and water-related legislation.

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The Parliamentary Secretary for Water assists the Minister for Climate Change and Water in administering the water responsibilities of her portfolio with responsibility for:

- Administering the rainwater tanks and grey water program;
  - Administering on-farm irrigation programs that are developed by the Government, excluding those that are part of a State Priority Project agreed by the Council of Australian Governments;
  - Management of the Water Smart Australia Program;
  - Management of the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative;
  - Management of Lake Eyre Basin matters;
  - Attendance at Commonwealth-State ministerial meetings that fall within his agreed responsibilities, including deputising for the Minister for Climate Change and Water as Chair of the Lake Eyre Basin Ministerial Forum;
  - Managing correspondence about his areas of responsibility and other general urban water correspondence; and
  - Assisting the Minister for Climate Change and Water with managing Ministerial correspondence.
2. The Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (the Department) has provided one departmental staff member for the role of Departmental Liaison Officer with an annual salary range of \$78,903 to \$87,525.

As the Hon Dr Mike Kelly MP was already the Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Support when he was appointed Parliamentary Secretary for Water on 25 February 2009, no additional personal staff have been allocated. Dr Kelly's two existing personal staff are an Assistant Adviser with a salary range of \$64,920 to \$77,869 and an Executive Assistant/Office Manager with a salary range of \$52,580 to \$64,920.

The salary ranges only are provided so as not to disclose the personal information of individual employees.

3. Since Dr Kelly was appointed as Parliamentary Secretary for Water, the total cost incurred by the Department to support his office is \$1,064.00 as at the time of this response. This has covered such services and goods as information technology fees, newspapers, stores and office requirements.

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**Outcome:** All **Question No:** 232  
**Output:** All  
**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategies Division  
**Topic:** DEWHA employment  
**Hansard Page ECA:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator BOYCE asked:**

1. How many people with a disability were employed full-time and how many part-time? What classifications were these staff employed under?
2. What percentage of staff in the Department had a disability at March 30, 2008 and March 30, 2009?
3. What programs does the Department have to encourage the employment of people with a disability?

**Answers:**

1. As at 31 May 2009 there were 45 employees who identified as having a disability. Of these, 40 were full-time and 5 were part-time. The classifications of these employees were as follows:

Classification	Full-time	Part-time	Total
Graduate	2		2
APS 1/2	1		1
APS 3	3		3
APS 4	2		2
APS 5	4	1	5
APS 6	7	2	9
Executive Level 1	11	2	13
Executive Level 2	9		9
SES	1		1
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>45</b>

NB. Data is sourced from DEWHA's HRMIS.

2. The percentage of staff in DEWHA who identified as having a disability as at 30 March 2008 was 1.35%. As at 30 March 2009 the figure was 1.55%.
3. Following extensive consultation, the Department recently released its Disability Action Plan 2009-2011. This contains the policies and strategies that are being implemented to encourage the employment of people with disability.

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<b>Output:</b>	All		
<b>Division/Agency:</b>	Corporate Strategies Division		
<b>Topic:</b>	Staffing – Minister and Parliamentary Secretary		
<b>Hansard Page ECA:</b>	Written Question on Notice		

**Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:**

1. Please provide the names, salaries, titles and responsibilities of all staff in the Minister(s’)/Parliamentary Secretary’s offices.
2. Please indicate what their salaries were in October 2007 (or when they started) and what their salaries are now.
3. Please identify which staff have government cars as part of their package. What model vehicles do they drive? What is the cost of the vehicle packages?
4. Which staff are entitled to fly business class?
5. What is the home base for each of the staff? If they are not located in the home base of the employing Minister/Parliamentary Secretary or Canberra, what is the reason?

**Answer/s:**

As at 29 May 2009, there were two departmental staff members provided to the Office of the Hon Peter Garrett AM MP, one staff member to the Office of Senator the Hon Penny Wong and one to the Office of the Hon Dr Mike Kelly AM MP. The individuals were employed under the Department of the Environment and Heritage Collective Agreement 2006-2009.

The salary ranges for all individuals was \$78,903 to \$87,525 per annum. All individuals were also in receipt of an additional Departmental Liaison Officer Allowance of \$16,275 per annum. For privacy reasons, individual’s exact salaries cannot be disclosed.

1. Listed below are details of staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* in the Minister(s’)/Parliamentary Secretary’s offices. Classification and salary ranges only are provided so as not to identify personal information of individual employees. The Department of Finance and Deregulation is not aware of the designated titles that may be used in individual offices or the responsibilities of individual employees and is unable to answer this part of the question.

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As at 29 May 2009:

**Office of the Hon Peter Garrett AM MP**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Salary Range (per annum)</b>
Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff – Cabinet)	\$105,441 to \$142,225
Senior Media Adviser	\$89,348 to \$121,638
3 x Adviser	\$77,869 to \$114,916
2 x Assistant Adviser	\$64,920 to \$77,869
Executive Assistant / Office Manager	\$52,580 to \$64,920
Secretary / Administrative Assistant	\$41,419 to \$54,253

Note: Excludes Electorate Employees

**Office of Senator the Hon Penny Wong**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Salary Range (per annum)</b>
Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff – Cabinet)	\$105,441 to \$142,225
Senior Media Adviser	\$89,348 to \$121,638
4 x Adviser	\$77,869 to \$114,916
2 x Assistant Adviser	\$64,920 to \$77,869
Executive Assistant / Office Manager	\$52,580 to \$64,920
Secretary / Administrative Assistant	\$41,419 to \$54,253

Note: Excludes Electorate Employees

**Office of the Hon Dr Mike Kelly AM MP**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Salary Range (per annum)</b>
Assistant Adviser	\$64,920 to \$77,869
Executive Assistant / Office Manager	\$52,580 to \$64,920

Note: Excludes Electorate Employees

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2. As at 29 May 2009:

**Office of the Hon Peter Garrett AM MP**

<b>Classification May 2009</b>	<b>Classification: As at October 2007 or Commencement with Minister</b>	<b>Salary Range: As at October 2007 or Commencement with Minister</b>	<b>Salary Range: As at 29 May 2009</b>
Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff – Cabinet)	October 2007: Senior Adviser	\$85,500 to \$116,400	\$105,441 to \$142,225
Senior Media Adviser	March 2008: Senior Media Adviser	\$85,500 to \$116,400	\$89,348 to \$121,638
Adviser	October 2007: Executive Assistant 2	\$50,974 to \$52,281	\$77,869 to \$114,916
Adviser	February 2008: Adviser	\$74,516 to \$109,967	\$77,869 to \$114,916
Adviser	March 2008: Adviser	\$74,516 to \$109,967	\$77,869 to \$114,916
Assistant Adviser	October 2007: Electorate Officer B	\$49,681 to \$56,948	\$64,920 to \$77,869
Assistant Adviser	October 2007: Electorate Officer B	\$49,681 to \$56,948	\$64,920 to \$77,869
Executive Assistant / Office Manager	February 2008: Executive Assistant / Office Manager	\$50,316 to \$62,124	\$52,580 to \$64,920
Secretary / Administrative Assistant	February 2008: Secretary / Administrative Assistant	\$39,635 to \$51,917	\$41,419 to \$54,253



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**Office of Senator the Hon Penny Wong**

<b>Classification May 2009</b>	<b>Classification: As at October 2007 or Commencement with Minister</b>	<b>Salary Range: As at October 2007 or Commencement with Minister</b>	<b>Salary Range: As at 29 May 2009</b>
Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff – Cabinet)	November 2008: Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff – Cabinet)	\$100,900 to \$136,100	\$105,441 to \$142,225
Senior Media Adviser	October 2007: Assistant Adviser	\$58,005 to \$71,307	\$89,348 to \$121,638
Adviser	March 2008: Adviser	\$74,516 to \$109,967	\$89,348 to \$121,638
Adviser	January 2008: Adviser	\$74,516 to \$109,967	\$89,348 to \$121,638
Adviser	February 2008: Adviser	\$74,516 to \$109,967	\$89,348 to \$121,638
Adviser	January 2008: Adviser	\$74,516 to \$109,967	\$89,348 to \$121,638
Assistant Adviser	March 2008: Assistant Adviser	\$62,124 to \$74,516	\$64,920 to \$77,869
Assistant Adviser	March 2009: Assistant Adviser	\$64,920 to \$77,869	\$64,920 to \$77,869
Executive Assistant / Office Manager	February 2008: Executive Assistant / Office Manager	\$50,316 to \$62,124	\$52,580 to \$64,920
Secretary / Administrative Assistant	December 2008: Secretary / Administrative Assistant	\$41,419 to \$54,253	\$52,580 to \$64,920

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Budget Estimates, May 2009

**Office of the Hon Dr Mike Kelly AM MP**

<b>Classification May 2009</b>	<b>Classification: As at October 2007 or Commencement with Minister</b>	<b>Salary Range: As at October 2007 or Commencement with Minister</b>	<b>Salary Range: As at 29 May 2009</b>
Assistant Adviser	January 2008: Assistant Adviser	\$62,124 to \$74,516	\$64,920 to \$77,869
Executive Assistant / Office Manager	April 2008: Executive Assistant / Office Manager	\$50,316 to \$62,124	\$52,580 to \$64,920

3. The following staff have government cars as part of their package:

**Office of the Hon Peter Garrett AM MP**

The Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff – Cabinet) has been provided with a Ford Falcon G6E passenger sedan. Lease costs are \$876.80 per month.

**Office of Senator the Hon Penny Wong**

The Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff – Cabinet) has been provided with a Toyota Prius. Lease costs are \$1,075.45 per month.

4. Employees above the classification of Adviser are entitled to travel at business class.  
5. The home bases for Ministerial staff are detailed below:

**Office of the Hon Peter Garrett AM MP**

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Home Base</b>
Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff – Cabinet)	1 x Canberra
Senior Media Adviser	1 x Canberra
Adviser	2 x Canberra 1 x Sydney
Assistant Adviser	2 x Sydney
Executive Assistant / Office Manager	1 x Canberra
Secretary / Administrative Assistant	1 x Canberra

Note: Excludes Electorate Employees

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**Office of Senator the Hon Penny Wong**

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Home Base</b>
Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff – Cabinet)	1 x Adelaide
Senior Media Adviser	1 x Adelaide
Adviser	4 x Canberra
Assistant Adviser	2 x Canberra
Executive Assistant / Office Manager	1 x Canberra
Secretary / Administrative Assistant	1 x Canberra

Note: Excludes Electorate Employees

**Office of the Hon Dr Mike Kelly AM MP**

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Home Base</b>
Assistant Adviser	1 x Canberra
Executive Assistant / Office Manager	1 x Canberra

Note: Excludes Electorate Employees

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<b>Outcome:</b>	All	<b>Question No:</b>	234
<b>Program:</b>	All		
<b>Division/Agency:</b>	Policy Coordination Division		
<b>Topic:</b>	Budget Cuts		
<b>Hansard Page ECA:</b>	Written Question on Notice		

**Senator BIRMINGHAM asked:**

1. What programs have been cut in this latest budget?
2. Please provide a detailed list of the specific programs which have:
  - Been axed
  - Had their funding reduced by more than 10 per cent.

**Answers:**

The following programs have been terminated consistent with recommendations from the Strategic Review of Australian Government Climate Change Programs (Wilkins Review) to streamline existing climate change programs and terminate those that were not complementary to the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme:

- Low Emissions Technology and Abatement
- Local Greenhouse Action
- Strategic National Response
- Greenhouse Challenge Plus
- Small Business and Household Action Initiative
- Coal Mine Methane Reduction Program
- Greenhouse Gas Abatement Program

The following programs were incorporated into new measures as part of the Government's National Strategy on Energy Efficiency as they were considered by the Wilkins Review to be complementary to the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme:

- Action on Energy Efficiency
- Energy Efficiency of Electrical Appliances
- Hot water system phase out
- Phase-out of Inefficient Light Bulbs

The following program has been terminated:

- Art Indemnity Australia (AIA) has been terminated and the funds reallocated to two new programs – the National Collecting Institutions Touring and Outreach Program (NCITO) and the Australian Government International Exhibitions Insurance Program (AGIEI). NCITO and AGIEI will be more effective in supporting broader exhibition touring resulting in greater access for more Australians, and at less risk to the Commonwealth.

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The following programs have had their funding reduced by more than 10 per cent:

- Green Loans has been reduced by \$125.7 million over 5 years from 2008–09. This recognises that the \$4 billion Energy Efficient Homes package will subsidise cost-effective energy efficiency improvements in Australian homes and that interest rates are at their lowest level in over 40 years.
- Commonwealth Environmental Research Facilities (CERF) has been reduced by \$10.0 million over three years from 2010–11. The CERF Program is an ongoing \$25 million per year research program managed by the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts. The 2009 budget maintained funding during the 2009-10 financial year, but reduced it in the following three financial years (2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13) by \$2 million, \$4 million and \$4 million respectively.

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**Outcome:** All **Question No:** 235  
**Output:** All  
**Division/Agency:** Policy Coordination Division  
**Topic:** Overseas Ministerial Travel  
**Hansard Page ECA:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator Birmingham asked:**

1. Have the Minister(s) and/or Parliamentary Secretary travelled overseas on official business in 2008-09?
2. If so, where was the travel, what was the purpose and what was the duration?
3. What was the total cost of:
  - a) travel
  - b) accommodation, and
  - c) any other expenses?
4. How many Ministerial staff or family accompanied the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary?
5. For these staff (please outline their position)/family what was the cost of:
  - a) travel
  - b) accommodation, and
  - c) any other expenses?
6. How many officers from the Department accompanied the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary?
7. In relation to these Departmental officers (please outline their position), what was the total cost of:
  - a) travel
  - b) accommodation, and
  - c) any other expenses?
8. Were any costs or expenses, as covered above, met by private companies, unions or other organisations? If so, please provide details.
9. Please detail total travel expenses met by the Department. In relation to all departmental travel expenses, please provide estimated resulting carbon emissions. Were any offsets purchased? If so, how many and at what cost?

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**Answers:**

1. The Minister for Environment, Heritage and the Arts has travelled overseas on official business six times in the 2008-09 Financial Year. Neither the Minister for Climate Change and Water nor the Parliamentary Secretary for Water travelled overseas on official business for the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts portfolio in 2008-09.

2. The Minister for Environment, Heritage and the Arts travelled overseas as follows:

Santiago, Chile and California, USA (22 June – 2 July 2008) - To attend the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission and to hold meetings with Californian energy efficiency stakeholders.

Kaikoura and Wellington, New Zealand (8-11 September 2008) – To hold meetings with counterparts to advance key portfolio interests in Whale Conservation and Arts and Culture.

Madang, Papua New Guinea (10-11 March 2009) – To attend the Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI) Ministerial Forum

Washington D.C., USA (5-6 April 2009) – To attend the ministerial meeting to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Antarctic Treaty.

Manado, Indonesia (13-16 May 2009) – To attend the World Ocean Conference and Coral Triangle Initiative Leaders' Summit and Partners Meeting.

Madeira, Portugal and Paris, France (21-28 June 2009) – To attend the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission in Madeira. In Paris, to accept an Order of Arts and Letters from the French Government, and to hold meetings with energy, environment and arts and culture representatives.

3. The total cost for the Minister's travel was:

Santiago, Chile and California, USA:

- a. Travel - \$19,343.49
- b. Accommodation - \$8,214.10
- c. Other expenses - \$979.98

Kaikoura and Wellington, New Zealand:

- a. Travel - \$2,775.54
- b. Accommodation - \$636.18
- c. Other expenses - \$282.08

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Madang, Papua New Guinea: Expenditure for this overseas visit has not yet been reconciled. All costs of official overseas travel by Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, accompanying spouses (where relevant) and accompanying staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* are paid for by the Department of Finance and Deregulation. Dates, destinations, the purpose and costs of all official overseas travel are tabled in the Parliament every six months in a report titled *Parliamentarians' Travel Paid By The Department of Finance and Deregulation*.

Washington D.C., USA: Expenditure for this overseas visit has not yet been reconciled. All costs of official overseas travel by Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, accompanying spouses (where relevant) and accompanying staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* are paid for by the Department of Finance and Deregulation. Dates, destinations, the purpose and costs of all official overseas travel are tabled in the Parliament every six months in a report titled *Parliamentarians' Travel Paid By The Department of Finance and Deregulation*.

Manado, Indonesia: Expenditure for this overseas visit has not yet been reconciled. All costs of official overseas travel by Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, accompanying spouses (where relevant) and accompanying staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* are paid for by the Department of Finance and Deregulation. Dates, destinations, the purpose and costs of all official overseas travel are tabled in the Parliament every six months in a report titled *Parliamentarians' Travel Paid By The Department of Finance and Deregulation*.

Madeira, Portugal and Paris, France: Expenditure for this overseas visit has not yet been reconciled. All costs of official overseas travel by Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, accompanying spouses (where relevant) and accompanying staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* are paid for by the Department of Finance and Deregulation. Dates, destinations, the purpose and costs of all official overseas travel are tabled in the Parliament every six months in a report titled *Parliamentarians' Travel Paid By The Department of Finance and Deregulation*.

4. In Santiago, Chile, the Minister was accompanied by two ministerial staff members.

In California, USA, the Minister was accompanied by one ministerial staff member.

In Kaikoura and Wellington, New Zealand, the Minister was accompanied by one ministerial staff member.

In Madang, Papua New Guinea, the Minister was accompanied by one ministerial staff member.



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In Washington D.C., the Minister was accompanied by one ministerial staff member.

In Manado, Indonesia, the Minister was accompanied by one ministerial staff member.

In Madeira Portugal, the Minister was accompanied by two ministerial staff members.

In Paris, France, the Minister was accompanied by one ministerial staff member.

5. In Santiago, Chile, the Minister was accompanied by a Media Adviser. The total cost for the Media Adviser was:
- a. Travel - \$9,607.86
  - b. Accommodation - \$2,622.78
  - c. Other expenses - \$685.36

In Santiago, Chile and California, USA, the Minister was accompanied by a Ministerial Adviser. The total cost for the Ministerial Adviser's combined travel was:

- a. Travel - \$19,341.64
- b. Accommodation - \$3,413.61
- c. Other expenses - \$1106.03

In Kaikoura and Wellington, New Zealand, the Minister was accompanied by a Ministerial Adviser. The total cost for the Ministerial Adviser was:

- a. Travel - \$2,775.54
- b. Accommodation - \$446.22
- c. Other expenses - \$511.87

In Madang, Papua New Guinea, the Minister was accompanied by a Ministerial Adviser. Expenditure for this overseas visit has not yet been reconciled. All costs of official overseas travel by Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, accompanying spouses (where relevant) and accompanying staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* are paid for by the Department of Finance and Deregulation. Dates, destinations, the purpose and costs of all official overseas travel are tabled in the Parliament every six months in a report titled *Parliamentarians' Travel Paid By The Department of Finance and Deregulation*.

In Washington D.C., USA, the Minister was accompanied by a Ministerial Adviser. Expenditure for this overseas visit has not yet been reconciled. All costs of official overseas travel by Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, accompanying spouses (where relevant) and accompanying staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* are paid for by the Department of Finance and Deregulation. Dates, destinations, the purpose and costs of all official overseas travel are tabled in the Parliament every six months in a report titled *Parliamentarians' Travel Paid By The Department of Finance and Deregulation*.

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In Manado, Indonesia, the Minister was accompanied by a Ministerial Adviser. Expenditure for this overseas visit has not yet been reconciled. All costs of official overseas travel by Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, accompanying spouses (where relevant) and accompanying staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* are paid for by the Department of Finance and Deregulation. Dates, destinations, the purpose and costs of all official overseas travel are tabled in the Parliament every six months in a report titled *Parliamentarians' Travel Paid By The Department of Finance and Deregulation*.

In Madeira, Portugal, the Minister was accompanied by two Ministerial Advisers. Expenditure for this overseas visit has not yet been reconciled. All costs of official overseas travel by Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, accompanying spouses (where relevant) and accompanying staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* are paid for by the Department of Finance and Deregulation. Dates, destinations, the purpose and costs of all official overseas travel are tabled in the Parliament every six months in a report titled *Parliamentarians' Travel Paid By The Department of Finance and Deregulation*.

In Paris, France, the Minister was accompanied by a Ministerial Adviser. Expenditure for this overseas visit has not yet been reconciled. All costs of official overseas travel by Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, accompanying spouses (where relevant) and accompanying staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* are paid for by the Department of Finance and Deregulation. Dates, destinations, the purpose and costs of all official overseas travel are tabled in the Parliament every six months in a report titled *Parliamentarians' Travel Paid By The Department of Finance and Deregulation*.

6. In Santiago, Chile, the Minister was accompanied by seven departmental officers.

In California, USA, the Minister was accompanied by two departmental officers.

In Kaikoura and Wellington, New Zealand, the Minister was accompanied by one departmental officer.

In Madang, Papua New Guinea, the Minister was accompanied by one departmental officer.

In Washington D.C., USA, the Minister was accompanied by four departmental officers.

In Manado, Indonesia, the Minister was accompanied by four departmental officers.

In Madeira, Portugal, the Minister was accompanied by four departmental officers.

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7. In Santiago, Chile the seven Departmental officers and their total costs were:

Australia's Commissioner to the International Whaling Commission and First Assistant Secretary, Marine Division:

- a. Travel - \$9,833.98
- b. Accommodation - \$7,191.61
- c. Other expenses - \$1,641.86

Assistant Secretary, Marine Initiatives Branch, Marine Division:

- a. Travel - \$9,823.24
- b. Accommodation - \$4,168.08
- c. Other expenses - \$2,207.52

Leader, Australian Marine Mammals Centre, Australian Antarctic Division:

- a. Travel - \$10,404.81
- b. Accommodation - \$5,048.40
- c. Other expenses - \$3,757.11

Assistant Director, Cetacean Policy and Recovery Section:

- a. Travel - \$9,833.24
- b. Accommodation - \$4,400.19
- c. Other expenses - \$2,068.63

Assistant Director, Cetacean Policy and Recovery Section.

- a. Travel - \$9,657.99
- b. Accommodation - \$5,507.11
- c. Other expenses - \$2,476.22

Director, Public Affairs.

- a. Travel - \$10,212.49
- b. Accommodation - \$2762.70
- c. Other expenses - \$1,292.04

The Secretary accompanied the Minister in Santiago, Chile and in California, USA.

Total costs for the combined travel were:

- a. Travel - \$25,853.79
- b. Accommodation - \$2907.40
- c. Other expenses - \$2,237.50.

In California, USA, First Assistant Secretary, Renewables and Energy Efficiency Division, accompanied the Minister. The total cost of this travel was:

- a. Travel - \$10,363.97
- b. Accommodation - \$908.35
- c. Other expenses - \$831.47.

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In Kaikoura and Wellington, New Zealand, the total costs of the departmental officer, an Assistant Secretary in the Marine Initiatives Branch, Marine Division, were:

- a. Travel - \$2932.01
- b. Accommodation - \$567.33
- c. Other expenses - \$311.01.

In Madang, Papua New Guinea, the total costs of the departmental officer, the Manager of the Coral Triangle Initiative Taskforce, have not yet been reconciled.

In Washington D.C., USA, the four departmental officers and their total travel costs were:

Assistant Secretary, Marine Initiatives Branch, Marine Division. The total cost for this travel has not yet been reconciled.

Director, Australian Antarctic Division. The total cost for this travel has not yet been reconciled.

General Manager Policy, Australian Antarctic Division. The total cost for this travel has not yet been reconciled.

Chief Scientist, Australian Antarctic Division. The total cost for this travel was:

- a. Travel - \$11,334.88
- b. Accommodation - \$2,480.15
- c. Other expenses - \$1,548.18.

In Manado, Indonesia the four departmental officers were:

First Assistant Secretary, Marine Division. The total cost for this travel has not yet been reconciled.

Assistant Secretary, Marine Division. The total cost for this travel has not yet been reconciled.

Manager, Coral Triangle Initiative Taskforce. The total cost for this travel has not yet been reconciled.

Public Affairs Officer. The total cost for this travel has not yet been reconciled.

In Madeira, Portugal, the four departmental officers were:

Australia's Commissioner to the International Whaling Commission and First Assistant Secretary, Marine Division. The total cost for this travel has not yet been reconciled.

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Assistant Secretary, Marine Initiatives Branch, Marine Division. The total cost for this travel has not yet been reconciled.

Leader, Australian Marine Mammals Centre, Australian Antarctic Division. The total cost for this travel has not yet been reconciled.

Assistant Director, Cetacean Policy and Recovery Section. The total cost for this travel has not yet been reconciled.

8. No.
9. Specific details of costs paid for by the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts are not readily available and compilation of these details would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources which I am not prepared to authorise.

The Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts does not have a policy on purchasing carbon offsets related to travel. The Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts has not adopted the offset regimes of any airlines.