



Australian Government

Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts



Senator Anne McEwen
Chair
Senate Standing Committee on the Environment,
Communications and the Arts
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Senator McEwen

Following Budget Estimates in May 2009, Senator Birmingham, in his capacity as a member of the Senate Standing Committee of the Environment, Communications and the Arts, asked the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts the following written question (Question number 230).

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.

In October 2009 a response was submitted to the Committee. When preparing subsequent responses to similar questions asked by Senator Birmingham we have been made aware of some minor errors in our original response.

The total hospitality spend for the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts for 2008/09 has been revised from \$159,017.98 to \$171,328.51. Details of official hospitality provided by Senator Wong while in Beijing in relation to her Climate Change portfolio responsibilities was inadvertently included in our response and has been removed. In summary the changes are:

Hospitality provided by the Department:

Date	Location	Original cost	Revised cost
25 June 2008	Explorers Inn, Emerald, Qld	\$740.00	\$370.00
22 July 2008	Forrest, ACT	\$404.00	\$367.27
16 October 2008	Canberra Southern Yacht Club, Yarralumla, ACT	\$3,450.00	\$2,954.54
25 November 2008	The Deck at Regatta Point, Parkes, ACT	\$4,450.00	\$3,500.00
1 December 2008	Canberra, ACT	Not listed	\$31,025.45
6 December 2008	Canberra, ACT	\$29,798.18	\$241.15
7 April 2009	Baltimore, USA	\$1,356.50	\$678.25



Subsequent Events not listed in original response:

Date	Location	Original cost	Revised cost
25 May 2009	National Portrait Gallery, Parkes, ACT	Not listed	\$331.36
12 June 2009	National Portrait Gallery, Parkes, ACT	Not listed	\$613.64
15 June 2009	Cairns, QLD	Not listed	\$1,451.64
17 June 2009	Parkes, ACT	Not listed	\$113.18
18 June 2009	Cronulla, NSW	Not listed	\$1,142.73
27 June 2009	National Portrait Gallery, Parkes, ACT	Not listed	\$9,720.00

Hospitality provided by the Office of the Hon Peter Garrett MP:

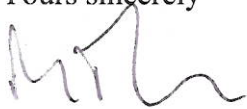
Date	Location	Original cost	Revised cost
10 – 11 March 2009	Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea	Not listed	\$360.41

Hospitality provided by the Office of Senator The Hon Penny Wong:

Date	Location	Original cost	Revised cost
8 - 13 April 2008 (exact date uncertain)	Beijing, China	\$1,725.95	deleted

The revised response is attached.

Yours sincerely



Malcolm Forbes
First Assistant Secretary
Corporate Strategies Division

29 July 2010

**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

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 \$171,328.51. 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.

Date	Location	Purpose	Cost
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.	\$370.00
2 July 2008	Thai Lemon Grass, Canberra, ACT	Maintaining Australia's Biodiversity Hotspots program evaluation workshop.	\$635.54

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Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts portfolio

Budget Estimates, May 2009

Date	Location	Purpose	Cost
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	Dinner with Murrumbidgee Irrigation Limited regarding purchasing of water	\$1,045.45
22 July 2008	Forrest, ACT	Heads of Collecting Institutions Meeting	\$367.27
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	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	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 Ministers Literary Awards	\$22,799.50
8 October 2008	Kingston, Tas	Meeting with Russian Ambassador regarding collaboration on Antarctic programs	\$321.55
14 October 2008	Kingston, Tas	Meeting with a Japanese official to discuss shared Antarctic interests.	\$131.82

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Date	Location	Purpose	Cost
16 October 2008	Canberra Southern Cross Yacht Club, Yarralumla, ACT	BBQ buffet dinner for attendees of the Performance Story Report National Summit	\$2,954.54
19 October 2008	Old Swan Brewery, Crawley, WA	Lunch meeting with representatives from Dept Environment WA, Landvision & National Oceans Office oil & 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	The dinner with stakeholders who attended the MERI Strategy Stakeholder Workshop	\$3,500.00
1 December 2008	Canberra, ACT	Catering for Circle of Friends Members events	\$31,025.45
3 December 2008	National Portrait Gallery, Parkes, ACT	Catering for opening of the new National Portrait Gallery	\$49,246.00
4 December 2008	National Portrait Gallery, Parkes, ACT	Catering for My Favourite Australian exhibition launch	\$1,718.18
5 December 2008	Canberra, ACT	Catering for Margin to Centre conference	\$3,534.54
6 December 2008	Canberra, ACT	Catering for Rolf Harris Annual Lecture (entry fee charged)	\$241.15
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 Delegates	\$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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Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts portfolio

Budget Estimates, May 2009

Date	Location	Purpose	Cost
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, ACT	Lunch with delegates from Korean Cultural Heritage Administration	\$521.82
7 April 2009	Kingston, ACT	Dinner for participants of the Wetland indicators, inventory and protocols and national assessment of river and wetland health workshop	\$366.91
7 April 2009	Baltimore, USA	Official function with key members of the Australian and Chinese delegations to the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting	\$678.25
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
25 May 2009	National Portrait Gallery, Parkes, ACT	Catering for Photography Forum	\$331.36
28 May 2009	Hobart, Tas	Meeting with New Zealand officials to discuss greater cooperation in the Antarctic Treaty system	\$611.70

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Budget Estimates, May 2009

Date	Location	Purpose	Cost
12 June 2009	National Portrait Gallery, Parkes, ACT	Catering for Educators Preview, Vanity Fair Covers Exhibition	\$613.64
15 June 2009	Cairns, QLD	Regional Assessment Workshop dinner	\$1,451.64
17 June 2009	Parkes, ACT	Catering for briefing session about progress in reform of Pacific regional institutions as mandated by Pacific Islands Forum Leaders in 2008	\$113.18
18 June 2009	Cronulla, NSW	Regional Assessment Workshop dinner	\$1,142.73
27 June 2009	National Portrait Gallery, Parkes, ACT	Launch of the Vanity Fair Covers Exhibition	\$9,720.00

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.

Office	Date	Location	Purpose	Cost
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
The Hon Peter Garrett AM MP	10 – 11 March 2009 (exact date uncertain)	Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea	Finance is not aware of the purpose of the hospitality	\$360.41

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.

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Office	Date	Location	Purpose	Cost
Senator 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 \$511.98. This includes expenses related to the event in Paris which was held in 2007/08 but not invoiced until the following financial year.

The Office of Senator The Hon Penny Wong has incurred \$231.82 in official hospitality expenses for 2008/09 in relation to her water portfolio responsibilities.

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