

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Budget Estimates Hearing
01 June 2009

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

TOPIC: Budget Night Presentation

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard 1 June 2009, E73)

QUESTION No.: BI-74

Senator ABETZ—Did the department pay Questacon for that?

Mr Paterson—For it remaining open?

Senator ABETZ—Yes.

Mr Paterson—I do not believe so.

Senator ABETZ—So that would be a cost with security, having staff there et cetera, to ensure that people—

Mr Paterson—I am happy to take on notice the precise details about where the costs were borne in relation to it. I do not believe that we paid Questacon. But Questacon is a division within the department and not a separate legal entity; so it would have been the department paying the department to undertake an activity.

ANSWER

The Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research held a budget night briefing for stakeholders at Questacon on 12 May 2009.

Questacon is a division of the department and therefore the Department did not incur any cost in relation to the use of the facilities.

Costs were incurred in relation to catering and hiring of specialist staff such as security, cleaners, photographer and an audio visual technician. The total cost of this was \$11,160 (GST Exclusive).

Departmental staff were in attendance to assist with the event logistics. Staff were reimbursed for their time consistent with the Departments collective agreement.