

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2011-2012**

Cross Portfolio

DEEWR Question No. EW0913_12

Senator Back provided in writing.

Question

Community Cabinets

"What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held this financial year to date? How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? How many Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? List travel type, accommodate and any other expenses. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date?"

Answer

Questions 1 and 2. costs of official travel by Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries and their staff are met by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (DOFD). Any questions regarding those costs or arrangements should be referred to DOFD.

3. For the 2011-12 financial year to 31 January 2012, 1 departmental officer travelled with the Minister for Community Cabinet meetings. The total cost for this official was \$3,349.33. All other Community Cabinet meetings were attended by regional DEEWR staff at no cost.

4. Travel was via air, with an accommodation cost of \$212.95 and other costs of \$154.38.

5. With respect to the Minister's Office, please see 1) and 2) above. The costs incurred by DEEWR were \$3,349.33