

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2012-2013**

**Cross Portfolio**

**DEEWR Question No.** EW0061\_13

**Senator Back provided in writing.**

**Question**

**Community Cabinet Meetings**

1."What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held this financial year to date? 2. How many Community Cabinet meetings has the Minister attended? List date and location. 3. 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? 4. Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Ministerial Staff attend? List date and location. 5. 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? 6. List travel type, accommodate and any other expenses. 7. Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Departmental Officers attend? List date and location. 8. 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 1,2,3 and 4. 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.

5. For the 2011-12 financial year to 31 May 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.

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

7. A DEEWR officer attended the Darwin Community Cabinet.

8. With respect to the Minister's Office, please see 1), 2), 3) and 4) above. The costs incurred by DEEWR were \$3,349.33.