

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

**Cross Portfolio**

**DEEWR Question No.** EW0526\_12

**Senator Back provided in writing.**

**Question**

**Community Cabinets**

"1. What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held for the year 2010-11? 2. How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for the year 2010-11? What was the total cost of this travel? 3. How many Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for the year 2010-11? What was the total cost of this travel? 4. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for the year 2010-11? 5. What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD? 6. How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD? What was the total cost of this travel? 7. How many Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD? What was the total cost of this travel? 8. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD?"

**Answer**

Questions 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 8. Costs of official travel by Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries are met by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (Finance).

Information about destinations and the cost of travel undertaken by Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries is tabled in Parliament every 6 months in a report titled Parliamentarians' Expenditure on Entitlements paid by the Department of Finance and Deregulation. Finance has advised that it is not possible to individually report on all of the separate items requested in this question.

3. In 2010-11 one staff member travelled with the Minister for Community Cabinet meetings. The total cost for this staff member was \$1,500. All other Community Cabinet meetings were attended by regional DEEWR staff.

7. In 2011-12 for the period to 30 September 2011, one staff member travelled with the Minister for Community Cabinet Meetings. The total cost for this staff member was \$3,123. All other Community Cabinet meetings were attended by regional DEEWR staff.