

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Additional Budget Estimates Hearings 2006-2007, 12-13 February 2007

Question: PM 67

Outcome 1, Output

Topic: State Coach

Hansard Page: Direct on Notice

Senator Evans asked:

- 1. Can the Department confirm that the Commonwealth will be assisting with the cost of transporting the Coach to England?**
- 2. If so, how much has been allocated for this purpose?**
- 3. What is the total estimated cost of transporting the Coach to England?**
- 4. Can the Department confirm when construction of the Coach will be completed?**
- 5. Can the Department confirm when the Coach will be sent to England?**
- 6. In relation to the \$250,000 in funding provided by the Department in December 2006 towards construction of the Coach:**
 - a) was this funding provided through a funding agreement?**
 - b) was this funding provided through a contract?**
 - c) was the funding provided as a grant?**
 - d) what conditions were placed on the provision of the funding?**
 - e) was all the funding (\$250,000) provided in December 2006 or was the funding provided in instalments?**
 - f) was the recipient required to provide evidence of the costs of the materials that were being funded? Eg receipts for the purchase of materials.**
 - g) What acquittal process did occur in relation to the funding?**
- 7. Is the Department considering providing additional (beyond the \$250,000) funding?**
- 8. Has the Department provided funding to a similar project in the last five years? If so provide details.**

Answer:

1. Yes.
2. The cost of transportation will be funded from the \$350,000 appropriated during the Additional Estimates process. At this stage, no specific amount has been allocated for transport.
3. Not known at this time.
4. We have been advised that construction of the coach is complete.
5. No.
6.
 - a) no
 - b) no
 - c) yes
 - d) none



Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

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- e) one payment of \$245,548.73 was made in December 2006
 - f) Mr Frecklington provided a list of the cost of goods and services attached to his letter of 5 September 2006. He has indicated that all of his records are available for auditing.
 - g) The list of goods and services submitted by Mr Frecklington was inspected and judged to be a genuine record of costs incurred.
7. No.
8. See answer to question PM 8.

