

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 Estimates 23-27 February 2009

Question: PM33a-z

Outcome 1, Output 5

Topic: Prime Minister's visit to Hobart on 5 and 6 November 2008

Hansard Page: Written Question

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 April

Senator Bushby asked: On November 6 2008, Kevin Rudd was in Rosny Park Tasmania for the official opening of Julie Collins electorate office.

- a) **What was the total cost of the Prime Minister's visit to Hobart on 5 and 6 November 2008?**
- b) **How did the PM travel from Launceston to Hobart for this visit?**
- c) **What day and time did the PM depart Launceston?**
- d) **What day and time did the PM arrive in Hobart?**
- e) **What day and time did the PM depart Hobart?**
- f) **Where did the PM stay while in Hobart? What was the cost of this accommodation?**
- g) **When was the itinerary for the visit to Tasmania for drafted? Was it changed? If so, when, and how? Please provide copies of all draft and final itineraries.**
- h) **Was the PM originally booked at different accommodation to that at which he stayed in Hobart? If so, where, and was any extra cost incurred by changing accommodation?**
- i) **How many personal staff travelled with the PM to Hobart? And what classification were they?**
- j) **How many PM&C staff travelled with the PM to Hobart? And what classification were they?**
- k) **How many family members travelled to Hobart with the PM? Please identify**
- l) **How many Federal political colleagues travelled with the PM to Hobart? Please identify**
- m) **Did any State or Local Government politicians travel with the PM to Hobart? Please identify**
- n) **Did any staff of the PM's colleagues, State politicians, or local government politicians travel with the PM to Hobart? Please identify**
- o) **How many cars were required to transfer the PM party to and from Hobart Airport to the Hotels they were using and how many cars were used to transport the PM party from their accommodation in Hobart to the Julie Collins office opening and then to the Hobart Airport? (if not by plane how many drove to Hobart?)**
- p) **What was the total cost of these cars?**

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 Estimates 23-27 February 2009

- q) What was the cost of the PM's special purpose aircraft flight to Hobart from Launceston?**
- r) What was the cost of flights and car transport for personal, PM&C as well as other support staff who also travelled down for the PM's Hobart visit?**
- s) What was the cost of accommodation for the PM, any family members, personal staff, PM&C staff and other support staff who travelled to Hobart for the PM's visit? Please itemise each.**
- t) How many staff undertook the advancing work for the PM's visit to Hobart?**
- u) What accommodation did the advance staff for the PM's Hobart visit use?**
- v) What was the cost of the accommodation for the staff undertaking the advancing?**
- w) What was the cost of the flights and any car transport the PM's advancing staff used for his Hobart visit?**
- x) Please detail any other expenses for the PM, his family or PM&C or personal or support staff during the visit to Hobart?**
- y) Did the PM undertake any official engagements while he was in Hobart other than the opening of the office of Franklin Labor MP Julie Collins?**
- z) How long did the PM spend at his official engagements in Hobart?**

Answer:

- a) The total cost of the Prime Minister's trip to Hobart is unknown at this stage as the records obtained from the Department of Finance and Deregulation as at 18 March 2008 may be incomplete and the cost of Special Purpose Aircraft will not be known until that information is tabled by Defence in June 2009 in accordance with normal practice. The Prime Minister's visit to Hobart on 5 and 6 November was held in conjunction with his visit to Beaconsfield and Launceston on 5 November 2009.
- b) The Prime Minister travelled by Special Purpose Aircraft.
- c) 9.30pm on 5 November 2008.
- d) 10.10pm on 5 November 2008.
- e) 9.30am on 6 November 2008.
- f) Hotel Grand Chancellor. Travel costs are outlined in the tabled document *Parliamentarians' Travel Paid by the Department of Finance and Deregulation*.
- g) The Prime Minister's program is subject to ongoing review. The Prime Minister's draft programs are not subject to release.
- h) No other accommodation in Hobart was booked.
- i) Four staff travelled from Launceston to Hobart with the Prime Minister:

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 Estimates 23-27 February 2009

- Principal Adviser
 - Adviser
 - Adviser
 - Executive Assistant
- j) No PM&C staff travelled with the Prime Minister from Launceston to Hobart.
- k) None.
- l) None.
- m) No.
- n) No.
- o) The Department of Finance and Deregulation has advised that the Prime Minister's party used one vehicle for travel to and from Hobart Airport and to the opening of the electorate office. The Prime Minister was driven by Tasmanian Police.
- p) The Department of Finance and Deregulation has advised that the cost of car hire for transporting the Prime Minister's party was \$475.01 (GST Inclusive).
- q) The Department of Defence has advised that information for all Defence Special Purpose Aircraft tasks is tabled twice annually in the Parliament in the Schedule of Special Purpose Flights. In accordance with normal practice, the details for flights between 1 July and 30 December 2008 will be tabled in June 2009.
- r) The Department of Finance and Deregulation has advised that the cost of commercial flights for personal staff for travel to and from Hobart was \$876.11 (GST exclusive).
- s) The Department of Finance and Deregulation has advised that the total cost of travel allowance paid for MOP(S) Act employees staying in commercial accommodation in Hobart was \$1227 (as at 18 March 2008).
- t) One
- u) Commercial accommodation.
- v) Standard travel allowance was paid.
- w) Flight costs are detailed in the answer to (r). There were no car transport costs as at 18 March 2009.
- x) Not applicable.
- y) The Prime Minister had one other official engagement in Hobart.
- z) The Prime Minister's official engagements in Hobart commenced at 8.00am and concluded at 9.30am.