

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates 11-14 February 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.3 Support Services for Government Operations

Topic: Meeting Costs

Senator: Senator Ryan

Question reference number: 52

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 April 2013

Number of pages: 2

Question:

What is the Department/Agency's meeting spend for this financial year to date?

Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs.

For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total meeting spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.

What meeting spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.

For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what meeting spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.

Answer:

The Department and the offices of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in the Prime Minister's portfolio arrange many meetings. For portfolio ministers, parliamentary secretaries and their offices, some costs (e.g. catering) may be met by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) while other costs (e.g. travel costs) are met by the Department of Finance and Deregulation.

For costs that are met by PM&C, information is not recorded in a way that would readily enable these questions to be answered. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.

Details of expenditure for hospitality and entertainment and some specific meetings are contained in responses to the following Senate estimates questions on notice:

- PM51 – hospitality and entertainment
- PM56 – Community Cabinet meetings