

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

Budget Estimates Hearing 26 May - 27 May 2008



Question: PM62

Outcome 1, Output 5.1

Topic: Community Cabinet - cost of Penrith meeting

Hansard Page: Written Question.

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked: -You put an ad in the paper. The cost of holding it at a high school is not relatively high. There may be some cleaning costs, and I assume there might be some small refreshments or other costs associated with it. Thirty six thousand dollars is a lot of money. Could you just explain to me what that \$36,000 was for? Thank you.

Dr Southern-Certainly. It breaks down broadly to about \$8,500 for staff travel and accommodation expenses to attend the meeting, and then venue advertising, contractors and materials expenses came to around \$28,000. That is a broad split.

Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS-Alright. You might take on notice some of the components of what that is and give that to me. Thank you.

Answer: As at 20 June 2008, the costs met by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet in supporting the Penrith Community Cabinet Meeting on 15 April 2008 were as follows.

Staff travel and accommodation costs:	\$8,434.10
<i>comprising -</i>	
Staff travel	3,412.17
Accommodation	3,750.00
Meals and other minor expenses	1,271.93
Venue, advertising, contractors and materials expenses:	\$27,231.06
<i>comprising -</i>	
Venue costs	2,199.00
Advertising	3,274.44
Contractors	21,446.07
Materials	311.55
TOTAL:	\$35,665.16

The meeting attendance costs of other Australian Government participants were met by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (Ministers and staff) and relevant Departments (other Officials).