

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearing 25-29 May 2009

Question: PM73

Outcome 1, Output 5

Topic: Costs relating to PM's Australia Day functions

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Mr Mrdak-...The other one is in relation to Perth: catering, 24 January-24 February. I believe that would relate to the hosting of the Australia Day function in Perth, which the Prime Minister hosted on the Australia Day weekend. As you would be aware, the Prime Minister held a series of functions around the country in the lead-up to Australia Day this year.

...

Senator RONALDSON-So 200 people, at the Prime Minister's invitation, have chomped through 15,000 bucks worth of food and drink?

Mr Leverett-Not entirely, Senator; there were some other costs in there. Most of that figure is for food and beverage.

Senator RONALDSON-Or even transport costs, after that amount of money being spent on it.

Mr Leverett-No, there were some entertainment costs. For instance, there was a young man who sang the national anthem.

Senator RONALDSON-What did he charge?

Mr Leverett-I do not have that figure with me. I can certainly get it for you. There was, I think, a string quartet that played background music, but the bulk of it was for the hospitality-that is, food and beverage.

Senator RONALDSON-You will get me full details of those, please?

Answer:

See answer to PM74.