

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012**

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet**  
**Outcome/Program: 1.1.4 - Support services for government operations**  
**Topic: Community Cabinet**

**Senator: Fifield**

**Question reference number: 135**

**Type of question: Written**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 8 July 2011**

**Number of pages:**

**Question:**

- 1. What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD?**
- 2. How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Cabinet meeting? What was the total cost of this travel?**
- 3. How many Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Cabinet meeting? What was the total cost of this travel?**
- 4. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office?**

**Answer:**

There have been three Community Cabinet meetings in 2010-11 to date; Redcliffe in December 2010; Fremantle in March 2011 and Modbury Heights in May 2011.

The meeting attendance costs of the Prime Minister and her staff were met by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (Finance).

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) has no involvement in the travel arrangements for attending ministers or accompanying officials from other departments. Meeting attendance costs for attending ministers and their staff are met by Finance. Meeting attendance costs for departmental officers from other departments are met by the relevant department.

PM&C sent one senior departmental officer to accompany the Prime Minister to each meeting in addition to the separate team of officials who were responsible for running the event. A table of travel costs for the senior departmental officer accompanying the Prime Minister is below.

**Senior Departmental Officer Travel Costs**

<b>Meeting Date/Location</b>	<b>Travel costs *</b>
Redcliffe – 2 Dec 2010	\$1,688.89
Fremantle – 30 Mar 2011	\$3,320.28
Modbury Heights – 19 May 2011	\$2,060.63

\* *Cost of flights, accommodation and taxis*