

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates Hearing 21-24 May 2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** 1.1.1 Domestic Policy

**Topic:** Hawke Review - COAG committee structure

**Senator:** Senator Payne

**Question reference number:** 126

**Type of Question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 July 2012

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Can you please outline in relation to the COAG committee structure since the Hawke Review recommendations were implemented:

- the costs involved in the setting up and ongoing administration of the new committee structure;
- the numbers of meetings held and the attendees, locations, details of the chair arrangements, and numbers of staff attending

**Answer:**

Staff time involved in establishing the new council system was absorbed within the existing resources of the agencies involved.

The costs of ongoing administration of the secretariats of standing councils, select councils and legislative and governance fora are met by councils and fora.

Questions concerning individual meetings of councils and fora, and staff attending, should be directed to the councils and fora themselves. Refer to PM8 for a list of secretariat contacts.