

**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:** 1.1.3 Support Services for Government Operations

**Topic:** Hospitality and Entertainment

**Senator:** Senator Ryan

**Question reference number:** 86

**Type of Question:** Written

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

**Number of pages:** 5

**Question:**

1. What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.
3. What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.
5. What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
6. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.
7. What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
8. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.
9. Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved?

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#### **Answer:**

#### **1 and 3**

For the period 1 July 2011 to 30 April 2012 the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) spent \$87,138.41 (GST inclusive) on official hospitality; this includes some expenditure on Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting related events that were hosted by Ministers. Details are provided at [Attachment A](#).

In the rare case that entertainment costs are incurred by PM&C the costs are not recorded separately from official hospitality.

#### **2 and 4**

The Prime Minister's official hospitality is provided through funding appropriated for State Occasions and Official Visits and Ceremonial Hospitality (CERHOS). For the period 1 July 2011 to 30 April 2012 \$329,236.49 (GST inclusive) was paid through the State Occasions and Official Visits function for the Prime Minister's official hospitality. Details are provided at [Attachment B](#).

The department did not incur any official hospitality or entertainment expenses during the period 1 July 2011 to 30 April 2012 on behalf of the following ministers or their offices:

- the Minister for the Arts, the Hon Simon Crean MP;
- the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on Digital Productivity, Senator the Hon Stephen Conroy;
- the Minister for Social Inclusion, the Hon Mark Butler MP;
- the then Minister for Social Inclusion, the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP;
- the then Minister for Privacy and Freedom of Information, the Hon Brendan O'Connor MP
- the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on Mental Health Reform, the Hon Mark Butler MP;
- the then Minister for Sport, Senator the Hon Mark Arbib;
- the Minister for Public Service and Integrity, the Hon Gary Gray AO MP;
- the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on the Centenary of ANZAC, the Hon Warren Snowdon MP;
- the Cabinet Secretary, the Hon Mark Dreyfus QC MP;

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- the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, Senator the Hon Jan McLucas; and
- the then Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, Senator the Hon Kate Lundy.

Entertainment provided at official functions hosted by the Prime Minister is also provided through funding appropriated for CERHOS. For the period 1 July 2011 to 30 April 2012, \$15,145.00 (GST inclusive) was paid through the State Occasions and Official Visits function for entertainment provided at the Prime Minister's official functions. Details are provided at [Attachment B](#).

#### **5 and 7**

PM&C does not allocate budget specifically for official hospitality and entertainment. As events are identified, they are costed and paid for from the existing departmental budget.

#### **6 and 8**

PM&C does not allocate budget specifically for official hospitality and entertainment for each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary. As events are identified, they are costed and paid for from the existing State Occasions and Official visits budget.

#### **9**

In line with the government's policy decision announced at the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook the department will look at improving efficiency by reductions in agency spend on official hospitality and entertainment where appropriate.

\*Official hospitality and entertainment costs for the Arts and Sports Group and National Mental Health Commission have not been included in this response. They will be answered separately by the Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport and the National Mental Health Commission respectively.