

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

SENATE ESTIMATES SESSION

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Community Cabinet Meetings

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: 82

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 12 July 2013

Number of pages: 2

Question:

1. Provide an update of how many Community Cabinet meetings has the Minister attended this financial year to date? List date and location.
2. How many Departmental Officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? List travel type, accommodate and any other expenses. Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Departmental Officers attend? List date and location.
3. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date?

Answer:

1. The former Prime Minister attended the eight Community Cabinet meetings so far held in 2012-13. Meetings have been held at:
 - a. 10 July 2012, Ipswich (QLD)
 - b. 5 September 2012, Orelia (WA)
 - c. 3 October 2012, Launceston (TAS)
 - d. 14 November 2012, Petrie (QLD)
 - e. 20 February 2013, Aberfoyle Park (SA)
 - f. 27 March 2013, Thornlie (WA)
 - g. 17 April 2013, Norwood (VIC)
 - h. 22 May 2013, Regents Park (NSW)

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2. PM&C sent one senior departmental officer to accompany the former 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 former Prime Minister is below.

Senior Departmental Officer Travel Costs

Meeting /Date	Travel costs *
Ipswich (QLD) 10 July 2012	\$924
Orelia (WA) 5 September 2012	\$1,358
Launceston (TAS) 3 October 2012	\$1,010
Petrie (QLD) 14 November 2012	\$563
Aberfoyle Park (SA) 20 February 2013	\$1,115
Thornlie (WA) 27 March 2013	\$3,838
Norwood (VIC) 17 April 2013	\$768
Regents Park (NSW) 22 May 2013	\$1,059

** Cost of flights, hire car and accommodation where required.*

3. On available invoices, the total estimated cost of the Ipswich meeting was \$63,534, Orelia \$70,691, Launceston \$57,710, Petrie \$46,788, Aberfoyle Park \$53,357, Thornlie \$67,509, Norwood \$56,301 and Regents Park \$43,630.