

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings 2006-2007, 30 October 2006

Question: PM 16

Outcome 1, Output 4.5

Topic: Hospitality costs at the dining facility in the Prime Minister's office.

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Senator Ray asked:

Yes, at the last round. It was a breakdown of the costs of hospitality provided at the meeting and dining room facility of the Prime Minister's office. Senator Faulkner effectively asked, 'Where do I find those costs?' and you said, 'In the appropriate program.' Well, thank you for that, but, nevertheless, just to be equally helpful, can we now have a breakdown of the costs? We were not going to ask this but, given the cleverness and glibness of the answer, we will. Can we have a breakdown of the costs for the year 2005-06, because you now know the appropriate program?

Answer:

There was no hospitality provided at the meeting and dining room facility in the Prime Minister's office during 2005-06. If such hospitality had been provided and related to the Guest of Government Programme, the Ceremonial and Hospitality Branch of the department would be responsible for meeting the costs from the State occasions and official visits administered appropriation. For other hospitality, the costs would be met from output 4.5 - Support for Ministerial Offices.