

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 17-20 October 2011

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.3 Strategic Policy and Implementation

Topic: Community Cabinets

Senator: Senator Ryan

Question reference number: 135

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 December 2011

Number of pages: 3

Questions

1. What was the cost of Ministers' travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held for the year 2010-11?
2. How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for the year 2010-11? What was the total cost of this travel?
3. How many Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for the year 2010-11? What was the total cost of this travel?
4. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers' office for the Community Cabinet meetings for the year 2010-11?
5. What was the cost of Ministers' travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD?
6. How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD? What was the total cost of this travel?
7. How many Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD? What was the total cost of this travel?
8. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers' office for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD?

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Answers:

1+2. As previously advised, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) has no involvement in the travel arrangements for attending ministers or their accompanying advisers. Meeting attendance costs for attending ministers and their accompanying advisers were met by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (Finance) and questions on this matter should be directed to that department.

3. 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 for responsible running the event. A table of travel costs for the senior departmental officer accompanying the Prime Minister is below.

Senior Departmental Officer Travel Costs

Meeting Date/Location	Travel costs *
Redcliffe – 2 Dec 2010	\$1,688
Fremantle – 30 Mar 2011	\$3,320
Modbury Heights – 19 May 2011	\$2,060
Palmerston – 29 June 2011	\$3,479

**Cost of flights, accommodation, and taxis*

4. Four meetings were held in 2010-11: Redcliffe Queensland; Fremantle Western Australia; Modbury Heights South Australia; and Palmerston Northern Territory. The total cost to PM&C to stage the four meetings was \$319,928.

As previously advised, PM&C has no involvement in the travel arrangements for attending ministers and their accompanying advisers or accompanying officials from other departments. Meeting attendance costs for other attending ministers and their accompanying advisers were met by Finance. Attendance costs for departmental officers from other departments were met by the relevant department. Questions on this matter should be directed to the relevant department.

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5+6. As previously advised, PM&C has no involvement in the travel arrangements for attending ministers or their accompanying advisers. Meeting attendance costs for attending ministers and their accompanying advisers were met by Finance and questions on this matter should be directed to that department.

7. 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 (based on available invoices) is below.

Senior Departmental Officer Travel Costs

Meeting Date/Location	Travel costs *
Yeronga – 1 Sep 2011	\$1,664
Kingston – 3 Oct 2011	\$1,748

**Cost of flights, accommodation, and taxis*

8. Three meetings have been held in this FYTD: Yeronga Queensland; Kingston Tasmania; and Werribee Victoria. The total cost to PM&C to stage the meetings this FYTD was \$167,806. This is based on available invoices. Invoices are yet to be received for the Werribee meeting held on Wednesday 9th November.

As previously advised, PM&C has no involvement in the travel arrangements for attending ministers and their accompanying advisers or accompanying officials from other departments. Meeting attendance costs for other attending ministers and their accompanying advisers were met by Finance and attendance costs for departmental officers from other departments were met by the relevant department. Questions on this matter should be directed to the relevant department.