

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 15-18 October 2012

PM&C Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.3 Support Services for Government Operations

Topic: Education Expenses

Senator: Senator Ryan

Question reference number: 118

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 30 November 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Has there been a change to the department/agency's guidelines on study since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012)? If yes, please provide details.

For this financial year to date, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, the employment classification of each participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). Also include the reason for the study and how it is beneficial for the department/agency.

Answer:

The Department's guidelines on study have not changed since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates.

The Department has spent a total of \$43,478 from 1 July 2012 to 30 September 2012 on centrally coordinated training through the Capability Development Fund. An additional amount of \$82,037 was reimbursed to employees under the studies assistance scheme.

Studies assistance is beneficial to the Department as it encourages the professional development of the individual employee and promotes organisational capability.

The Department does not record capability development data in a way that would readily allow answers to be provided to this remainder of this question. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.