

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Sub Program All

Question No. 120

Senator Barnett asked the following question at the hearing on 8 February 2010:

Since Budget Estimates:

- a. What was the cost of Ministers' travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held since Budget Estimates?
- b. How many Ministerial Staff and Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Cabinet meeting? What was the total cost of this travel?
- c. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

As at 8 February 2010 and since Budget Estimates, there have been eight Community Cabinet meetings, of which five were attended by the Attorney-General, the Hon Robert McClelland MP, and two were attended by the Minister for Home Affairs, the Hon Brendan O'Connor MP. Details of costs for the Ministers, ministerial staff and departmental officers are below:

Meeting	Minister	Cost	No of Ministerial Staff	Cost of Ministerial staff	No of Departmental Staff	Cost of Departmental Staff
Beenleigh QLD June 09	Attorney-General	\$1403.18	1	\$1002.56	2	\$2670.67
Elizabeth SA July 09	Attorney-General	\$1814.25	1	\$1059.58	2	\$2694.04
Geraldton WA October 09	Attorney-General	\$2808.64	1	\$2703.76	2	\$5304.86
Hobart TAS October 09	Attorney-General	\$2275.24	1	\$994.13	2	\$1093.94
Bathurst NSW November 09	Minister for Home Affairs	\$1858.96	1	\$1709.96	0	n/a

Meeting	Minister	Cost	No of Ministerial Staff	Cost of Ministerial staff	No of Departmental Staff	Cost of Departmental Staff
Townsville QLD December 09	Attorney-General	\$819.32	2	\$2035.68	0	n/a
Adelaide SA January 2010	Minister for Home Affairs	\$1330.18	1	\$876.35	1	\$1894.05
Totals	Ministers	\$12,309.77	Ministerial Staff	\$10,382.02	Departmental Staff	\$13,657.56

The costs for Ministers and ministerial staff are provided by the Department of Finance and Deregulation who are responsible for the official commercial travel of Ministers and ministerial staff within Australia.

The total cost to the Department and Ministers offices was \$36,349.35.