

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 23-24 MAY 2011**

**IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

**(BE11/0071) Program: Internal Product**

Senator Cash asked:

What was the reason for expenses met directly by the department in the media and communications unit for entertainment and hospitality?

*Answer:*

All expenditure for official hospitality by the National Communications Branch – – which from 1 July 2010 – 24 May 2011 totalled \$1691 – – was consistent with the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*. Official hospitality expenditure by the National Communications Branch related to the reception of visitors to the branch who were providing advice or services and was in accordance with the department's policy for the use of public funds for the purpose of establishing or maintaining business relationships with key non-DIAC stakeholders.