

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0507) PROGRAM – Internal Product

Senator Humphries (Written) asked:

What is the Department/Agency's meeting spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total meeting spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs. What meeting spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what meeting spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.

Answer:

Department

The Department does not keep detailed records of meeting dates, locations and purposes. The Department's corporate systems do not separately identify spending on meetings. To provide the level of detail requested in this question is an unreasonable diversion of resources.

Minister's and Parliamentary Secretary's offices

For the 2012-13 financial year to date, the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) expended **\$302.73** on behalf of the Hon Chris Bowen, MP, former Minister for Immigration and Citizenship for one meeting to announce the Greek working holiday maker arrangements. The meeting was held on 14 August 2012 in a committee room at Parliament House Canberra.

For the 2012-13 financial year to date, the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) expended **\$789.14** on behalf of the Hon Brendan O'Connor, MP, Minister for Immigration and Citizenship (Minister O'Connor) for one meeting. Minister O'Connor hosted senior representatives of the government of Sri Lanka on 2 May 2013 in a meeting room at the Cinnamon Grand Hotel, Colombo Sri Lanka.

For the 2012-13 financial year to date, DIAC has not expended funds for Senator the Hon Kate Lundy, Minister for Multicultural Affairs.

For the 2012-13 financial year to date, DIAC has not expended funds for Senator the Hon Matt Thistlethwaite, Parliamentary Secretary for Multicultural Affairs.

DIAC is not currently planning any meeting spend for either Minister or the Parliamentary Secretary for the remainder of the 2012/13 financial year.