

Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport

Additional Estimates 13 - 16 February 2012

Question: 48

Topic: Hospitality Spend FYTD

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 3

What is the Department's hospitality spend for this FYTD?

Please outline in detail: date, location, purpose and cost of all events.

Answer:

Expenses relating to official hospitality events paid by the Department during the period 1 July 2011- 31 January 2012 totalled \$20,051.72.

Details of the events are below:

Description of function	Date/ Location	Amount \$ (GST excl)	How the function supports government business
Foundation For Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR) Board Meeting –provision of light refreshments.	21 Sep 2011 Canberra	236.03	The Foundation works for the benefit of rural and regional Australia and supports regional communities through a range of projects and initiatives.
Ministerial Advisory Council on Regional Australia (MACRA) Tasmanian IGA visit– provision of meals.	14 Oct 2011 Launceston 15-16 Oct 2011 Hobart	3,246.10	Facilitate discussion of the economic diversification of Tasmania; and to help determine next steps in implementing the Inter-Governmental Agreement.
Recognition of Local Government community consultations – provision of light refreshments.	20 Oct 2011 Dubbo, 25 Oct 2011 Townsville, 26 Oct 2011 Launceston, 1 Nov 2011 Adelaide	1,749.36	Engage with key regional stakeholders/public – Local Government Officials and community personnel.

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Dinner for the NT and northern WA Regional Development Australia (RDA) committees.	6 Dec 2011 Belmont WA	138.79	Facilitation and enhancement of strong cross-regional engagement by RDA committees in Northern WA and build links between those RDA committees.
Ministerial Advisory Council on Regional Australia (MACRA) Meetings - provision of dinner.	4 Aug 2011 Melbourne	1,559.09	Facilitate discussions with the Ministerial AC Meeting Melbourne advising the Minister for Regional Australia of issues relevant to the portfolio.
Ministerial Advisory Council on Regional Australia (MACRA) Meetings - provision of light refreshments.	24 Oct 2011 Melbourne	393.04	Facilitate discussions with the Ministerial AC Meeting Melbourne advising the Minister for Regional Australia of issues relevant to the portfolio.
Minister Crean meeting with Harold Mitchell AC to undertake arts review - provision of lunch.	29 Sep 2011 Melbourne	175.00	Harold Mitchell is a leading business figure in Australia who brings extensive strategic leadership to chair the review of private sector support for the arts in Australia.
Upfront business meeting with Mr Martin Albrecht AC and Major-General Dick Wilson – provision of lunch for two people.	15 Nov 2011 Milton QLD	97.77	Facilitate discussions relating to the Inspectorates' role of assuring value for money in the reconstruction of Queensland following 10/11 floods and Tropical Cyclone Yasi.
First meeting of the Local Government Ministers' Forum – pre-dinner function and dinner for 25 people.	15 Nov 2011 Canberra	3,374.56	Dinner proposed to enable members of the newly formed Local Government Ministers' Forum to meet and discuss issues and liaise directly with the Chair, the Hon Simon Crean MP.
Reconstruction inspectorate Visit to Brisbane - Inspectorate meeting and tour of Country Queensland - dinner provided to 8 people	14 Oct 2011 Brisbane	680.18	Enable members of the Reconstruction Inspectorate to continue discussions and plan their visit to proposed locations.
Meeting with SA Regional Development Australia – breakfast provided to 6 people.	5 Oct 2011 Adelaide	111.00	Strengthen the relationship between the Commonwealth and the RDAs in South Australia, and building an understanding of SA RDA issues.
NAIDOC Week Function – 50 people – provision of light refreshments.	6 July 2011 Canberra	363.64	The Department hosting of NAIDOC week function to support key stakeholders.

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Regional Network Meetings hosted by the department	15 Sep 2011 Adelaide 22 Aug 2011 Townsville 9 Nov 2011 Norfolk Island 14 Sep 2011 Newcastle 29 Aug 2011 08 Sep 2011 Canberra	1,180.81	Facilitate discussions with key Regional stakeholders.
Welcome Dinner Regional Development Australia Queensland Dinner function – provided to 30 people.	July 2011 Brisbane	2,160.00	Facilitation and enhancement of strong cross-regional engagement and Welcome Regional Development Queensland.
Northern Australia Ministerial Forum – provision of dinner for 15 people.	27 Jul 2011 Port Hedland	1,889.54	To facilitate discussion of inter-jurisdictional issues involving the key policy priorities for Northern Australia.
Metro Regional Development Australia Workshop – dinner provided to 13 people.	10 Aug 2011 Brisbane	840.45	Discuss workshop with key regional stakeholders of the broader engagement strategy with Queensland Government and Queensland Regional Development Australia committees.
Ministerial Advisory Council on Regional Australia (MACRA) – provision of dinner to 15 people.	14 Nov 2011 Launceston	1,470.00	Facilitate discussions with the Ministerial AC Meeting Tasmania to consider options in implementing the Inter-Governmental Agreement.
Australian Government Reconstruction Inspectorate Committee Meeting.	29 Aug 2011 Brisbane	386.36	Enable members of the Reconstruction Inspectorate to continue discussions and plan their visit to proposed locations
Total official hospitality		<u><u>20,051.72</u></u>	

NOTE: As financial and staffing records for the Office for the Arts and the Office for Sport were not transferred to the Department until February 2012, information pertaining to these entities is not included in the answer.

The answer does, however, include information about the Minister for the Arts' expenditure on official hospitality because prior to the transfer of the Office for the Arts and the Office for Sport to the Department, an arrangement had been reached with the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, which saw the Department cover the costs of hospitality provided by the Minister for the Arts. This arrangement recognised the Minister's dual portfolios and that such hospitality was an infrequent occurrence.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport

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Question: 49

Topic: Entertainment Spend

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

What is the Department's entertainment spend for this FYTD?

Please outline in detail: date, location, purpose and cost of all events.

Answer:

The Department's spend on entertainment for the period 1 July 2011 to 31 January 2012 is nil.

NOTE: As financial and staffing records for the Office for the Arts and the Office for Sport were not transferred to the Department until February 2012, information pertaining to these entities is not included in the answer.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport

Additional Estimates 13 - 16 February 2012

Question: 50

Topic: Consultancies

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 3

How many consultancies were undertaken this FYTD? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (i.e. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.

Answer:

Since responding to Senate Ryan's question on notice 154 from October 2011 Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing, the Department has entered into eleven consultancy arrangements up to 31 January 2012, listed at Attachment A, with a total dollar value of \$1,019,032 (GST inclusive).

The following variations and amendments have also been made during the period:

- A contract for research services for Local Government Water Management let to the University of Technology Sydney was increased from \$150,000 to \$208,604 reflecting an increase in the scope of works and an extension from 30 August 2011 to 30 March 2012.
- The regional broadband study let to Dandolo Partners was increased from \$70,000 to \$79,227 to reflect the time taken for stakeholder engagement.
- The review of Illawarra Regional Development Australia Committee's Regional Plan let to Marcoplan Australia was increased from \$29,500 to \$39,500 following an increase in scope to include an implementation plan and an extension from 21 October 2011 to 31 December 2011.
- A consultancy for the performance of a review of disaster reconstruction projects was previously reported as having been let to the Australian Government Solicitor instead of Oakton Services Pty Ltd. There was also a minor amendment to the previously reported amount, from \$26,752 to \$30,252.

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Attachment A

Consultancies registered from 1 November 2012 to 31 January 2012

#	Supplier Name	Description	Procurement			Value (GST Inc. AUD)
			Method	Start Date	End Date	
1	ACIL TASMAN PTY LTD	Norfolk Island economic development strategy and action plan	Panel	7-Oct-11	24-Feb-12	\$181,389
2	HELEN WATTS	Independent film assessment	Direct	2-Nov-2011	30-Mar-2012	\$4,050
3	SANDSTAR FILMS PTY LTD	Independent film assessment	Direct	21-Nov-2011	30-Nov-2011	\$3,630
4	MICHAEL LOCKWOOD T/A MICHAEL LOCKWOOD CONSULTING	Provision of advice on disaster recovery and Queensland State and Local government matters	Direct	25-Nov-11	30-Jun-12	\$69,998
5	ERNST & YOUNG	Review of local infrastructure prioritisation and funding	Panel	29-Nov-11	31-Mar-12	\$161,270
6	MARSDEN JACOB ASSOCIATES PTY LTD	Provision of Murray- Darling Basin regional economic and diversification proposals	Direct	29-Nov-11	29-March-12	\$195,000
7	RMCG STANDEN FAMILY TRUST & OTHERS	Provision of Murray- Darling Basin regional economic and diversification proposals	Direct	29-Nov-11	29-March-12	\$160,860
8	KENNETH HAMMOND	Queensland reconstruction project review	Direct	9-Dec-11	19-Jan-12	\$20,578
9	MORETON CONSULTING PTY LTD	Norfolk Island review	Direct	10-Jan-12	29-Feb-12	\$50,000

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#	Supplier Name	Description	Procurement			Value (GST Inc. AUD)
			Method	Start Date	End Date	
10	ROYAL MELBOURNE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	Latrobe Valley adjustment opportunities	Direct	25-Jan-12	30-Apr-12	\$143,000
11	PARSONS BRINCKERHOFF AUSTRALIA PTY	Tier two review of disaster reconstruction projects	Panel	15-Feb-12	30-Apr-12	\$29,257

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Question: 51

Topic: Foxtel / Austar Expenses

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Does the Department subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)?

- a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.
- b) What has been the cost this FYTD?

Answer:

- a) The Department subscribes to pay TV under the shared services arrangements with the Department of Infrastructure and Transport. The cost is \$57 per month per subscription. There are five subscriptions. They are limited to news channels for the Senior Executive to enable them to keep abreast of current events.
- b) Cost FYTD (1 July 2011 – 31 January 2012) is \$1,995.00.

NOTE: As financial and staffing records for the Office for the Arts and the Office for Sport were not transferred to the Department until February 2012, information pertaining to these entities is not included in the answer.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Question: 52

Topic: Newspaper Subscriptions

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 2

Does the Department subscribe to newspapers?

- a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.
- b) What has been the cost this FYTD?

Answer:

- a) Yes.
 - i. To keep abreast of current affairs and issues at the national, state and local community level.

Subscriptions:

- The Australian;
- The Sydney Morning Herald;
- The Canberra Times;
- The Financial Review;
- The Age;
- The Telegraph;
- The Herald Sun;
- The Islander (Christmas Island);
- Newcastle Herald;
- Illawarra Mercury;
- The Advocate (Burnie);
- The Examiner (Launceston);
- The Mercury (Hobart);
- The Tasmanian Country;

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- The Bendigo Advisor; and
 - The Weekly Advisor (Bendigo).
- b) Cost FYTD (1/7/2011 – 31/1/2012) is \$13,519.42

NOTE: As financial and staffing records for the Office for the Arts and the Office for Sport were not transferred to the Department until February 2012, information pertaining to these entities is not included in the answer.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport

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Question: 53

Topic: Magazine Subscriptions

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Does your Department subscribe to magazines?

- a) If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.
- b) What has been the cost this FYTD?

Answer:

- a) Yes, the Department subscribes to the following magazines to enable staff to keep up to date with issues impacting on both the work and management of the Department. Subscriptions have been renewed for the full financial year.
 - Workplace Express – for IR/HR Practitioners – \$300.00
 - The Australian Local Government Guide - \$817.27
 - The Economist - \$365.00
- b) During the reporting period (1 July 2011 – 31 January 2012), the Department has paid annual subscriptions for the above magazines, \$1,482.27.

NOTE: As financial and staffing records for the Office for the Arts and the Office for Sport were not transferred to the Department until February 2012, information pertaining to these entities is not included in the answer.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport

Additional Estimates 13 - 16 February 2012

Question: 54

Topic: Travel Expenses

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

For this FYTD, please detail all travel (itemised separately) for departmental officers that accompanied the Minister on their travel. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.

Answer:

The following information is from the period last reported (*QON 176, Supplementary Budget Estimates, 17-20 October 2011*), 7 September 2011 to 31 January 2012.

Date of Travel	Destination & Reason for Travel	Account Name	Cost \$
28/11/2011 - 31/11/2011	Deniliquin & Bendigo; Meeting with stakeholders re: Economic Diversification in Murray-Darling Basin	Domestic Airfares/Fees	1,103.56
		Accommodation	503.15
		Meals	48.00
		Car Hire and Taxi Fares	193.81
		Out of Pocket (incls parking, tolls, bus, rail, phone calls etc)	46.00
		TOTAL	1,894.52
1/02/2012 - 2/02/2012	Renmark; Meeting with stakeholders re: Economic Diversification in Murray-Darling Basin	Domestic Airfares/Fees	1,109.94
		Accommodation	203.95
		Meals	71.28
		Car Hire and Taxi Fares	129.19
		Out of Pocket (incls parking, tolls, bus, rail, phone calls etc)	29.50
		TOTAL	1,543.86

NOTE: As financial and staffing records for the Office for the Arts and the Office for Sport were not transferred to the Department until February 2012, information pertaining to these entities is not included in the answer.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport

Additional Estimates 13 - 16 February 2012

Question: 55

Topic: Employee Travel Expenses FYTD

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 2

For this FYTD, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of the Department. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.

Answer:

The Department does not record travel expenditure in a way that would allow answers to be provided to these questions without an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

All travel undertaken by the Department relates to: delivering policies and programs across regional Australia; managing the Australian Government's interest in the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory and Norfolk Island; administering non self-governing Territories of Ashmore and Cartier Islands, Christmas Island, the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the Coral Sea Islands and Jervis Bay Territory; and providing assurance around Queensland and Victorian flood reconstruction works.

Travel is undertaken to assess and evaluate the impacts of policies and programs in the regions and build on community strengths to better target government programs. The Department plays a key role in building relationships and engaging with Australia's regions and communities through the Regional Development Australia network across the country and liaising with local councils. The Department is also responsible for a range of grants and programs including the funding and management of infrastructure projects across the country and oversight of the Australian Government's contribution to reconstruction efforts recovering from natural disasters.

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A summary of expenses by travel category is provided below and is from the period last reported (QoN 177, Supplementary Budget Estimates 17-20 October 2011), 1 October 2011 to 31 January 2012. There were no gifts or entertainment related to travel for the period.

Period from 1 October 2011 – 31 January 2012	
Airfares - tickets and luggage fees	\$321,378.04
Accommodation	\$79,095.68
Car Hire and Taxi Fares	\$53,349.13
Travel - Other	\$3,017.82
Meals - personal meals for employees	\$20,586.12
Out of pocket expenses - public transport fares, parking and other reasonable minor purchases	\$5,315.76
Passport processing, visa applications	\$565.59

NOTE: As financial and staffing records for the Office for the Arts and the Office for Sport were not transferred to the Department until February 2012, information pertaining to these entities is not included in the answer.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport

Additional Estimates 13 - 16 February 2012

Question: 56

Topic: Educational Expenses

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 2

For this FYTD, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for the Department. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant.

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Answer:

The following information is from the period last reported (*QoN180, Supplementary Budget Estimates, 17-20 October 2011*), 27 October 2011 to 31 January 2012. The total cost of education expenses (in-house training and tertiary studies) for the Department is \$17,775. During this period, the Department also conducted in-house training in the form of a professional seminar and corporate business processes. The cost to provide this training is nil as it is provided on Departmental premises by Departmental staff.

Type of course	Total cost	Cost per participant	Number of participants	Hours study leave granted (where applicable)
Bachelor of Communication	\$1,589	\$1,589	1	21 hrs during semester 2 2011
Master of Social Research	\$2,046	\$2,046	1	44 hrs during semester 2 2011
Masters Degree in Public Policy	\$1,548	\$1,548	1	43.5 hrs during semester 2 2011
Graduate Diploma of Organisational Communication	\$2,125	\$2,125	1	65 hrs during semester 2 2010
Graduate Diploma Economics	\$6,000	\$6,000	1	105 hours during semester 1 2011
Bachelor of Commerce	\$2,247	\$2,247	1	0
PEP Coaching – Effective Workplace Relations	\$2,220	\$2,220	1	0

NOTE: As financial and staffing records for the Office for the Arts and the Office for Sport were not transferred to the Department until February 2012, information pertaining to these entities is not included in the answer.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport

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Question: 57

Topic: Vehicles

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

1. How many cars are owned by the Department? Where is the car/s located?
What is the car/s used for?
2. What is the cost of each car owned by the Department this FYTD?
3. How far has each car owned by the Department travelled this FYTD?

Answer:

1. The Department administers a number of vehicles including ambulances, fire vehicles and utility vehicles in the Territories under Outcome 2.
2. Not applicable.
3. Not applicable.

NOTE: As financial and staffing records for the Office for the Arts and the Office for Sport were not transferred to the Department until February 2012, information pertaining to these entities is not included in the answer.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport

Additional Estimates 13 - 16 February 2012

Question: 58

Topic: Taxi / Cabcharge Spend FYTD

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

1. How much has the Department spent on taxis and Cabcharge this FYTD?
2. Does the Department have guidelines for the use of Cabcharge?

Answer:

1. For the period 1 July 2011 to 31 January 2012, the Department has spent \$66,457.92 on taxis and Cabcharges.
2. The Department has guidelines for the use of Cabcharge in its Chief Executive Instructions (CEIs) under Travel and Credit Cards.

NOTE: As financial and staffing records for the Office for the Arts and the Office for Sport were not transferred to the Department until February 2012, information pertaining to these entities is not included in the answer.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Question: 59

Topic: Credit Cards

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

1. How many staff in the Department have a corporate credit card? What is their classification?
2. How is corporate credit card use monitored?
3. What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered?

Answer:

1. As at 31 January 2012, the Department has 226 credit cards. Staff levels of card holders range from APS 2 through to the Secretary.
2. See response to same question - number 187 from the October 2011 Supplementary Budget Estimates.
3. See response to same question - number 187 from the October 2011 Supplementary Budget Estimates.

NOTE: As financial and staffing records for the Office for the Arts and the Office for Sport were not transferred to the Department until February 2012, information pertaining to these entities is not included in the answer.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Question: 60

Topic: FOI Requests

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

1. How many FOI requests has the Department received this FYTD?
2. How many have been granted or denied?

Answer:

1. Between 1 July 2011 and 16 February 2012, the Department had received 15 FOI requests.
2. Of the 15 requests received: 1 request was released in full; 1 request was released in part; 9 requests were withdrawn and 4 requests are currently in progress.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport

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Question: 61

Topic: Media Monitoring

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

1. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etc, provided to the Minister's office this FYTD?
2. Which agency or agencies provided these services?

Answer:

1. Media monitoring services for the Minister's Office and the Department are provided in a single bundle. The total cost of media monitoring services provided to the Department and the Minister's Office between 1 November 2011 and 31 January 2012 is \$81,120.68.
2. Media Monitors Pty Ltd.

NOTE: As financial and staffing records for the Office for the Arts and the Office for Sport were not transferred to the Department until February 2012, information pertaining to these entities is not included in the answer.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport

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Question: 62

Topic: Creation of new Department

Asked By: Senator JOYCE

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

1. What is the cost of developing the new Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport?
2. Have there been any changes to staffing on the Regional Australia side of the Department?
3. If so, please outline the staffing changes as a result of the development of the new Department?

Answer:

1. This cost has not been quantified due to the complexity of the process. It was achieved within the Department's existing funding envelope.
2. Yes.
3. The Department received 15 corporate support staff from Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, which are now within Corporate Services Division.

Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport

Additional Estimates 13 - 16 February 2012

Question: 63

Topic: Travel FYTD - Minister Crean

Asked By: Senator BUSHBY

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

1. For the financial year to date, please detail all domestic travel (itemised separately) undertaken by Minister Crean, by air, other than by regular commercial scheduled air services.
2. For each such incidence, please include dates, locations, details of what the travel was for and the full cost, providing separate account of charter costs (and details of the charter operator), accommodation, security, food, beverages, gifts, entertainment and all other expenses.
3. If any such incidence was subsidised in part or full by any person or entity other than the Department or any other Federal Government Department, please provide itemised details stating the name of such person or entity, what aspect of the incidence was subsidised and to what extent, noting the actual cost that was subsidised.

Answer:

1. Details of official travel by Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries and staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* are paid for by the Department of Finance and Deregulation. For VIP Charter flights, the information can be sourced from the Department of Defence.
Details of Parliamentarians expenditure on entitlements is reported every six months in a report *Parliamentarians' Expenditure on Entitlements paid by the Department of Finance and Deregulation* which can be accessed at www.finance.gov.au/publications/parliamentarians-reporting
2. Not applicable.
3. Not applicable.

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Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport

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Question: 64

Topic: Efficiency Dividend 2012-13

Asked By: Senator BERNARDI

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

1. What specific savings measures have been identified in order to achieve the one-off efficiency dividend in 2012-13.
2. What is the amount of each savings measure.

Answer:

1. The Department is working through its budget in detail to assess and determine where savings will be achieved for 2012-13. Refer to Page 92 of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee Hansard of Tuesday 14 February 2012 for additional information.
2. Specific savings targets will be developed as part of the 2012-13 internal budgeting process and reported to the Executive.