

## Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

**Agency - Comcare**

**Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000373**

**Senator Ludwig provided in writing.**

#### **Question**

##### **Comcare - Staff Awards**

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. Has the Department / Agency given out awards to staff for any reason? If yes:
  - a. What was the reason for the awards?
  - b. What was the criteria for the awards?
  - c. What form did the award take? (e.g. Certificate, gift vouchers etc)
  - d. How much was spent on the award?
2. How were the awards presented?
3. Who presented the awards?
4. Was there a ceremony or party for the awards? If yes:
  - a. Where was it held?
  - b. Was there a fee for the venue? If yes, how much?
  - c. How much was spent on catering?
  - d. How many people attended?
  - e. Did the minister attend?
  - f. Did the minister's staff attend? If yes, how many?

#### **Answer**

1. Yes, Australia Day Awards were presented on 29 January 2016.
  - a. Comcare has actively participated in the *Australia Day Achievement Medallions Program* (known as the Australia Day Awards) since 2002. This program is promoted by the National Australia Day Council and provides an opportunity for government departments/agencies to acknowledge the contribution of employees aligned with the national celebrations of Australia Day. As part of this program, Comcare identifies and rewards individuals and teams who have contributed significantly to Comcare, the APS, or the community at large in the previous year.
  - b. The criteria for the awards are:
    - Impact Award, i.e. nominee accomplished a significant achievement with a positive impact for Comcare, injured workers, colleagues and/or other stakeholders
    - Collaboration Award, i.e. nominee contributed to a partnership (externally or within the organisation) or demonstrated significant collaboration to the benefit of Comcare, injured workers, colleagues, other stakeholders

- Innovation Award, i.e. nominee has taken an innovative approach, problem solving or new ideas that have benefited Comcare, injured workers, colleagues and/or other stakeholders (e.g. productivity, increased safety, improved service delivery etc)
  - Diversity Award, i.e. nominee has driven programs and initiatives that support diversity and inclusiveness within Comcare
- c. The award took the form of a framed certificate and an engraved Australia Day medallion.
  - d. A total amount of \$374 was spent, or \$46.75 per award.
2. The awards were presented at a ceremony held on 29 January 2016.
  3. Comcare's CEO and Deputy CEO presented the awards.
  4.
    - a. Yes, the awards were presented at a ceremony held on 29 January 2016 in Comcare's offices.
    - b. No fee was involved for the venue as it was held internally.
    - c. \$378.96.
    - d. Approximately 200 people attended the ceremony.
    - e. No.
    - f. No.