

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2013-2014**

Cross Portfolio

Department of Education Question No. ED0347_14

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Dept/Ag - Christmas party costs

Question

1. List what functions were held by the department/agency for either Christmas or end of calendar year since 7 September 2013 a. What was the cost of each of these functions? b. How was the money identified? c. What was the location of these functions? d. Provide a table of food and alcohol purchased for the function.

Answer

DEPARTMENT

A staff Christmas party was held at the Australian Institute of Sport on 13 December 2013. The function was open to all staff from the former Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) and was organised by the staff social club. The function was primarily paid for by ticket sales and social club fundraising plus a contribution from the former department.

An end of year function was held for 38 Senior Executive Service on departmental premises at 50 Marcus Clarke Street on 5 December 2013. The cost of the function was paid for personally by the Executive.

AGENCY

The Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL), the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) and the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) have provided the following response:

- Nil.

The Australian Research Council (ARC) has provided the following response:

- The ARC holds no functions for either Christmas or end of calendar year. These functions are held by the ARC Social Club. No Agency money is paid.

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority has provided the following response:

Question	Answer
a. What was the cost of each of these functions?	ACARA's contribution was \$2,970.00 (staff Christmas party). Attending staff also contributed.

b. How was the money identified?	The amount was consistent with the previous year's contribution by ACARA
c. What was the location of these functions?	Shangri-La Hotel Sydney
d. Provide a table of food and alcohol purchased for the function.	Roast Lamb/Turkey with vegetables Vegetarian Terrine Chocolate mousse/Lime Parfait Hardys Brut Reserve Wolf Blass Red Label Chardonay Wolf Blass Red Label Cabernet Merlot Selection of Australian Beers