Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES - 16 FEBRUARY 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Committees and Advisory Boards

Question reference number: HS 10

Senator: Fifield

Type of question: Hansard page 102

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Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator FIFIELD: Ms Campbell, could you please take on notice providing for the committee a list of the range of committees and advisory boards, some of which will be established as a result of legislation, some of which will be things which have been created on an ad hoc basis, that there are in the portfolio. I do not mean interdepartmental committees. I do not mean internal departmental working groups but bodies which are, I guess, of an advisory nature which may have external people appointed to them and things of that sort.

Ms Campbell: Yes.

Senator FIFIELD: Please provide that and details of the number of staff who are dedicated or partly dedicated to servicing those particular bodies and the operating costs for them.

Answer:

Name of advisory body	Legislation or Department initiated	Times per year this advisory body meets	Approximate number of staff servicing this advisory body	Estimated total average operating cost (excluding staff cost) per meeting 2011-12
Service Delivery Advisory Group (SDAG)	Department	4	1 FTE	\$12,590*
National Place Based Advisory Group	Department (established by Minister in 2011)	4	1 FTE	\$7,000
National Multicultural Advisory Group	Department	1 x 2 day meeting 2 x ½ day meetings	0.1 FTE	\$30,000
Consumer Consultative Group (CCG)	Department	3	1 FTE	\$14,482*

Name of advisory body	Legislation or Department initiated	Times per year this advisory body meets	Approximate number of staff servicing this advisory body	Estimated total average operating cost (excluding staff cost) per meeting 2011-12
National Welfare Rights Network Biannual Meeting	Department	` 2	0.3 FTE	\$3,826
Child Support National Stakeholder Engagement Group (CSNSEG)	Department	3	1.5 FTE	\$3,000 (DHS portion of costs)
Local Advisory Group	Department (established by Minister in 2012)	As needed	0.5 FTE	Nil
Mental Health Service Delivery Working Party	Department	6	0.1 FTE	\$2,430
Older Australians Working Group	Department	4	0.2 FTE	\$7,122
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual and Intersexual Working Group	Department	To be determined	0.2 FTE	\$2,200
Carer Service Delivery Reference Group	Department	1	0.1 FTE	\$4,724
Aged Care Industry Working Group	Department	2	<0.1 FTE	\$180
Stakeholder Consultative Group	Department	3	<0.1 FTE	\$9,742
Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) Subcommittee	Department	3	0.1 FTE	\$9,154
National Student Servicing Partnership Group	Department	1 – 2	0.3 FTE	\$3,500
Small Business Superannuation Clearing House Industry Working Group Meeting	Department	4	<0.1 FTE	\$3,150
Small Business Superannuation Clearing House Employer Working Group Meeting	Department	4	<0.1 FTE	Nil

^{*}Note: The last meeting of SDAG and CCG, held in April 2012, was a joint meeting of the two groups. Significant preparation work is to be completed through 2012 to bring the two groups together. The joint meetings will result in savings which will be harvested in 2012-13 financial year.