

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 13 and 15 February 2013**

**Question: E13-077**

**OUTCOME 0:** Whole of Portfolio

**Topic:** Hospitality and Entertainment

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Senator Boyce

**Question:**

- a) What is the Department/Agency's hospitality 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 hospitality spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
- b) What is the Department/Agency's entertainment 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 entertainment spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
- c) What hospitality 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 hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
- d) What entertainment 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 entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
- e) Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved and what are the estimated savings over each year of the forward estimates?

**Answer:**

- a) The Department of Health and Ageing's hospitality expenditure for the period 1 July 2012 to 31 January 2013 was \$12,454 as per the itemised list below.

**Department of Health and Ageing**

<b>Payment Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Cost of Hospitality (GST exclusive)</b>
11-Jul-12	National Press Club, Canberra	Staff attendance at speech by National President of Alzheimer's Australia	\$72
27-Jul-12	Adelaide	Staff participation in the Corporate Cup walk/run event	\$316
1-Aug-12	National Press Club, Canberra	Staff attendance at speech by Chair of the National Mental Health Commission	\$285
6-Aug-12	Chianti Restaurant, Adelaide	National Aged Care Conference dinner	\$601
9-Aug-12	Hotel Realm, Canberra	Executive Assistant of the Year annual dinner.	\$1,527
9-Aug-12	Lake Burley Griffin, Canberra	Department's registration for Dragon Boat Challenge Regatta	\$818
23-Aug-12	Hotel Realm, Canberra	Business planning forum	\$160
24-Aug-12	Department of Health and Ageing, Canberra	Staff awards and recognition function	\$219
24-Aug-12	Hotel Realm, Canberra	Business planning forum	\$310
29-Aug-12	National Press Club, Canberra	Staff attendance at speech by Race Discrimination Commissioner	\$210
6-Nov-12	Brisbane Marriott Hotel, Brisbane	Welcome reception for Pacific Senior Health Officials Network annual meeting	\$708
7-Nov-12	Customs House, Brisbane	Official dinner for Pacific Senior Health Officials Network annual meeting	\$2,610
8-Nov-12	Brisbane Marriott Hotel, Brisbane	Farewell dinner for Pacific Senior Health Officials Network annual meeting	\$1,266
29-Nov-12	Courgette Restaurant, Canberra	Staff attendance at farewell dinner	\$112
5-Dec-12	Department of Health & Ageing, Canberra	Hospitality for Business planning meeting	\$75
18-Dec-12	Department of Health & Ageing, Canberra	Portfolio Chief Executive Officers' meeting	\$464

## Therapeutic Goods Administration

Payment Date	Location	Purpose	Cost of Hospitality (GST exclusive)
25-Sep-12	Italian Village Restaurant, Sydney	Welcome dinner for the International Medical Device Regulators Forum Committee meeting	\$1,205

## National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS)

Payment Date	Location	Purpose	Cost of Hospitality (GST exclusive)
19-Jul-12	Maritime Museum Terrace Room, Sydney	After conference hospitality for Inventory Multi-tiered Assessment and Prioritisation Launch	\$842
17-Dec-12	NICNAS Boardroom, Sydney	Executive meeting	\$100

## Minister for Health

Payment Date	Location	Purpose	Cost of Hospitality (GST exclusive)
29-Nov-12	Canberra, ACT	Breakfast meeting, Female Genital Mutilation discussion with Victorian Health Stakeholders	\$77
12-Dec-12	Melbourne, Victoria	Meeting with Victorian Health Stakeholders	\$477

- b) Note that hospitality and entertainment have the same definition under the Department's Finance Business Rules, which are consistent with the Australian Taxation Office ruling regarding entertainment by way of food or drink. Refer to Question on Notice E13-077 a).
- c) Corporate systems do not allow for this information to be collected in one report. Therefore, to provide the level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources which the Department is not currently in a position to undertake.
- d) Note that hospitality and entertainment have the same definition under the Department's Finance Business Rules. Refer to Question on Notice E13-077 c).
- e) The Department continues to seek to reduce and minimise expenditure on hospitality, for example utilising the Departments' own facilities including our video conferencing facility which was implemented in early 2012 where possible and appropriate. The Department does not specifically budget in the forward estimates by this class of expenditure.