

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES - 29 MAY 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Hospitality and Entertainment

Question reference number: HS 67

Senator: McKenzie

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 27 July 2012

Number of pages: 2

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.
- b) 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 each event.
- c) What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
- d) 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 each event.
- e) What is the Department/Agency planning on spending on hospitality? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
- f) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.
- g) What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
- h) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.
- i) Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved?

Answer:

- a) The combined hospitality, food and beverage expenditure incurred by the department for the period 1 July 2011 to 31 March 2012 is \$1,127,969.
Due to the large amount of information required to provide details for date, location, purpose and cost of events, the preparation of an answer to this question would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.

b) Nil.

c) Nil.

d) Nil.

e) Estimated cost of hospitality for 2011-12 is \$1,450,014.

Due to the large amount of information required to provide details for date, location, purpose and cost of events, the preparation of an answer to this question would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.

f) None.

g) None.

h) None.

i) No specific spending reductions are planned.

A substantial amount of the expenditure on hospitality relates to community support services. For example, in 2010-11 DHS delivered 2,700 Financial Information Services seminars across the country and provided tea, coffee and biscuits at these events.

DHS has a strong governance framework and all expenditure is approved by authorised delegates.