

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES - 29 MAY 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Community Cabinet Meetings

Question reference number: HS 70

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 was the cost of Minister's travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held this financial year to date?
- b) How many Community Cabinet meetings has the Minister attended? List date and location.
- c) How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Ministerial Staff attend? List date and location.
- d) How many Departmental Officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? List travel type, accommodate and any other expenses.
- e) Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Departmental Officers attend? List date and location.
- f) What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date?

Answer:

- a) These arrangements are administered by the Department of Finance and Deregulation.
- b) Two. Former Minister for Human Services, the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, attended the Franklin Community Cabinet meeting in Tasmania on 3 October 2011. The Minister for Human Services, Senator the Hon Kim Carr, attended the Berwick Community Cabinet meeting in Victoria on 16 May 2012.
- c) These arrangements are administered by the Department of Finance and Deregulation.

- d) Three. The approximate cost of travel was \$2,016 broken down as follows: airfares \$1,095; accommodation \$360; travel allowance \$254; and car/taxi fares \$307.
- e) Franklin, Tasmania on 3 October 2011 (two officers) and Berwick, Victoria on 16 May 2012 (one officer).
- f) The department does not hold this information.