

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

National e-Health Transition Authority (NeHTA)

Budget Estimates 2012-13

Question: 7

OUTCOME 10.2: e-Health

Topic: Entertainment

Senator Boyce asked:

When NEHTA previously disclosed at Senate Estimates that it had only spent \$37,000 on entertainment between July 2011 and February 2012 did that \$37,000 include all expenditure on stakeholder engagement events, conferences and dinners?

- a. If not, why not?**
- b. What did that \$37,000 include? And why were other functions excluded?**
- c. Can NEHTA provide a detailed list of expenditure on all stakeholder engagement events, conferences and dinners?**

Answer:

(a) & (b)

No. NEHTA closely follows the Australian Tax Office (ATO) detailed guidelines regarding how the FBT and income tax legislation should be applied to the treatment of entertainment expenses. The treatment of these expenses in NEHTA's books of account is in accordance with ATO guidelines and accepted accounting principles and normal practice of companies whose activities are similar to NEHTA's.

(c)

Over the course of the 2011/12 financial year, NEHTA spent approximately \$541,000 on these events within the COAG work programme, and approximately \$536,000 within the PCEHR work programme.