

## **Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee**

### **SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES - 18 OCTOBER 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **Human Services Portfolio**

**Topic:** Hospitality and Entertainment – 2012-13

**Question reference number:** HS 80

**Senator:** Boyce

**Type of question:** Written question

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 7 December 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 hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? 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 and what are the estimated savings over each year of the forward estimates?

**Answer:**

- a) The combined hospitality, food and beverage expenditure incurred by the Department for the period 1 July 2012 to 31 October 2012 was \$429,210. 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) It is not possible to estimate the total spending, date, location, purpose and cost of events in 2012-13. To collect estimates would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.
- f) Nil.
- g) Nil.
- h) Nil.
- i) No specific spending reductions are planned.  
A substantial amount of the expenditure on hospitality relates to community support services. For example, in 2011-12 the Department delivered 2,700 Financial Information Services seminars across the country and provided tea, coffee and biscuits at these events.  
The Department has a strong governance framework and all expenditure is approved by authorised delegates.