

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings May 2014

Communications Portfolio

NBN Co Limited

Question No: 349

Program No. NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Hospitality and entertainment

Senator Ludwig asked:

1. What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend 25 February 2014 to date including any catering and drinks costs.
2. What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend from 25 February 2014 to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved?

Answer:

1. Hospitality expenses are included as part of the entertainment expenses. The value of expenditure for the period of 1 March 2014 to 31 May 2014 is \$16,742.
2. Entertainment includes events/functions where people are formally invited and food, drinks and possible entertainment are provided. The actual expenditure for the period from 1 March 2014 to 31 May 2014 is \$16,742.
3. Hospitality planned expenses are included as part of the entertainment planned expenditure, please see question 4 for the anticipated values.
4. Anticipated entertainment expenditure based on the NBN Co reforecast (dated June 2014) for the period of 1 June 2014 to 30 June 2014 is \$7,768. The budget for the financial year ended 30 June 2015 has not been finalised.
5. NBN Co always looks for ways to minimise its hospitality and entertainment expenditure. The Company has established policies and procedures to ensure only necessary expenditure is incurred. NBN Co currently considers its expenditure to be reasonable.