

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2014

Communications Portfolio

NBN Co Limited

Question No: 173

Program No. NBN Co

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Hospitality and Entertainment

Senator Ludwig asked:

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

1. What has been the Department/Agency's hospitality spend including any catering and drinks costs.
2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
3. What has been the Department/Agency's entertainment spend? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
5. 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.
6. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
7. 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.
8. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
9. 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 July 2014 to 31 December 2014 is \$133,321 (excluding GST).
2. Not applicable.
3. 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 July 2014 to 31 December 2014 is \$133,321 (excluding GST).
4. Not applicable
5. Hospitality planned expenses are included as part of the entertainment planned expenditure, please see question 3 for the anticipated values.
6. Not applicable.
7. 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.

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