

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio
2015-16 Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing
22 October 2015

DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: Policy Hack

REFERENCE: Written Question- Senator Carr

QUESTION No.: SI-87

In relation to the PolicyHack event held on Saturday, 17 October 2015, please detail:

- a. The overall budget for the event.
- b. The overall budget for the program responsible for the event.
- c. Expenses incurred, inclusive of dollar value and description, of the event.
- d. The number of officers working on the PolicyHack program and their levels.
- e. The number of officers working at the PolicyHack event and their levels.
- f. What access to Government data participants had or have, including which Government databases.
- g. What data management and security protocols are put in place for access to Government data at the event.
- h. If funding for PolicyHack is ongoing?
- i. How many events are planned for the future?
- j. How many events per year are planned?

ANSWER

- a. The estimated cost of the event is \$5,195.37 (exclusive of GST), based on a quotation from the event host Blue Chilli.
- b. The event was not connected with a program.
- c. See answer (a) above.
- d. Refer to the answer provided to question b. Two departmental officers at the APS6 level worked on the PolicyHack part-time with oversight by a manager at Executive Level 2 part-time. All were attached to Commercialisation Policy Branch, Science and Commercialisation Policy Division.
- e. Twenty-two officers from various Commonwealth departments and agencies worked at the PolicyHack. Of these, twenty worked as Government Mentors. Their role was to provide advice and guidance to teams competing in the PolicyHack. The other two officers acted as judges. Their role was to evaluate the proposals developed by teams competing in the PolicyHack. The numbers of officers by level are as follows:
 - 2 officers at APS6
 - 2 officers at EL1
 - 9 officers at EL2
 - 6 officers at SES Band 1
 - 1 officer acting at SES Band 2
 - 1 Principal Executive Officer (Classification Band E)
 - 1 Head of Executive Agency
- f. Participants in the event did not have access to government data.
- g. Refer to the answer provided to question f.
- h. Funding for the PolicyHack is not ongoing.
- i. Currently, there are no Hackathon events planned for the future.
- j. Refer to the answer provided to question i.