

## **Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education**

### **QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

#### **Cross Portfolio**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0133\_14**  
**Senator Ludwig provided in writing.**

#### **Question Hospitality and Entertainment**

a) What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for this all events including any catering and drinks costs. b) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend from 7 September 2013 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. c) What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend from 7 September 2013 to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. d) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend from 7 September 2013 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. e) 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. f) 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. g) 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. h) 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. 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 they?

#### **Answer**

The Department of Education was established on 18 September 2013. Previously the functions were delivered by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR).

Total hospitality expenditure for the department for the period 7 September 2013 to 17 September 2013 was \$0.

Total hospitality expenditure for the department<sup>1</sup> for the period 18 September 2013 to 30 November 2013 was \$2,626.13.

Please refer to the tables below for a breakdown of events with a cost exceeding \$1,000.00. To provide details for each item of expenditure would require an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources. Hospitality and entertainment are interchangeable terms for this type of expenditure and both are included in the information below.

Event DATE	LOCATION	PURPOSE	COST (\$) (Ex GST)
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>

**Minister/ Parliamentary Secretary**

The Hon Christopher Pyne MP		\$1,775.78
The Hon Sussan Ley MP		\$0
Senator the Hon Scott Ryan		\$0
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>\$1,775.78</b>
<b>GENERAL EXPENDITURE (&lt; \$1,000 in value per event)</b>		
<b>PURPOSE</b>		
Education <sup>1</sup>	General Official Hospitality includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Launches attended by the media;</li> <li>▪ Hospitality associated with advisory committee functions;</li> <li>▪ Major events relating to the progress or promotion of the Department's business</li> <li>▪ Hospitality which promotes a government policy or objective;</li> <li>▪ Hosting visiting officials and dignitaries from overseas;</li> <li>▪ Hospitality which facilitates the conduct of public business and</li> <li>▪ Hospitality at functions for staff in recognition of significant events</li> </ul>	\$850.35
<b>Total &lt; \$1000</b>		<b>\$2,626.13</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$2,626.13</b>

<sup>1</sup>. Corporate and the State Office Network provide services to the Department of Education and the Department of Employment. The value associated with these functions has been attributed to both departments.

No hospitality expenditure is planned for the period to 30 June 2014.

All expenditure on hospitality is for official purposes and determined to be appropriate prior to approval. There is no specific policy to reduce these expenses, however, each item is considered in the context of efficiently and effectively conducting the business of the department.