#### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates 26 May-6 June 2014

#### Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Topic:** Hospitality and entertainment - All Agency Indigenous Bodies

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig

**Question reference number: 363** 

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 July 2014

Number of pages: 4

#### **Question:**

- a) What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date including any catering and drinks costs.
- b) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 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 Additional Estimates in February, 2014 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 Additional Estimates in February, 2014 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?

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#### **Answer:**

Parts (b), (d), (f) and (h) question are not held to be applicable to the Indigenous Affairs agencies within the Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio as they do not provide services of this kind to the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office.

Responses for the Indigenous Affairs agencies within the Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio are provided below:

| Portfolio Agency           | Answer   |
|----------------------------|--|
| Aboriginal Hostels Limited | <ul> <li>a) AHL does not differentiate (in the FMIS) between costs arising from hospitality and entertainment. These costs are captured and recorded in the one general ledger. Total costs for both hospitality and entertainment since February 2014 are \$7,080.77.</li> <li>b) N/A</li> <li>c) See a)</li> <li>d) N/A</li> <li>e) Planned hospitality is: <ul> <li>AHL Board Meetings (Qtrly)</li> <li>AHL Management Forums</li> <li>AHL all staff meetings</li> <li>AHL Australia Day award presentation</li> </ul> </li> <li>f) N/A</li> <li>g) See e)</li> <li>h) N/A</li> <li>i) AHL is planning on reducing spending on hospitality and entertainment by: <ul> <li>Purchasing ingredients and preparing catering meals ourselves</li> <li>Limit catering to healthy finger food</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| Anindilyakwa Land Council  | <ul> <li>a) ALC spent \$25,158 on catering/drinks (includes grant funded catering for Land &amp; Sea Ranger Program)</li> <li>c) ALC spent nil on entertainment related catering/drinks</li> </ul>   |

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|                               | <ul> <li>e) \$16,650 + \$18,000 grant funded catering for Land &amp; Sea Ranger Program. Catering is provided for formal meetings held on Groote Eylandt and Land &amp; Sea Ranger Program.</li> <li>i) Forecast expenditure (for non-grant funded catering) is a reduction on the prior year. Reductions to be achieved by scheduling meetings at times where lunches not required to be provided, finding alternate methods for catering, etc.</li> </ul>   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Central Land Council          | Nil   |
| Indigenous Business Australia | <ul> <li>a) \$1,245 (including GST).</li> <li>c) The response at (a) is the combined total amount for hospitality and entertainment. To provide the level of additional detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of limited agency resources.</li> <li>e) To provide the level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of limited agency resources.</li> <li>g) To provide the level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of limited agency resources.</li> <li>i) IBA continues to reduce discretionary spend wherever possible. This is achieved by controls such as financial delegations, budget review and monitoring.</li> </ul> |
| Indigenous Land Corporation   | Note: Parts (b), (d), (f) and (h) of this question are not applicable to the Indigenous Affairs agencies within the portfolio.  PMC requested responses to (a), (b) and (c) only.  (a) Hospitality spend amount to \$6,997.09 (catering and drinks for Board meetings and internal meetings and functions)  (b) Not required to answer  (c) Nil   |
| Northern Land Council         | Information not provided in the timeframe requested   |
| Outback Stores Pty Ltd        | a) \$2,982.07<br>b) N/A<br>c) Included above  |

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| Tiwi Land Council      | a) Nil            |
|------------------------|-------------------|
|                        | c) Nil            |
|                        | e) Not applicable |
|                        | g) Not applicable |
|                        | i) Not applicable |
| Torres Strait Regional | a) \$755          |
| Authority              | b) N/A            |
|                        | c) Nil            |
|                        | d) N/A            |
|                        | e) Nil            |
|                        | f) N/A            |
|                        | g) Nil            |
|                        | h) N/A            |
|                        | i) No             |
| Wreck Bay Aboriginal   | Nil               |
| Community Council      |                   |