

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: The Guidelines on the use of Official Establishments

Senator: Wong, Penny

Question reference number: 65

Type of question: FPA Monday 17 October 2016, pages 112 & 114

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 December 2016

Number of pages: 4

Question:

Ms Ganly: There have not been any changes in them recently. I would have to take on notice the question of when they were last updated. They are tweaked occasionally—but no major changes. And it is not black and white. It specifies what cannot be done but there is flexibility with what can be done.

Senator McALLISTER: This particular party, though, would have come out of the budget amount for the Prime Minister's official residences?

Ms Ganly: I believe so. I will take that on notice and confirm it, but I believe it was. I am just aware that the event took place—media reports and also because I am aware that this staff at The Lodge were engaged in it.

Senator WONG: Ms Kelly, I am sorry. I cannot find on the DPM&C website the guidelines for the use of official establishments. I am happy for you to take it on notice. Is someone able to tell us where you keep that?

Ms Kelly: I will take that on notice and then come back to you on that.

Answer:

The budget for the function on 17 July 2016 was covered by administered funding for the Prime Minister's Official Residences (P25, PM&C 2016-17 Portfolio Budget Statements, Outcome 1).

The internal departmental guidance is attached. Apart from some minor updating, this internal guidance has not changed substantially since former Prime Minister Howard's time in office. The guidance was last updated in December 2015.

In addition, the Statement of Ministerial Standards issued by the Prime Minister, and available on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website, identifies that Ministers will not authorise or participate in any electoral fundraising activities at the Prime Minister's official residences.

The Department proposes preparing formal Guidelines for publication on its website.

EVENTS AT THE OFFICIAL ESTABLISHMENTS

ATTACHMENT A

Activity/Event	Who is involved?	Who pays?	Notes
<p>Daily breakfast, lunch and dinner of the Prime Minister and his dependent family.</p> <p><i>Small private functions</i> of the Prime Minister and/or his spouse.</p>	<p>PM</p> <p>PM's spouse</p> <p>Dependent children/family</p> <p>Guests by informal invitation</p>	PM&C (Official Establishments)	
<p>Functions hosted by the Prime Minister and/or his spouse related to the <i>official duties</i> of the office of the Prime Minister or of the spouse (if relevant). Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • receptions/dinners related to the PM's official duties – guests including ministers (may be weekly), industry or community representatives or media; • functions for parliamentarians; • events hosted by the Prime Minister and/or his spouse in support of a charity or community organisation. 	<p>PM</p> <p>PM's spouse (as required)</p> <p>Guests by invitation</p>	PM&C (Official Establishments)	House managers and/or the PM's hospitality staff arrange these events.

Activity/Event	Who is involved?	Who pays?	Notes
<p>Official Government functions hosted by the Prime Minister (including heads of government and VIP guests)</p> <p>Major events (for example, Australia Day diplomatic corps function).</p> <p>COAG dinners.</p> <p>Secretaries/PM&C SES officials event per year.</p>	<p>PM</p> <p>PM's spouse (as required).</p> <p>Guests by written invitation</p>	PM&C (CerHos)	Events organised by Ceremonial and Hospitality Branch of PM&C.
Private functions (such as medium/large events for weddings, birthdays, large dinner parties or business functions related to PM's spouse (if relevant).	<p>PM</p> <p>PM's spouse</p> <p>Guests</p>	<p>PM</p> <p>PM's spouse</p>	
Party-political events	<p>PM</p> <p>PM's spouse (as required)</p> <p>Guests</p>	PM/Party	Party-political events may be held at the Official Establishments but may not include any fundraising activities

Activity/Event	Who is involved?	Who pays?	Notes
Charity events for primary purpose of fundraising, including events organised under the Official Establishments charities programme. These events may be hosted by the Prime Minister's spouse.	PM PM's spouse (as required) Guests	Relevant charity	
Events hosted by other ministers related to their portfolios, which do not involve the Prime Minister and his spouse.	Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries	Relevant portfolio	