

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Corporate

Question No. 197

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 24 February 2014:

- 1) What is the Department/Agency's meeting 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.
- 2) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total meeting spend from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.
- 3) What meeting spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
- 4) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what meeting spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

1) Given the wide ranging nature of its work, the department arranges a large number of meetings. Providing details of all meetings would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources. The Department's hospitality and entertainment spend for this period is set out in the response to Additional Estimates February 2014 Question No 169.

2) The department expended \$32.05 (ex GST) on incidental costs to support meetings for the Office of the Attorney-General. Over the same reporting period there was nil expenditure by the department on meeting costs for the Office of the Minister for Justice.

Ministerial hospitality and entertainment spend for this period is set out in the response to Additional Estimates February 2014 Question No 169.

3)-4) As spending on meetings is on an as-needs basis and not a significant budget item, there is no formally planned meeting spend for the department or portfolio ministers.