

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government

Additional Estimates 2010-11

Question: 4

Topic: Cost of bringing RDA Chairs to Canberra

Asked By: SENATOR ADAMS

Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 108

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 15 April 2011

Number of pages: 1

Mr Hanney—The RDA chairs have been here before. We have also been going out to each of the states and territories to meet with the RDA chairs or RDA committees again just to have the discussion with them to think about next steps.

Senator ADAMS—What is it costing for that little exercise? Would you be able to take that on notice? I know the chairs and the deputies have been once.

Mr Hanney—This is just the chairs. We can take on notice to get the cost of that.

Answer:

The Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government holds an annual national forum for 55 Regional Development Australia (RDA) committees. The RDA National Forum 2011 was held in Canberra and is estimated to have cost \$187,856 inclusive of GST (noting that some invoices are still outstanding and not all costs are confirmed). The figure includes accommodation costs, venue costs, meals, speaker costs and ancillary expenses.

RDA Chairs and Executive Officers who participated in the forum covered their travel costs to and from Canberra from the funding provided to them by the Commonwealth.