

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates 11-14 February 2013

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

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

**Outcome/Program:** 1.1.3 Support Services for Government Operations

**Topic:** Community Cabinet Meetings

**Senator:** Senator Ryan

**Question reference number:** 56

**Type of Question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 2 April 2013

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

1. How many Community Cabinet meetings has the Minister attended this financial year to date? List date and location.
2. How many Departmental Officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? List travel type, accommodation and any other expenses. Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Departmental Officers attend? List date and location.
3. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date?

**Answer:**

1. The Prime Minister has attended the five Community Cabinet meetings so far held in 2012-13 and is anticipated to attend the meeting currently being planned for Thornlie (WA) on 27 March 2013. Meetings have been so far been held at:
  - a. Ipswich (Qld) 10 July 2012
  - b. Orelia (WA) 5 September 2012
  - c. Launceston (Tas) 3 October 2012
  - d. Petrie (Qld) 14 November 2012
  - e. Aberfoyle Park (SA) 20 February 2013
2. PM&C sent one senior departmental officer to accompany the Prime Minister to each meeting in addition to the separate team of officials who were responsible for running the event. A table of travel costs for the senior departmental officer accompanying the Prime Minister is below.

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**Senior Departmental Officer Travel Costs**

<b>Meeting /Date</b>	<b>Travel costs *</b>
Ipswich (Qld) 10 July 2012	\$924
Orelia (WA) 5 September 2012	\$1,358
Launceston (Tas) 3 October 2012	\$1,010
Petrie (Qld) 14 November 2012	\$563
Aberfoyle Park (SA) 20 February 2013	\$1,115
Thornlie (WA) 27 March 2013	Not yet known

*\* Cost of flights, hire car and accommodation where required.*

3. On available invoices, the total estimated cost of the Ipswich meeting was \$63,980, the Orelia meeting \$70,430, Launceston \$57,710 and Petrie \$46,745. Several invoices remain outstanding for the Aberfoyle Park meeting; however, the total projected cost is \$54,700. The Thornlie meeting is still in the preliminary planning stages and costs are still to be calculated.