

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Public Service Commission

Outcome/Program: Cross Portfolio

Topic: Hospitality and entertainment

Senator: Ludwig

Question reference number: 180

Type of question: Written

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

Number of pages: 2

Question:

1. What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date including any catering and drinks costs.
2. 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.
3. What is the Department/Agency's entertainment 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.
4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved?

Answer:

1. The Australian Public Service Commission (APSC) spent \$10,501 excluding GST on hospitality and entertainment from the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to 28 February 2014.

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2. The APSC does not provide hospitality or entertainment for the Minister or Parliamentary Secretary's office.
3. The APSC does not record entertainment expenditure to the level requested by this question.
4. The APSC does not provide hospitality or entertainment for the Minister or Parliamentary Secretary's office.
5. The APSC does not record plans for hospitality to the level requested by this question.
6. Not applicable.
7. The APSC does not record plans for entertainment to the level requested by this question.
8. The APSC has broad strategies in place to manage increased efficiency dividends and ensure it operates within the agreed financial resources. Hospitality and entertainment costs represent less than 0.1% of the APSC's total expense. Currently there is no specific plan to reduce costs in the hospitality and entertainment category.