

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

Priorities and Coordination Division

Question No. 153

Senator Barnett asked the following question at the hearing on 27 May 2009:

What was the cost of Minister's travel and expenses for the attendance of Community Cabinet meetings since February 2009? How many Ministerial Staff and Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Cabinet meetings since February 2009? What was the total cost of this travel? What was the total cost to the Department office of the Community Cabinet since February 2009?

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

As at 27 May 2009, the total cost of the Attorney-General's travel and expenses for the attendance of Community Cabinet meetings since February 2009 was \$4204.17. These costs are paid by the Department of Finance and Deregulation.

Two ministerial staff travelled with the Attorney-General to the Campbelltown Community Cabinet meeting (17 February 2009). Two ministerial staff travelled with the Attorney-General to the Ballajura Community Cabinet meeting (22 April 2009). One ministerial staff member from the Attorney-General's office travelled with the Attorney-General to the Emerald Community Cabinet meeting (19 May 2009). The Attorney-General represented the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship at the Emerald Community Cabinet meeting and was also accompanied by one ministerial staff member from the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship's office. One Departmental Liaison Officer travelled with the Attorney-General to the Emerald Community Cabinet meeting. One Departmental officer travelled to each of the three Community Cabinet meetings.

The total cost of the travel and expenses of Ministerial Staff to Community Cabinet meetings since February 2009 was \$5755.66. These costs are paid by the Department of Finance and Deregulation.

The total cost to the Attorney-General's Department of the Community Cabinet since February 2009 was \$5889.96, consisting of travel and expenses for Departmental officers and Departmental Liaison Officers attending the meetings.