

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

Portfolio

Question No. 84

Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 30 May 2013:

Program launch costs

- a) What is the Department/Agency's program launch spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs.
- b) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total program launch spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.
- c) What program launch spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
- d) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what program launch 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:

For 2012-13 financial year information up to 31 January 2013, please refer to QoN 124 from the Additional Estimates round.

For the period 1 February 2013 to 31 May 2013 please see below.

Australian Government Solicitor

Australian Government Solicitor (AGS) is a government business enterprise operating on a commercial and competitive basis in providing legal and related services to government and its agencies. AGS does not receive any Budget or other appropriations and its employees are engaged outside of the *Public Service Act 1999*. The question is therefore not applicable to AGS.

National Native Title Tribunal

The National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT) will not be providing a response to this question, as from 1 July 2012 the NNTT is no longer a *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* Agency, and is funded to carry out its functions as a sub-program of the Federal Court of Australia's appropriation. On 12 March 2013 the *Courts and Tribunals Legislation Amendment (Administration) Act 2013* came into operation. On that day the Australian Public Service Commissioner signed a determination which transferred all staff employed by the Tribunal to the Federal Court of Australia under s.72 of the *Public Service Act 1999*, but those staff are designated staff assisting the Tribunal under the *Native Title Act 1993*.

The following Agencies have not incurred program launch costs for this financial year to date. Nor do the following agencies plan to incur program launch costs for the remainder of this financial year to date:

Attorney-General's Department, Administrative Appeals Tribunal, Australian Customs and Border Protection Service, Australian Federal Police, Australian Human Rights Commission, Australian institute of Criminology, Australian Security Intelligence Organisation, Australian Transaction reports and Analysis Centre, Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, CrimTrac, Family Court, Federal Circuit Court, Federal Court, High Court of Australia, Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia, Office of the Australian Information Commissioner, Office of Parliamentary Counsel.

Please see the table below for other responses to parts a) and c).

b) and d)

The Office of the Attorney-General, the Office of the Minister for Home Affairs, Minister for Justice and the Office of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney-General have not incurred program launch costs for this financial year to date. Nor do those offices plan to incur program launch costs for the remainder of this financial year to date.

Australian Crime Commission

a) Event details, location and cost for financial year to date

1. Between 1 February and 31 May 2013 the Australian Crime Commission hosted expert firearms training for 40 Australian and New Zealand law enforcement officers. The training was opened by the Minister for Home Affairs on 25 February at the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service training facility in Port Botany, where the training was held. Morning tea was provided at a cost of \$66. There were no other launch costs.

c) Planned spend

1. There is no planned program launch spending costs for the remainder of the financial year.

Australian Law Reform Commission

a) Event details, location and cost for financial year to date

1. Launch of the final Report in the Age Barriers to Work Inquiry, *Access All Ages-Older Workers and Commonwealth Laws*.
2. Parliament House
3. \$459.52

c) Planned spend

1. Nil