

Estimates Committee 2004 Questions Taken On Notice

(22/06/2004 to 01/10/2004)

Date: 22/06/2004 Output: 1.0 Parliamentary Services
Sub Output: 1.3 Building Management Services

Subject: Functions in Parliament House

From: Mr Terrance Kennedy MILLS to Honourable Loraine BRAHAM
Speaker

Question: **1-5**
How many functions were held in Parliament House in 2003-04?
How many of these were paid for?
How many were private or non-government or Legislative Assembly functions?
How many government functions were held?
What was the cost to the Legislative Assembly of the government functions and who paid for them?
How much money was raised by the Legislative Assembly through the holding of functions?
Do the charges for these functions fully cover the cost of these functions?
Does the Assembly make a profit out of the holding of these functions?
Would you please provide these figures compared to previous years.

Answer:

Answered On: 24/06/2004

Answer: (a) A total of 418 functions were held in Parliament House in 2003-04. Of these, 164 were fully hosted functions by Protocol and 254 were other functions.

This latter category includes all bookings for function rooms in Parliament House which includes administrative meetings, seminars and conferences, committee meetings, media conferences etc.

Details:

107 Department of Legislative Assembly
86 government-sponsored
33 private
17 other government agencies
11 Commonwealth Parliamentary hearings
254

(b) 164 of the functions held in Parliament House were government-hosted functions, paid for through Protocol. All other functions were supported by the organisation/department arranging the function.

(c) There were 107 Legislative Assembly functions (this figure included 15 Speaker's functions, departmental meetings etc) There were 33 private or non-government functions, of which 29 were wedding photos or ceremonies.

(d) 164 government-hosted functions were held in 2003-04. In 2002-03 there were 170 government-hosted functions.

In 2003-04 there were 86 government-sponsored functions (Note that these include all meetings, seminars, media conferences, etc)

Government-hosted functions are arranged by Protocol. Government-sponsored functions have no involvement by Protocol, and are either arranged by a Minister's office, or are a function for an agency or community group which is sponsored by a Minister.

(e) Cost of government functions

Government-hosted functions are funded through Protocol, including staffing and refreshments. Any costs incurred by the Department of Legislative Assembly as a result of Government-hosted and Legislative Assembly functions are factored into the Department's budget and cannot be isolated out as separate expenditure. LA staff are in attendance and can provide technical and building services support where required, but these staff also have other regular duties which they are undertaking at the time.

Government-sponsored functions are charged, at Speaker's discretion, for any basic building management services over and above normal cleaning and overtime requirements, and room hire charges where applicable. The room hire charges are set down in accordance with advice from the Valuer-General, and all charge rates are specified in the Department's Policy and Procedures Manual for the Use of Parliament House Facilities.

(f) Money raised through holding of functions in 2002-03 was \$11,181 and \$2,652 in 2003-04.

(g) In terms of the charges fully covering costs, as stated above these are factored into the budget, and specific rates have been developed on a cost-recovery basis.

(h) The Assembly does not make a profit out of functions.

(i) The functions booking database was re-designed for the 2003-04 year to capture the data outlined above. Not all the data is available for previous years other than figures already provided, but will be available for future years.

