

Question on Notice
No. 356
Asked on Thursday, 8 March 2007

MR HOBBS asked the Minister for Local Government, Planning and Sport (MR FRASER) –

QUESTION:

What is the breakdown of hospitality and entertainment received for chief executive officers and senior executive service officers for his department/s in 2005-06 and 2006-07 (year to date), detailing (a) names of the officers receiving the hospitality and entertainment, (b) type of the hospitality and entertainment received for each officer, (c) provider of the hospitality and entertainment for each officer, (d) total value of the hospitality or entertainment including travel and accommodation if relevant, (e) purpose of the hospitality or entertainment and (f) benefit to the Queensland taxpayer?

ANSWER:

The Member may be aware that in August 2003, a new Gifts and Benefits Policy covering all state public servants was introduced. The release of this new policy demonstrates this government's commitment to transparency and accountability and expectations of a high standard of ethical behaviour by public service employees.

At the same time, the Premier took the opportunity to set up a similar policy for Ministers and Ministerial staff.

The policy for public servants covers gifts and benefits, including hospitality, to be given or received by public service employees - regardless of their value. It reinforces that it is not appropriate for public service employees to be offered or to give gifts and benefits that may be likely to influence them in the performance of their official duties. The policy makes it clear to public servants how to make decisions about accepting offers.

At the Premier's office's request, the Office of the Public Service Commissioner checked that this policy has been implemented. The advice, following this check, is that all government departments have fully implemented the policy and maintain a gifts and benefits register as well as regularly reviewing practices to ensure compliance with this policy. Staff training and awareness programs have also been conducted so that employees understand their obligations and responsibilities in the offers of gift or benefits while performing their official duties.

Please refer to the attached table for a breakdown of hospitality or entertainment provided to Senior Executive Officers in the Department in 2005-06 over the threshold of \$250. There has been no hospitality or entertainment provided to Senior Executive Officers in the Department in 2006-07 to date over the threshold of \$250.

FINANCIAL YEAR 2005/06

(a)		(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
Division	Date	Type of Hospitality/Entertainment	Provider	Value	Purpose	Benefit to Old Taxpayer
Office of the Director-General	21/02/06	Show, dinner for two and a CD of Il Divo	David Usher	\$650	To promote and further advance the business and agenda of the Department	Networking and introduction opportunity for DLGFSR