

To whom it may concern,

In response to Freedom of Information Request (LEX-32318), pertaining to the number and total cost of welcome to country ceremonies / acknowledgements held in the financial years 2022/23 and 2023/24, information held by the department is provided below:

Financial Year	Number of invoices	Total amount
2022/2023	19	\$10,766.88
2023/2024	10	\$7,304.00

Please note: The Department does not centrally administer or track expenses for 'Welcome to Country' ceremonies. Instead, cost centre managers or individual Delegates make the decision to engage suppliers for these services in accordance with relevant Department processes and policies. As such, we have conducted a search of our financial and records management systems for transactions described as 'Welcome to Country' and provided the results as part of this Freedom of Information request. The accuracy of the results depends on how the invoices have been described within the search parameters.