

Charles on charge

By David Donovan

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The Australian Government spent \$371,079 on a six day visit by HRH Prince Charles in 2005.

THE information, revealed in documents obtained from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet by IA editor, [David Donovan](#), after an FOI application, show the bulk of the costs were transport related (\$322,209), with a significant amount also being spent on accommodation (\$31,224).

Any time any member of the English royal family designated HRH visits Australia, the Australian people pay all their expenses. This includes the Queen, all her immediate family and all her grandchildren. This is in stark contrast to the protocol for visiting heads of state, in which the Australian Government merely pays for security costs.

So much for the monarchist furphy that the royals cost us nothing; on the contrary, they do not travel cheap.