

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2016-17

Finance Portfolio
28 February 2017

Department/Agency: Finance
Outcome/Program: General
Topic: Corporate credit cards

Senator: Gallagher

Question reference number: F19

Type of question: Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 42 and 43, 28 February 2017

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Thursday, 13 April 2017

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator GALLAGHER: ... In relation to credit cards—I think there were corporate credit cards—there was an answer to a question on notice No. 53 where finance has provided a breakdown of expenditure by card type. I think in that it shows a larger amount of airfares and accommodation in 2014-15. Is there a reason for this?

Ms Huxtable: I will have to take that on notice. It is something that is not immediately apparent. Can you repeat the question, please?

Senator GALLAGHER: This is about question on notice 53.

Ms Huxtable: Yes. I have that here.

Senator GALLAGHER: A larger amount of airfares and accommodation in 2014-15.

Ms Huxtable: I would have to take on notice exactly what made that up. But, as the minister said, depending on the activity we are involved in, obviously there can be an impact in terms of the travel requirements. Unless one of my colleagues can help.

Mr Fredericks: One of my colleagues advises me that it may be the case that that added expenditure is because of the travel required at that time by the Medibank Private sale taskforce. You would see the correlation between the two. But I would prefer to take that on notice, if I could.

Senator GALLAGHER: Yes. All right. It might be good if we can then get a comparison.

Ms Huxtable: We could update this?

Senator GALLAGHER: Yes. Exactly.

Ms Huxtable: This is our financial year so we could not really update it, obviously. We can only give you the year to date for 2016-17.

Answer:

The increase in expenditure for airfares and accommodation in 2014-15 is largely due to the G20 Leaders' summit held in Brisbane in November 2014.

An updated breakdown from question on notice F53 from the 2016-17 Supplementary Budget Estimates hearings on 18 October 2016 to include year to date figures for 2016-17 is below:

Card type	Category	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 to 31 Jan 17 (YTD)
Travel (Diners)	Airfares and accommodation costs	\$1,820,917.49	\$3,226,921.07	\$1,653,872.61	\$922,017.56
Purchasing Card	Goods and services	\$1,032,932.39	\$1,135,129.37	\$1,309,463.60	\$1,070,122.77
Cabcharge Card	Travel	\$45,951.25	\$46,949.14	\$18,941.54	\$6,956.50
eTickets	Travel	\$137,580.79	\$119,292.31	\$121,449.73	\$71,872.68
Fuel Card	Fuel	\$82,396.00	\$58,606.08	\$35,271.61	\$16,035.69*

*there has been a decrease in fuel card expenditure due to a reduction in the pool vehicle fleet