

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

13 – 14 February 2013

Question: AET 1039-1046

Topic: Travel Costs

Written: Received from Committee – 22 February 2013

Senator BUSHBY asked:

1039. For the financial year to date (22 February 2013), please detail all travel for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that includes airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).
1040. For the financial year to date (22 February 2013), please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that includes airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
1041. What travel is planned for the rest of this financial year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
1042. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
1043. Are the Government's Lowest Practical Fare travel policy for Domestic Air Travel (Finance Circular No. 2009/10) and Best Fare of the Day for International Air Travel (Finance Circular No. 2009/11) guidelines being followed? How is the department/agency following the advice? How is this monitored? If the guidelines are not being followed, please explain why.
1044. Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and what is their classification, what is the reason for the provision of lounge memberships and the total costs of the lounge memberships.
1045. When SES employees travel, do any support / administrative staff (such as an Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of their travel.
1046. Does the department/agency elect to offset emissions for employees' work-related travel? If yes, what is the cost?

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

13 – 14 February 2013

Answer:

1039. Not applicable.

1040. For the financial year to 22 February 2013, the details of all air travel by officers of the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) is as follows:

Class	Number of trips	Cost \$
First	19	52,458
Business	718	804,321
Economy	1,132	215,205
Provider booking fee		35,030
Department of Finance and Deregulation fee		4,517
Total		1,111,531

Travel relates to APRA's prudential regulation and supervision activities. Extracting the cost of accommodation, meals and other incidentals would require a substantial diversion of APRA's resources as the data sources are not in a form that makes this readily available.

1041. Travel planned for the remainder of this financial year relates to APRA's prudential regulation and supervision activities. Provision of expected travel information isn't readily available and would require a substantial diversion of APRA's resources to compile.

1042. Refer to question 1041 above.

1043. APRA utilises the Government's centralised airline booking service to secure 'best fare of the day'. This may or may not incorporate direct routes when travelling and is monitored by monthly reports from the provider.

1044. Yes. Qantas and/or Virgin airline lounge memberships are provided to APRA staff that regularly travel interstate and internationally on APRA business to assist in their productivity while out of the office. For the financial year to 22 February 2013, the total cost of lounge memberships was \$11,390. There are 72 current APRA staff members with airline lounge memberships.

1045. No.

1046. No.