

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

13 – 14 February 2013

Question: AET 457-464

Topic: Travel Costs

Written: Received from Committee – 22 February 2013

Senator BUSHBY asked:

457. 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).
458. 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.
459. What travel is planned for the rest of this financial year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
460. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
461. 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.
462. 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.
463. 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.
464. Does the department/agency elect to offset emissions for employees' work-related travel? If yes, what is the cost?

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Answer:

457. Nil

458. The reason for travel is the transportation of ACCC officials to business meetings and events.

Airfare costs	2012-13 FYTD \$
Airfares - Domestic Economy	419,736
Airfares - Domestic Business Class	316,100
Airfares - International Economy	54,658
Airfares - International Business Class	171,230
Total airfare costs	961,724

Other travel costs	2012-13 FYTD \$
Accommodation	418,388
Travel allowance - Domestic	308,666
Travel allowance - International (food and accommodation)	50,370
Total other travel costs	777,424

459. The reason for travel is the transportation of ACCC officials to business meetings and events.

Airfare costs	2012-13 bal Fin yr est
Airfares - Domestic Economy	299,811
Airfares - Domestic Business Class	225,786
Airfares - International Economy	39,042
Airfares - International Business Class	122,307
Total airfare costs	686,946

Other travel costs	2012-13 bal Fin yr est
Accommodation	298,849
Travel allowance - Domestic	220,476
Travel allowance - International (food and accommodation)	35,979
Total other travel costs	555,303

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460. The reason for travel is the transportation of ACCC officials to business meetings and events.

Airfare costs	2012-13 bal Cal yr est
Airfares - Domestic Economy	659,584
Airfares - Domestic Business Class	496,729
Airfares - International Economy	85,892
Airfares - International Business Class	269,076
Total airfare costs	1,511,281

Other travel costs	2012-13 bal Cal yr est
Accommodation	657,467
Travel allowance - Domestic	485,047
Travel allowance - International (food and accommodation)	79,153
Total other travel costs	1,221,666

461. Yes. All proposed flights are assessed against the policy during the booking process. In addition, the requirements of the policies are included in staff travel procedural documentation.

Compliance with Lowest Practical Fare policy is monitored by monthly analysis of Travel Management Company compliance reports.

Not applicable.

462. Yes. The ACCC pays the lounge membership for 16 SES employees and 7 non SES employees. Membership has been provided where staff are required to undertake significant travel. Memberships are to QANTAS or VIRGIN lounges. Total annual cost is \$6,325.

463. NA

464. No