

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

13 – 14 February 2013

Question: AET 651-658

Topic: Travel Costs

Written: Received from Committee – 22 February 2013

Senator BUSHBY asked:

651. 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).
652. 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.
653. What travel is planned for the rest of this financial year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
654. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
655. 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.
656. 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.
657. 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.
658. Does the department/agency elect to offset emissions for employees' work-related travel? If yes, what is the cost?

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Answer:

651. Nil

652. Total travel spend for Departmental officers for the financial year to date (22 February 2013) is \$6,270.11:

Number of Staff	Destination	Airfares	Airfare Type	Accommodation	Meals	Incidentals	Totals
1*	Sydney	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$155.30	\$190.20	\$345.50
1#	Brisbane	\$454.62	Economy	\$582.00	\$289.70	\$283.82	\$1,610.14
1^	Geraldton	\$2,895.96	Bus/Econ	\$540	\$312.15	\$211.56	\$3,959.67
1*	Sydney	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$155.30	\$199.50	\$354.80
3	Totals	\$3,350.58		\$1,122.00	\$912.45	\$885.08	\$6270.11

* recruitment panels for Austrade in Sydney by an SES 3 (airfares paid by Austrade)

Annual Population Estimates Workshop in Brisbane

^guest speaker at the Annual Local Government Grants Commission Conference

653. The only travel planned for the rest of this financial year is for attendance at the NatStats Conference 2013 in Brisbane

654. See 653

655. Yes, wherever possible. It is monitored through the centralised approval and booking process. Fares are checked with competing airline at time of booking and are checked by a Supervisor.

656. Yes. QANTAS Club X 3. 2 X SES1, 1 X EL2 as part of their employment conditions. \$652.50 pa.

657. Nil

658. No