

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

4 – 6 June 2013

Question: BET 840-847

Topic: Travel Costs

Written: 17 June 2013

Senator BUSHBY asked:

840. For the financial year to date, 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).
841. For the financial year to date, 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.
842. What travel is planned for the rest of this financial year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
843. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
844. What is the policy for business class airfare tickets? Is there still a reduction in business flights as per the media release by the Minister for Finance and Deregulation and the Special Minister of State dated 25 September 2012?
845. Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the total costs of the lounge memberships.
846. When SES employees travel, do any support or 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 the support staff travel.
847. Does the department/agency elect to offset emissions for employees work related travel? If yes, what is the cost?

Answer:

840. Nil.

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841.

Travel expenditure incurred YTD

| | 2012-13 FTYD |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Airfare Costs | \$ |
| Domestic Economy | 882,307 |
| Domestic Business Class | 324,149 |
| International Economy | 155,818 |
| International Business Class | 213,268 |
| International First Class | 25,885* |
| Total Airfares | 1,601,427 |

| | 2012-13 FTYD |
|--|---------------------|
| Other travel costs | \$ |
| Accommodation - Domestic | 645,132 |
| Travel Allowance - Domestic | 498,210 |
| Travel Allowance – Overseas (includes food and accommodation) | 91,773 |
| Total other travel costs | 1,235,115 |

The reason for travel is the transportation of ACCC officers, management and staff to business meetings and events.

*International First Class travel for ACCC Chairman only as per entitlement under Remuneration Tribunal determination 2013/10.

842.

Travel planned for remainder of this financial year

| | 2012-13 remainder |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Airfare Costs | \$ |
| Domestic Economy | 80,000 |
| Domestic Business Class | 30,000 |
| International Economy | 14,000 |
| International Business Class | 22,000 |
| Total Airfares | 146,000 |

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| | 2012-13 remainder |
|--|--------------------------|
| Other travel costs | \$ |
| Accommodation - Domestic | 58,000 |
| Travel Allowance - Domestic | 45,000 |
| Travel Allowance – Overseas (includes food and accommodation) | 8,000 |
| Total other travel costs | 111,000 |

The reason for travel is the transportation of ACCC officers, management and staff to business meetings and events.

843.

Travel planned for the remainder of this calendar year

| | 2013 calendar year remainder |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Airfare Costs | \$ |
| Domestic Economy | 560,000 |
| Domestic Business Class | 206,000 |
| International Economy | 99,000 |
| International Business Class | 152,000 |
| International First Class | 7,000 |
| Total Airfares | 1,024,000 |

*International First Class travel for ACCC Chairman only as per entitlement under Remuneration Tribunal determination 2013/10.

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| Other travel costs | 2012 calendar year remainder |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| | \$ |
| Accommodation - Domestic | 410,000 |
| Travel Allowance - Domestic | 317,000 |
| Travel Allowance – Overseas (includes food and accommodation) | 58,000 |
| Total other travel costs | 785,000 |

The reason for travel is the transportation of ACCC officers, management and staff to business meetings and events.

844. The ACCC's operational guidelines for travel designate economy class as the standard class of travel within Australia. SES may travel business class, as per entitlement, but are encouraged to consider travelling in economy on flights between Sydney and Canberra or other short single leg flights. There has been a reduction in business flights.

This is in line with the Finance circular No. 2012/04 in the use of the Lowest Practical Fare (LPF) for Official Domestic Air Travel.

845. Yes. The ACCC pays the lounge membership for 21 SES employees and 8 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 \$7,877.
846. Not applicable.
847. No.