

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Additional Estimates Hearings February 2014**

**Communications Portfolio**

**Australian Broadcasting Corporation**

**Question No: 251**

**Program No. Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Taxi Costs**

**Senator Ludwig asked:**

1. How much did each Department/Agency spend on taxis from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each Department/Agency.
2. What are the reasons for taxi costs?

**Answer:**

1. From 1 November 2013 to 31 January 2014, the ABC spent \$687,000 on vehicle related expenses. Any amounts paid to an employee for the use of a private vehicle, which are minimal, are also included in this figure.

A breakdown by department is as follows:

<b>By Division 1st Nov to 31 Jan 2013/14</b>	<b>\$A(k)</b>
ABC Commercial	23
ABC Resources	44
Business Services/COO/Board/MD	20
Capital Works	12
ABC International	27
Corporate Affairs	9
Corporate Wide Initiatives	3
Editorial Policies	0
Innovation	12
Legal	4
News	256
ABC People	11
Radio	109
Technology	39
Communication Networks	3
Television	111
Research & Marketing	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>687</b>

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2. There are a number of reasons for expenditure on taxi services, these include:
  - a. Travel to and from the airport where the employee is travelling on approved ABC business;
  - b. Travel to and from meetings where the employee is representing the ABC;
  - c. Complying with WH&S requirements;
  - d. Emergency situation or where extenuating circumstances apply and the use of a taxi has been approved by the relevant manager; and
  - e. Circumstances specified in the various employment agreements, particularly in relation to after hour work.

All expenditure on taxis must comply with the Corporation's Taxi Policy.