

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Budget Estimates Hearing—May 2014**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Workplace assessments**

Question: **236**

Written: **Senator Ludwig**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 July 2014

1. How much has been spent on workplace ergonomic assessments since 7 September 2013?
 - a. List each item of expenditure and cost.
2. Have any assessments, not related to an existing disability, resulted in changes to workplace equipment or set up?
 - a. If so, list each item of expenditure and cost related to those changes.

Answer

1. In the period 7 September 2013 to 27 May 2014, there were 44 workstation assessments (WSA). Of these:
 - 22 were 'Basic' WSA (eg. for new starters or after a relocation);
 - 12 were 'Injury Prevention' WSAs (eg. for employees with mild discomfort);
 - nine were 'Comprehensive' WSA (eg. for employees receiving regular medical treatment, returning to work after an injury, or with a condition impacting on their work); and
 - one was 'Home-Based' (eg for employees who have applied for home-based work arrangements).
 - a. The expenditure for the assessments invoiced in the period 7 September 2013 to 27 May 2014 was \$8,213.85. There may be some purchases of ergonomic equipment related to the WSAs carried out in the period 13 March 2013 to 27 May 2014 that are yet to be finalised.
2. Yes. Assessments generally result in a change of some kind, for example, adjustments to the chair, desk or computer. However, not every assessment results in the purchase of ergonomic equipment.
 - a. The items of expenditure and costs are shown in the table below.

| Items recommended | Cost |
|---|-------------|
| Ergonomic chair, document holder, telephone headset | \$542.82 |
| Ergonomic chair | \$451.82 |
| Document holder | \$72.27 |
| Document holder | \$72.27 |
| Ergonomic chair, mouse pad, desk lozenge, document holder | \$534.55 |
| Ergonomic keyboard | \$132.73 |
| Document Holder | \$114.55 |
| Ergonomic chair | \$539 |
| Telephone headset | \$170 |

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Ergonomic mouse | \$140 |
| Telephone headset | \$190.82 |
| Ergonomic chair | \$495.55 |
| Ergonomic chair | \$495.45 |