

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

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Taxi costs**

Question: **275**

Written: **Senator Ludwig**

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

1. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.
2. What are the reasons for taxi costs?

Answer

1. Taxi expenses from Budget Estimates in February 2014 to date totalled \$10,880.30 (ex GST).

Breakdown for each business group-

Building Management (Electrical and Security)	\$772.51
Broadcasting and Hansard	\$5,089.96
Corporate Services	\$851.62
Information Communications & Technology	\$416.74
Office of the Secretary	\$362.05
Parliamentary Library	\$1,101.13
Parliamentary Experience Branch	\$2,286.29

2. Taxi costs are incurred for travel:
 - to and from Canberra Airport when travelling on official business;
 - to and from a destination airport to an official business venue or official business accommodation;
 - to and from official accommodation to a venue (if accommodation is not reasonably close to the venue);
 - to official activities (local and interstate) when transporting support equipment (e.g. broadcasting recording equipment, projectors, personal computers, etc.) where taxi travel is the most cost-effective method;
 - between Parliament House and a local venue where the employee is required to attend an official meeting or other official business; or
 - when the employee is "on call" and may be required to return to Parliament House outside of normal office hours.