

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee:  
Answers to written Questions on Notice Budget Estimates 2014–15  
Parliamentary Departments Portfolio  
May 2014**

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<b>Department</b>	Parliamentary Budget Office
<b>Topic</b>	Travel costs - department
<b>Senator</b>	Senator Ludwig
<b>Question reference number</b>	94
<b>Type of question</b>	Written

**Question**

- 1 Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, 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 include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).
- 2 Since Additional Estimates in February, 2014, detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
- 3 What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.

**Answer**

- 1 Not applicable.
- 2 In March 2014, the Parliamentary Budget Officer presented at the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Parliamentary Budget Officials and Independent Fiscal Institutions in Jerusalem. The total cost for this travel was \$13,482.77 (excluding GST), comprising \$11,536.02 for international flights, \$998.92 for accommodation and \$947.83 for meals and incidentals.

In April 2014, the First Assistant Parliamentary Budget Officer, Fiscal Policy Analysis Division attended the 16<sup>th</sup> Banca d'Italia Workshop on Public Finance in Perugia, Italy. The total cost for this travel was \$7,944.99 (excluding GST), comprising \$7,653.10 for international flights, \$185.94 for accommodation and \$105.95 for meals and incidentals.

In May 2014, the First Assistant Parliamentary Budget Officer, Budget Analysis Division attended meetings at the OECD in Paris. The meetings concerned were the Working Party number 2 (WP2) on tax policy and statistics meeting, the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting Action 11 Focus Group meeting, and the Joint Meeting of Tax and Environmental Experts (JMTEE). Is it estimated that this travel will cost approximately \$8,500 (excluding GST).

- 3 In June 2014, the Parliamentary Budget Officer, presented at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Fiscal policy seminar in Tokyo with the majority of costs reimbursed by the IMF.

In June 2014, the Assistant Parliamentary Budget Officer, Fiscal Policy Analysis Branch, attended the 2014 Economic and Social Outlook Conference in Melbourne.

In November 2014, the First Assistant Parliamentary Budget Officer, Budget Analysis Division will be presenting at the OECD Green Growth and Sustainable Development forum and will be chairing the OECD WP2 and JMTEE meetings in Paris.

Travel to these events provides the Parliamentary Budget Office with the opportunity to contribute to and keep well informed of relevant domestic and international developments.