

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15 February 2012

Question: E12-089

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: TRAVEL COSTS

Written Question on Notice

Senator McKenzie asked:

- a) For the financial year to date, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each Department and Agency within each Portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type - i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.
- b) Are employees taking the most direct route when travelling? If not, please explain why.

Answer:

- a) The Department and Portfolio Agencies do not record travel data in a way that would readily allow answers to be provided to these questions. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of Departmental resources.

For the FYTD ending 31 January 2012, the total cost of all travel undertaken by employees of the Department and Portfolio Agencies was \$14,141,531.00.

- b) Departmental staff comply with the 'Lowest Practical Fare' policy. Where the most direct route provides the most cost effective outcome, staff would travel via the most direct route.