

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 13 and 15 February 2013

Question: E13-110

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Taxi Costs

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Senator Boyce

Question:

- a) How much did each department/agency spend on taxis this financial year to date?
- b) Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.
- c) What are the reasons for taxi costs?

Answer:

a) and b)

The table in Attachment A provides a summary of each Department/Agency's spending on taxis for the eight months to 28 February 2013.

- c) Taxi costs are a component of travel expenditure. The Department of Health and Ageing undertakes travel to meet with key stakeholders to ensure health programs are adequately supported. Departmental officers investigate complaints and implement regulations in the aged care sector. The Department also funds the travel of members of expert committees which advise on a range of professional, consumer and community issues with the aim of better targeting health programs and health expenditure. Health and aged care reform initiatives require consultative and public communication activities.

Summary of taxi costs by department/agency:

Department of Health and Ageing (consolidated)	8 months to 28 February 2013 \$'000
Department (core)	520
Therapeutic Goods Administration	81
National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme	11
Office of the Gene Technology Regulator	7
Department of Health and Ageing (consolidated)	619

Health and Ageing Portfolio (agencies)	8 months to 28 February 2013 \$'000
Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency	113
Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care	41
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	50
Australian National Preventative Health Agency	19
Australian Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Agency	14
Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency	56
Cancer Australia	59
Food Standards Australia New Zealand	22
General Practice Education and Training Ltd	16
Health Workforce Australia	144
Independent Hospital Pricing Authority	27
National Blood Authority	33
National Health and Medical Research Council	90
National Health Performance Authority	41
National Health Funding Body	13
Private Health Insurance Administration Council	11
Private Health Insurance ombudsman	6
Professional Services Review Agency	6