

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES - 27 FEBRUARY 2014 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Corporate Cars

Question reference number: HS 77

Senator: Ludwig

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 24 April 2014

Number of pages: 2

Question:

- a) How many cars are owned by each department/agency?
- b) Where is the car/s located?
- c) What is the car/s used for?
- d) What is the cost of each car from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date?
- e) How far did each car travel from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date?
- f) How many cars are leased by each department/agency?
- g) Where are the cars located?
- h) What are the cars used for?
- i) What is the cost of each car from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date?
- j) How far did each car travel from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date?

Answer:

- a) to e) The Department of Human Services (DHS) does not own any vehicles.
- f) All vehicles required for DHS operational use are accessed through leases via the whole of government Fleet Management Arrangement.
DHS currently leases 843 vehicles for its own use.
DHS also leases an additional 166 vehicles for the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) under a Shared Services arrangement.
These totals do not include Executive Vehicle Scheme vehicles, which are provided to Senior Executive Officers as a remuneration option. While the leases are established by DHS, the leasing relationship is between the officer and the vehicle provider. All lease, running and taxation costs are met from the officer's remuneration.

- g) The vehicles are located at office and customer service-related sites throughout Australia.
- h) DHS staff are required to travel within communities and between sites to deliver a wide range of services to citizens through Centrelink, Medicare, Child Support, and CRS Australia programmes, and services that provide support to staff delivering those programs.
- PM&C staff are required to travel within communities and between sites to deliver a wide range of services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people throughout Australia.
- i) The average lease cost per DHS-utilised vehicle from 21 November 2013 to 28 February 2014 (excluding fuel) is approximately \$2,190 per vehicle.
- The Shared Services arrangement with PM&C has only recently been established. Due to the unavailability of automated vehicle cost data on the vehicles managed on behalf of PM&C, these vehicles have been excluded from the calculation of average cost. The manual investigation required to include PM&C vehicle information would represent an unreasonable diversion of Commonwealth resources.
- j) The average distance travelled per DHS-utilised vehicle from 21 November 2013 to 28 February 2014 is approximately 4,800 kilometres.
- The Shared Services arrangement with PM&C has only recently been established. Due to the unavailability of automated vehicle distance travelled data on the vehicles managed on behalf of PM&C, these vehicles have been excluded from the calculation of average distance travelled. The manual investigation required to include PM&C vehicle information would represent an unreasonable diversion of Commonwealth resources.