

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016, 10 February 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000184

OUTCOME: 0 - Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Ministerial Motor Vehicle

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Ludwig, Joe

Question:

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. Has the minister been provided with or had access to a motor vehicle? If so:
 - a) What is the make and model?
 - b) How much did it cost?
 - c) When was it provided?
 - d) Was the entire cost met by the department? If not, how was the cost met?
 - e) What, if any, have been the ongoing costs associated with this motor vehicle? Please include costs such as maintenance and fuel.
 - f) Are these costs met by the department? If not, how are these costs met?
 - g) Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine if a minister is entitled to a motor vehicle.
 - h) Have these guidelines changed during the specified period of time? If so, please detail.
 - i) Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine how a minister is to use a motor vehicle they have been provided with. Please include details such as whether the motor vehicle can be used for personal uses.
 - j) Have these guidelines changed during the specified period of time? If so, please detail.

Answer:

1. Yes.
 - a. Ford Territory.
 - b. The total lease costs for the period 14 September 2015 – 31 January 2016 was \$5,327 excluding GST. The costs include operating expenses such as fuel and maintenance.
 - c. The Department assumed responsibility for the leased vehicle for the Minister on 23 December 2014.
 - d. Yes.
 - e. See response part c).
 - f. Yes.
 - g. The guidelines are “Department of Finance, Ministers of State Entitlements, May 2014”. The relevant section can be viewed at:
http://www.maps.finance.gov.au/entitlements_handbooks/senators-and-members/Part_Four_Travel_-_4.4_Private-Plated_Vehicles.asp
 - h. No.
 - i. See response to part g).
 - j. No.