

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2013-14, 5/6 & 7 June 2013

Question: E13-092

OUTCOME: 0 - Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Taxi Costs

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Smith

Question:

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

Answer:

- a) The table in Attachment A provides a summary of spending on taxis for the 12 months to 30 June 2013.
- b) 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)	12 months to 30 June 2013 \$'000
Core department	882
Therapeutic Goods Administration	129
National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme	16
Office of Gene Technology Regulator	11
Department of Health and Ageing (consolidated)	1,038

Health and Ageing Portfolio (agencies)	12 months to 30 June 2013 \$'000
Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency	198
Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care	65
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	71
Australian National Preventative Health Agency	30
Australian Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Agency	21
Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency	103
Cancer Australia	82
Food Standards Australia New Zealand	33
General Practice Education and Training Ltd	25
Health Workforce Australia	192
Independent Hospital Pricing Authority	51
National Blood Authority	42
National Health and Medical Research Council	130
National Health Performance Authority	66
National Health Funding Body	24
Private Health Insurance Administration Council	19
Private Health Insurance Ombudsman	8
Professional Services Review Agency	11