

## Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

### BUDGET ESTIMATES – 5-6 JUNE 2014 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### Department of Human Services

**Topic:** Taxi costs

**Question reference number:** HS 144

**Senator:** Ludwig

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 25 July 2014

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

- a) How much did each department/agency spend on taxis from Additional Estimates in February 2014 to date? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.
- b) What are the reasons for taxi costs?

**Answer:**

- a) The department spent a total of \$499,380 of expenditure on taxi travel from 1 March 2014 to 31 May 2014. The breakdown by business group is given below:

<b>Business Group</b>	<b>Total (\$)</b>
Executive and Audit	12,011
Service Delivery Transformation	51,350
Service Delivery Operations	203,737
Social Services	90,399
Enabling Services	117,697
Chief Information Officer Group	24,186
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>499,380</b>

- b) Taxi services are used for official business purposes where it is more economical and efficient than maintaining a large fleet of vehicles. Taxis are often the only form of transport available where car hire or public transport is not an option (for example, in rural and remote communities or during natural disaster recovery work) or to provide transport to assist job seekers to find employment.