

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 2/3 June 2014**

**Ref No: SQ14-000733**

**OUTCOME:** 0 - Whole of Portfolio

**Topic:** Taxi Costs

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Ludwig, Joe

**Question:**

1. 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.
2. What are the reasons for taxi costs?

**Answer:**

- 1) The table below provides a summary of each department/agency's spending on taxis for the period 1 March 2014 to 31 May 2014.

<b>Department of Health</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Department of Health (core)	125
Therapeutic Goods Administration Trust	34
National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme	5
Office of the Gene Technology Regulator	3

<b>Health Portfolio (agencies)</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care	23
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	12
Australian National Preventative Health Agency	5
Australian Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Authority	6
Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency	23
Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority	8
Australian Sports Commission (including Australian Sports Foundation)	58
Cancer Australia	27
Food Standards Australia and New Zealand	9
General Practice Education and Training Ltd	9
Health Workforce Australia	33
Independent Hospital Pricing Authority	7
National Blood Authority	10
National Health and Medical Research Council	24
National Health Funding Body	3
National Mental Health Commission	15
National Health Performance Authority	13
Private Health Insurance Administration Council	9
Private Health Insurance Ombudsman	3
Professional Services Review Agency	8

2) Taxi costs are a component of travel expenditure. The Department of Health undertakes travel to meet with key stakeholders to ensure health and sport programs are adequately supported. The Department 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 and sport programs and expenditure. Policy initiatives require consultative and public communication activities.