

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2012-13 Supplementary Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** Cross

**Question No:** 363

**Topic:** Travel costs

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Boyce** asked:

For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).

**Answer:**

For the period 1 July to 30 September 2012, the Department's expenditure on staff travel was \$3,888,014 (GST Exclusive).

<b>Airfares</b>	<b>Accommodation</b>	<b>Travel Allowance</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>
\$2,143,372	\$819,918	\$888,326	\$36,398	\$3,888,014

The classification of "Other" includes officer's expenses where no travel allowance has been claimed, such as bus and vehicle hire, parking fees and venue hire.

The class of air travel for non-SES staff is generally Economy Class travel. SES officers travel Economy Class between Canberra and Sydney and Canberra and Melbourne (where those cities are the end destination), unless there are medical reasons for utilising a different class of travel. This is a Whole of Australian Government approach. In addition, FaHCSIA encourages SES employees to travel Economy Class where it is practicable.