

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 23-24 OCTOBER 2014 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Hire Cars

Question reference number: HS 104

Senator: Ludwig

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 12 December 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Since Budget Estimates in June 2014:

- a) How much did each department/agency spend on hire cars during the specified period? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.
- b) What are the reasons for hire car costs?
- c) How much did the department spend on hire cars during the specified period for their minister or minister's office?

Answer:

- a) The department spent \$290,862 on hire cars from Budget Estimates in June 2014 to 31 October 2014. The break down by business group is given below.

Business Group	Total (\$)
Executive and Audit	1,213
Service Delivery Transformation	26,238
Service Delivery Operations	119,719
Social Services	18,465
Enabling Services	58,969
Health Compliance and Information Group	21,639
Chief Information Officer Group	44,619
TOTAL	290,862

- b) Hire cars are used for official business purposes where it is more economical and efficient than maintaining a large fleet of vehicles. Hire cars are preferred, where available and in instances where it is less costly than taking a taxi or public transport is not an option (for example in rural and remote communities).
- c) The department spent \$17,922 from 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014 for car-with-driver transportation services provided by COMCAR.