

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2014-15 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross Outcome - Across Programs

Question No: 218

Topic: Travel

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Moore asked:

Please provide details of the travel budget for each of the years 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15 by programme outcome? What steps is the Department taking to reduce the environmental impact of staff travel?

Answer:

The Department of Social Services (DSS) was formed following the Machinery of Government changes in September 2013. The travel expenditure for 2013/14 and budget for 2014/15 are listed below, noting that DSS does not budget by Outcome:

	2013/14 Actual \$'000	2014/15 Budget \$'000
Department of Social Services	\$ 9,717	\$ 5,404

DDS' travel policy states "Travel should only be undertaken when it is the most effective way to achieve the department's aims and objectives. The approving delegate must be satisfied that the travel contributes to the achievement of DSS business, and that alternatives to air travel, such as teleconferencing and video conferencing, have been considered".