

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Budget Estimates Hearings May 2014

Communications Portfolio

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Question No: 74

Program No. Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Taxi Costs

Senator Ludwig asked:

1. How much did each Department/Agency spend on taxis from 25 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. From 1 March 2014 to 30 June 2014, the ABC spent \$1,080,000 on vehicle related expenses. Any amounts paid to an employee for the use of the employee's private vehicle, which are minimal, are also included in this figure,

A breakdown by department is as follows:

By Division 1 March 2014 – 30 June 2014	\$A(k)
ABC Commercial	24
ABC Resources	57
Business Services/COO/Board/MD	33
Capital Works	50
ABC International	37
Corporate Affairs	24
Corporate Wide Initiatives	5
Innovation	8
Legal	4
News	423
ABC People	12
Radio	175
Technology	39
Communication Networks	3
Television	181
Research & Marketing	6
TOTAL	1,080

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2. There are a number of reasons for expenditure on taxi services, these include:
 - Travel to and from the airport where the employee is travelling on approved ABC business;
 - Travel to and from meetings where the employee is representing the ABC;
 - Complying with WH&S requirements;
 - Emergency situation or where extenuating circumstances apply and the use of a taxi has been approved by the relevant manager; and
 - Circumstances specified in the various employment agreements, particularly in relation to after hour work.

All expenditure on taxis must comply with the Corporation's Taxi Policy.