

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2014

Communications Portfolio

NBN Co Limited

Question No: 181

Program No. NBN Co

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Taxi Costs

Senator Ludwig asked:

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

1. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis during the specified period?
Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.
2. What are the reasons for taxi costs?
3. How much did the department spend on taxis during the specified period for their minister or minister's office?

Answer:

1. The values below include taxi and train expenditure for the period of 1 July 2014 to 31 December 2014.

Cost center	Taxis/Train (A805220) Jul 14 - Dec 14 2014/2015
Chief Executive Officer (C79050)	1,541
Information Technology Services (C79070)	109,230
HFC (C79080)	700
Culture & Transformation (C79100)	88,736
Chief Customer Officer (C79150)	103,955
Finance (C79200)	110,994
Chief Strategy Officer (C79300)	35,578
Legal & Security (C79350)	48,178
Corporate Affairs (C79400)	9,639
Government Relations (C79450)	14,559
Chief Operations Office (C79500)	549,731
Total	1,072,840

2. NBN Co employees use taxis predominately when travelling interstate i.e. from airport to NBN Co office, for travel to attend meetings where public transport is less efficient or where an NBN Co employee is required to work after 8pm. Clause 6.4 of the Travel and Reimbursement Policy states the following:

6.4 Taxis

Taxi fares going to and from business activities will be reimbursed. Receipts/Tax Invoices should be obtained for all journeys and attached to Expense Claims.

Reimbursement for taxis home from the office for late work is permissible where a manager requests or authorises an employee/contractor to work back late (beyond 7:30pm) and the employee/contractor would be required to travel late on public transport.

3. Not applicable