

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

2015 - 2016

Department/Agency: ABS

Question: AMT 2011-2020

Topic: Travel costs - Department

Reference: written - 19 February 2016

Senator: Ludwig, Joe & Wong, Penny

Question:

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

2011. Is the minister or their office or their delegate required to approve all departmental and agency international travel?

2012. If so, under what policy?

2013. Provide a copy of that policy.

2014. When was this policy implemented?

2015. When is the minister notified, when is approved provided?

2016. Detail all travel (domestic and international) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).

2017. 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). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.

2018. What date was the minister or their office notified of the travel?

2019. What date did the minister or their office approve the travel?

2020. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.

Answer:

(2011 – 2015) No

2016 Nil

2017 The total cost of all travel related expenditure for the period 14 September 2015 to 19 February 2016 was \$6,665,699 (exclusive of GST). Travel has been undertaken to meet a range of Statistical work programme objectives including the development of the 2016 Census of Population and Housing and delivery of the household survey program.

ABS Travel Expenses: 14 September 2015 to 19 February 2016:

Airfares	\$1,502,403
Travel Allowance (TA)	\$1,049,666
Accommodation	\$971,246
Taxi charges	\$374,081
Self-Drive vehicles and other transport hire	\$123,797
Interviewer airfares, TA and self-drive vehicles	\$2,483,591
Other travel costs	\$160,915
Total	\$6,665,699

(2018 – 2919) N/A

2020 The travel to be undertaken for the rest of this calendar year will be essential to effectively meet ABS work programs which include the preparation and development of the 2016 Census of Population and Housing and the ongoing production of outputs on a range of economic, social and environmental statistics.