

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

2015 - 2016

Department/Agency: ACCC

Question: AET 2021-2030

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:

2021. Is the minister or their office or their delegate required to approve all departmental and agency international travel?

2022. If so, under what policy?

2023. Provide a copy of that policy.

2024. When was this policy implemented?

2025. When is the minister notified, when is approval provided?

2026. 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).

2027. 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.

2028. What date was the minister or their office notified of the travel?

2029. What date did the minister or their office approve the travel?

2030. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.

Answer:

2021. No. Ministerial approval is required for travel where the total cost for all ACCC delegates exceeds \$20 000. These arrangements are consistent with Finance Circular 2013/06.

2022. Nil, see answer 2021 above.

2023. Nil, see answer 2021 above.

2024. Nil, see answer 2021 above.

2025. The Minister is notified once the ACCC internal approval processes are completed at least 6 weeks prior to the proposed travel. Approval has been provided within 2-4 weeks of submission to the Minister's office.

2026. Nil.

2027. Total travel cost for the period 1 September 2015 to 31 January 2016 is outlined below:

Airfares: \$681,026

Other: \$594,247

Total: \$1,275,273

DOMESTIC - Travel Cost Breakdown

Travel Type	Cost
Accommodation	\$297,547
Airfares	\$397,542 (Economy class) \$43,296 (Business class)
Travel Allowance	\$171,039
Total	\$909,424

INTERNATIONAL – Travel Cost Breakdown

Travel Type	Cost
Travel Allowance (includes accommodation)	\$125,661
Airfares	\$123,213 (Economy class) \$116,975 (Business class)
Total	\$365,849

2028. Nil.

2029. Nil.

2030. The ACCC's planned travel expenditure for the remainder of the 15/16 financial year is outlined in the table below. The ACCC has not finalised budgets for the 16/17 financial year and therefore cannot provide a planned travel spend for the full calendar year.

Planned Travel Spend	Remainder of 15/16 Financial year (\$)
Domestic Travel	\$1,260,000
International Travel	\$99,400
Total	\$1,359,400

The reason for travel is the transportation of ACCC Officers, management and staff to business meetings and events when required.