

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

2015 - 2016

Department/Agency: AOFM

Question: AET 2041-2050

Topic: Travel costs - department

Reference: written - 19 February 2016

Senator: Ludwig, Joe

Question:

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

2041. Is the minister or their office or their delegate required to approve all departmental and agency international travel?

2042. If so, under what policy?

2043. Provide a copy of that policy.

2044. When was this policy implemented?

2045. When is the minister notified, when is approved provided?

2046. 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).

2047. 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.

2048. What date was the minister or their office notified of the travel?

2049. What date did the minister or their office approve the travel?

2050. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.

Answer:

2041. From 9 February 2015 onwards the AOFM's CEO can approve own agency international travel under the approval requirements for international travel agreed by the Treasurer.

2042. The whole-of-government – international Travel policy.

2043. A copy of the policy can be found on <http://www.finance.gov.au/procurement/travel-and-related-services/>.

2044. The revised approval arrangements was implemented from 9 February 2015.

2045. Not applicable.

2046. Not applicable.

2047. For the period from 14 September 2015 to 19 February 2016, total travel expenses incurred are as follows:

Travel Type	Amount
Domestic	\$ 24,528.95
Domestic Airfares	\$ 10,713.25
Domestic Accommodation	\$ 10,176.00
Domestic Allowances	\$ 3,158.45
Domestic Service Charges	\$ 481.25
International	\$ 64,148.41
International Airfares	\$ 31,852.27
International Accommodation	\$ 24,596.40
International Allowances	\$ 6,926.24
International Service Charges	\$ 773.50
Total Travel Expenses	\$ 88,677.36

Allowances figures are inclusive of meals, incidentals and other expenses where applicable. Our reporting system is not able to break down classes of travel - it can be assumed that all international travel is business class and all domestic travel is economy class unless it is the domestic leg of an international trip.

The travel was largely for:

- interviews;
- staff relocation;
- attendance of audit committee and advisory board;
- engaging with investors (both domestic and international) to promote government securities;
- market liaison with stakeholder such as banks and fund managers;
- attendance at international debt management and CFO meetings; and
- attendance at conferences, events and training courses.

2048. Not applicable.

2049. Not applicable.

2050. All domestic travel is generally booked for attendance of conference, meetings, trainings or market liaison upon CEO's approval. There are around 13 travel arrangements in place after the reporting date. Also travel arrangement for interviews and relocation are placed as required, for which there are 2 trips planned after the reporting date.