

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

2015 - 2016

Department/Agency: APRA
Question: AET 2051-2060
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:

2051. Is the minister or their office or their delegate required to approve all departmental and agency international travel?

2052. If so, under what policy?

2053. Provide a copy of that policy.

2054. When was this policy implemented?

2055. When is the minister notified, when is approved provided?

2056. 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).

2057. 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.

2058. What date was the minister or their office notified of the travel?

2059. What date did the minister or their office approve the travel?

2060. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.

Answer:

2051. Ministerial approval is not required for international travel by staff of the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA). The relevant APRA delegate approves international travel.

2052 - 2054. Refer to <http://www.finance.gov.au/procurement/travel-and-related-services/> for the appropriate policy that guides Treasury's international travel processes, which came into effect on 9 February 2015.

2055. Not applicable.

2056. Not applicable. APRA staff did not accompany Ministers or Parliamentary Secretaries during the period 14 September 2015 to 10 February 2016.

2057. For the period 14 September 2015 to 10 February 2016, the details of all air travel by officers of APRA is as follows:

	No. of Trips	Total Cost \$
Domestic	633	243,583
International	108	339,249
Provider booking fees	718	13,836
Department of Finance fees	583	1,855
Total	2,042	598,523

The travel relates to APRA's prudential regulation, supervision and support. Extracting the cost of accommodation, meals and other incidentals would require a substantial diversion of APRA's resources as the data sources are not in a form that makes this readily available.

2058 Ministerial approval was not required to be sought in relation to these travel arrangements

2059. Not applicable.

2060. Travel relates to APRA's prudential regulation, supervision and support activities. Provision of expected travel information is not readily available and would require a substantial diversion of APRA's resources to compile.