

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

2015 - 2016

Department/Agency: PC

Question: AET 2101-2110

Topic: Travel costs - departmental

Reference: written - 19 February 2016

Senator: Ludwig, Joe

Question:

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

2101. Is the minister or their office or their delegate required to approve all departmental and agency international travel?

2102. If so, under what policy?

2103. Provide a copy of that policy.

2104. When was this policy implemented?

2105. When is the minister notified, when is approved provided?

2106. 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).

2107. 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.

2108. What date was the minister or their office notified of the travel?

2109. What date did the minister or their office approve the travel?

2110. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.

Answer:

As at 19 February 2016:

2101. No.

2102-2106. Not applicable.

2107.

Category	Amount (GST exclusive)
Domestic Travel Allowances	50,950
Domestic Airfares	90,697
Domestic Accommodation	31,531
Domestic Other Travel Costs	2,406
International Travel Allowances	4,554
International Airfares	35,154
International Accommodation	3,192
International Other Travel Costs	1,460
Airline Booking Fee	3,304
Whole of Government (WOG) Booking Fees	780
Taxi Charges	50,823
Total	274,851

The Commission does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow an answer to be provided in relation to type of airfare. To attempt to provide a greater level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of agency resources.

Travel was undertaken to meet business operational requirements.

2108. Not applicable.

2109. Not applicable.

2110. In general, the Commission's travel is considered on a case-by-case basis depending on the nature, scope and timing of reviews commissioned by Government.