Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

Department/Agency: ASIC Question: AET 260-262 Topic: Taxi Costs

Reference: written - 19 February 2016

Senator: Ludwig, Joe

Question:

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

- 260. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis during the specified period? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.
- 261. What are the reasons for taxi costs?
- 262. How much did the department spend on taxis during the specified period for their minister or minister's office?

Answer:

- 260. From 14 September 2015 to 29 February 2016, ASIC spent \$308,978 on taxis. The effort required to provide a listing of taxi costs by business group would require an unreasonable diversion of resources to compile the data.
- 261. ASIC incurs taxi costs for official business reasons such as:
 - Travel during investigations (travel to court, to collect evidence, etc.);
 - employee transport around approved overtime or other outside "core office hours" work arrangements; and
 - Airport transfers (domestic and international) to attend conferences, training, seminars and work at other ASIC offices.
- 262. ASIC has not incurred any costs on taxis for the minister or minister's office.