

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Additional Estimates

2015 - 2016

**Department/Agency: Australian Taxation Office**

**Question: AET 3362-3364**

**Topic: Workplace assessments**

**Reference: written - 19 February 2016**

**Senator: Ludwig, Joe**

**Question:**

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

3362. How much has been spent on workplace ergonomic assessments?

a) List each item of expenditure and cost

3363. Have any assessments, not related to an existing disability, resulted in changes to workplace equipment or set up?

3364. If so, list each item of expenditure and cost related to those changes

**Answer:**

All figures are GST exclusive.

3362. \$177,794 has been spent on ergonomic assessments from 14 September 2015 to 31 January 2016.

a) Ergonomic Reviews – 290 assessments - \$71,008.18  
Work Station Assessments – 272 assessments - \$106,785.60.

3363. Ergonomic assessments often result in a recommendation for the use of alternative equipment. The Referral Management System collects all ergonomic equipment ordering. This system does not collect whether the employee has an existing disability (disability as defined by the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*).

Employees who report that they have a disability may be provided specific equipment via JobAccess. If a disabled employee requires equipment for ergonomic reasons, rather than specifically for their disability, it will be funded by the ATO, and is included in the figures provided.

3364. Equipment – 126 orders - \$21,520 (3 items were provided from used stock)  
Sit stand desks – 76 new orders - \$132,315.50 (27 items were provided from existing stock).  
Specialist chairs – 172 new orders - \$55,255.62 (97 items were provided from existing stock).  
Total cost – \$209,091.12\*

\*As above, ergonomic assistance for some people with disabilities may be included in these figures.