

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Budget Estimates

2017 - 2018

**Division/Agency:** Australian Taxation Office

**Question No:** 3

**Topic:** Credit Cards

**Reference:** Written

**Senator:** Bilyk, Catryna

**Question:**

1. How many credit cards are currently on issue for staff in the Department and agencies within the portfolio? If possible, please provide a break-down of this information by APS/ SES level.
2. What was the value of the largest reported purchase on a credit card in calendar year 2016 and what was it for?
3. How much interest was paid on amounts outstanding from credit cards in calendar year 2016?
4. How much was paid in late fees on amounts outstanding from credit cards in calendar year 2016?
5. What was the largest amount outstanding on a single card at the end of a payment period in calendar year 2016 and what was the card holder's APS/ SES level?
6. How many credit cards were reported as lost or stolen in calendar year 2016 and what was the cost of their replacement?
7. How many credit card purchases were deemed to be illegitimate or contrary to agency policy in calendar year 2016? What was the total value of those purchases? How many purchases were asked to be repaid on that basis in calendar year 2016 and what was the total value thereof? Were all those amounts actually repaid? If no, how many were not repaid, and what was the total value thereof?
8. What was the largest purchase that was deemed illegitimate or contrary to agency policy and asked to be repaid in calendar year 2016, and what was the cardholder's APS/ SES level? What that amount actually repaid, in full? If no, what amount was left unpaid?
9. Are any credit cards currently on issue in the Department or agencies within the portfolio connected to rewards schemes? Do staff receive any personal benefit as a result of those reward schemes?
10. Can a copy of the Department's staff credit card policy please be provided?

**Answer:**

1. 440 ATO staff have a departmental credit card. The classifications of these staff range from APS2 to the Commissioner.
2. \$45,000. This was for Liquid Learning Pre Purchased Credit for training and for staff to attend courses and conferences.
3. No interest was paid.
4. No late fees were paid.
5. No payments were outstanding.

6. One credit card was reported lost. There was no replacement cost
7. Three purchases were deemed illegitimate or contrary to agency policy. The total value was \$150.35 and this amount was repaid.
8. \$69.50. This was repaid in full by the SES.
9. No personal benefits are derived from departmental credit cards.
10. Refer below.

*The ATO reports on the net cost to the ATO, which is the standard accounting treatment for reporting. Whilst the ATO will pay invoices inclusive of GST, the GST is claimed back. Hence the net cost to the ATO is the GST-exclusive amount and therefore is what is reported.*