

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

20 November – 21 November 2013

Question: SBT 376-383

Topic: Travel costs (APRA)

Written: 25 November 2013

Senators LUDWIG and WONG asked:

376. For the financial year to date*, please detail all travel 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).
377. For the financial year to date, please 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.
378. What travel is planned for the rest of the financial year from 7 September 2013? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
379. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
380. What is the policy for business class airfare tickets?
381. Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the total costs of the lounge memberships.
382. When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as an Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel.
383. Does the department/agency elect to offset emissions for employees work related travel? If yes, what is the cost?

**to 30 November 2013*

Answer:

376. Officers from Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) do not accompany the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel.

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377. For the financial year to 30 November 2013, the details of all air travel by officers of APRA is as follows:

Class	No of Trips	Cost \$
First	6	32,925.76
Business	194	499,810.17
Premium Economy	None	0
Economy	383	137,277.52
Provider booking fee		27,218.15
Department of Finance and Deregulation fee		2818.76
Total		700,050.36

Travel relates to APRA's prudential regulation and supervision activities. 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.

378. and 379. Travel planned relates to APRA's prudential regulation and supervision activities. Provision of expected travel information is not readily available and would require a substantial diversion of APRA's resources to compile.
380. APRA's policy for business class airfare is dependent on the terms of employment. The number of business flights will depend on APRA's operational requirements. APRA utilises the Government's centralised airline booking service to secure 'best fare of the day'.
381. Yes. Qantas Club lounge memberships are provided to APRA staff that regularly travel interstate and internationally on APRA business to assist in their productivity while out of the office. For the financial year to 30 November 2013, 77 APRA staff were provided with airline lounge membership for a total cost of \$14,790.
382. No.
383. No.