

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Supplementary Budget Estimates

2015 - 2016

**Department/Agency: AOFM**

**Question: SBT 1518-1523**

**Topic: 1518-1523 - Travel**

**Reference: written - 30 October 2015**

**Senator: Wong, Penny**

**Question:**

Since 1 January 2015:

1518. Is the minister or their office or their delegate required to approve all departmental and agency international travel?

- a) If so, under what policy?
- b) Provide a copy of that policy.
- c) When was this policy implemented?

1519. List all occurrences of travel that this has occurred under 1. Detail the process.

1520. When is the minister notified, when is approved provided?

1521. 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).

1522. 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.

- a) What date was the minister or their office was notified of the travel?
- b) What date did the minister or their office approve the travel?

1523. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.

**Answer:**

1518. .

From 1 January to 9 February 2015 the approval of overseas travel was made in accordance with guidance issued by the Department of Finance. The policy required ministerial approval for international travel greater than \$20,000. From 9 February 2015 ministerial approval was no longer required. The relevant AOFM CEO approved international from this time. Refer to <http://www.finance.gov.au/procurement/travel-and-related-services/> for the appropriate policy that guides Treasury's international travel.

1519. Not applicable.

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1520. Not applicable.

1521. Not applicable.

1522. For the period from 1 January 2015 to 30 October 2015, total travel expenses incurred are as follows:

<b>Travel Type</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Domestic</b>	<b>84,867</b>
Domestic Airfares	33,237
Domestic Allowances	12,618
Domestic Accommodation	39,012
<b>International</b>	<b>232,367</b>
International Airfares	139,532
International Allowances (includes accommodation)	92,835
<b>Total Travel Expenses</b>	<b>177,702</b>

Allowances figures are inclusive of accommodation (where indicated), meals and incidentals. Our reporting system is not able to break down classes of travel - it can be assumed that all international travel is business class and all domestic travel is economy class unless it is the domestic leg of an international trip.

The travel was largely for:

- engaging with investors to discuss government securities;
- market liaison;
- attendance at international debt management meetings; and
- attendance at conferences, events and training courses.

1523. Domestic travel is planned to attend meetings as required. International travel to London to meet investors is planned for the remainder of the calendar year.