

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

2015 - 2016

Department/Agency: Treasury

Question: SBT 2543-2556

Topic: Visit to Torres Strait

Reference: written - 02 November 2015

Senator: Bilyk, Catryna

Question:

Visit to Torres Strait

2543 - Did the former Treasurer, the former Assistant Treasurer or the former Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, their personal staff or the Department participate in the former Prime Minister's trip to the Torres Strait?

If so-

2544 - What was the duration of the visit to Torres Strait?

2545 - Which locations did the Minister/his Department travel to?

2546 - Which communities did the Minister/his Department engage with?

2547 - What type of activities did they undertake?

2548 - What were the outcomes of the trip?

2549 - Was an official report or communique or similar published in relation to the trip?

2550 - Are you able to please provide an itinerary for the A Minister/his Department's trip?

2551 - Which hotel or hotels did the Minister/his Department stay in?

2552 - Could you please provide an itemised cost breakdown in relation to the Minister/his Department's involvement in this trip? This should be broken down into categories such as accommodation, ground transport, meals, incidentals etc.

2553 - How many members of the Minister's staff participated in the trip?

2554 - Could you please advise the number of staff, their title and staffing classification under the MOPS Enterprise Agreement?

2555 - In terms of departmental officials from the Department, could you please advise the names and roles of each departmental official in attendance?

2556 - Could you also please provide an itemised list of costs for departmental officials in

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terms of flights, accommodation, ground transport, meals and other incidentals? This should specify the officials which travelled in business class and those that travelled in economy, the hotels they stayed in and which businesses supplied ground transport.

Answer:

Answer - 2544-2554 Details of expenditure for costs related to official travel paid by the Department are published every six months in a report titled Parliamentarians' Expenditure on Entitlements paid by the Department of Finance.

To provide this information in an alternative format outside of the normal reporting period would be an unreasonable diversion of the department's resources.

Answer – 2555 - Mr Matthew Flavel, Division Head, Fiscal Group, Budget Policy Division

Answer – 2556 – Mr Flavel is entitled to Business Class travel, in this incident travel was at both Business and Economy class.

Travel was by Air and Ferry – providers Qantas, Virgin, Regional Express, McDonald Charter Boats and Peddells Thursday Island Tours.

Accommodation was arranged by Prime Minister and Cabinet on Horn Island the Army Base at Bamaga and on Thursday Island the Grand Hotel.

Fares/Fees	\$3,065.78
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Meals and Incidentals	\$ 310.50
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Accommodation Oaks Aurora in Brisbane	\$ 177.00
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Ground Transport was arranged by the PM Office.