

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

2015 - 2016

Department/Agency: APRA
Question: SBT 836-841
Topic: Travel
Reference: written - 30 December 2015
Senator: Wong, Penny

Question:

Since 1 January 2015:

836. Is the minister or their office or their delegate required to approve all departmental and agency international travel?
- If so, under what policy?
 - Provide a copy of that policy.
 - When was this policy implemented?
837. List all occurrences of travel that this has occurred under 1. Detail the process.
838. When is the minister notified, when is approved provided?
839. 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).
840. 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.
- What date was the minister or their office was notified of the travel?
 - What date did the minister or their office approve the travel?
841. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.

Answer:

836.

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 APRA delegate approved international from this time. Refer

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to <http://www.finance.gov.au/procurement/travel-and-related-services/> for the appropriate policy that guides Treasury's international travel.

837. – 838. Not applicable.

839. Not applicable.

840. For the period 1 January to 30 October 2015, the details of all air travel by officers of APRA is as follows:

| | No. of Trips | Total Cost \$ |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Domestic | 1145 | \$542,391 |
| International | 212 | \$907,132 |
| Provider booking fees | - | \$27,056 |
| Department of Finance fees | - | \$1,974 |
| Total | | \$1,478,553 |

The travel relates to APRA's prudential regulation, supervision and support. 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.

a) – b) Ministerial approval was not required to be sought in relation to these travel arrangements

841. Travel relates to APRA's prudential regulation, supervision and support activities. Provision of expected travel information is not readily available and would require a substantial diversion of APRA's resources to compile.