

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2014 - 2015

Outcome 2 - Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ15-000008

Senator Cameron asked on 26 February 2015 on proof Hansard page 114

Question

Fair Work Building Industry Inspectorate Travel Allowance

Senator Abetz: It would depend on the individual Remuneration Tribunal requirements. It would be fair to say, because of certain activities by parliamentarians across the board, a rule was introduced that there is the commercial rate set by the Remuneration Tribunal and then there is a non-commercial rate of, if I recall, one-third of the Rem Tribunal rate which is paid for us parliamentarians. I do not think that the Rem Tribunal's travel allowance arrangements have that requirement for other office holders.

Senator CAMERON: I was not aware of that. Thanks for that, Senator Abetz.

Senator Abetz: We will check on that, but that is my understanding.

Answer

Remuneration Tribunal Determination 2013/16 sets out travel entitlements for holders of public office. This determination applies to the Director of the Fair Work Building Industry Inspectorate.

Commercial and non-commercial accommodation rates apply to holders of public office. Clause 3.7 of Determination 2013/16 states:

Non-commercial accommodation: Where an office holder does not stay in commercial accommodation, but stays in accommodation such as the home of a family member or friend, a rate of one third of the specified travelling allowance is payable (rounded upwards to the nearest dollar).

The full determination is available on the Remuneration Tribunal's website at <http://www.remtribunal.gov.au/offices/full-time-offices>.