

## Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

#### Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000209

Senator McKenzie provided in writing.

#### Question

##### Attendance at Additional Senate Estimates

Regarding Additional Senate estimates on the 11 and 12 of February 2016, what were the fully itemised and absorbed costs for officers of the Department of Employment and for each of the agencies listed below to attend?

- Workplace Gender Equality Agency
- Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency
- Fair Work Commission
- Office of the Fair Work Ombudsman
- Comcare, the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission, and the Seafarer's Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Authority
- Safe Work Australia
- Office of the Fair Work Building Industry Inspectorate (Fair Work Building and Construction)

#### Answer

The direct costs for Department of Employment and portfolio agency officers to attend the Additional Senate Estimates hearing on 11–12 February 2016 are set out in the table below.

##### Direct costs for officers' attendance at the Additional Senate Estimates hearing on Thursday 11 February and Friday 12 February 2016

Agency	Accommodation and incidentals	Airfares	Total
Department of Employment	\$130.43	\$502.47	\$632.90
Asbestos Safety Eradication Agency	\$1,125.93	\$1,149.66	\$2,275.59
Comcare	\$995.44	\$1,201.52	\$2,196.96
Fair Work Building and Construction	\$6,127.00	\$7,995.41	\$14,122.41
Fair Work Commission	\$5,635.49	\$5,571.96	\$11,207.45
Fair Work Ombudsman	\$9,513.52	\$7,245.89	\$16,759.41
Safe Work Australia	-	-	-
Workplace Gender Equality Agency	\$1,129.16	\$720.78	\$1,849.94
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24,656.97</b>	<b>\$24,387.69</b>	<b>\$49,044.66</b>

The below table outlines the number of officers that attended the hearing and the time spent giving evidence or waiting to appear before the Committee to provide evidence.

**Officers' attendance at the Additional Senate Estimates hearing for Thursday 11 February 2016**  
(Some officers were in attendance all day due to their responsibilities crossing over outcomes and agencies)

Outcome/ Agency	Number of officers at hearing	Scheduled appearance time as per agenda	Commenced	Time giving evidence	Approximate waiting time
Cross Portfolio	16	9.00 am	9.00 am	2 hours 50 minutes	10 hours
Outcome 1	19	10.45 am	11.48 am	4 hours 30 minutes less 1 hour lunch break	3 hours
Outcome 2	22	1.30 pm	4.22 pm	5 hours 30 minutes less 1 hour dinner break	11 hours
Workplace Gender Equality Agency	2	1.30 pm	9.52 pm	20 minutes	12 hours
Asbestos Safety Eradication Agency	3	1.30 pm	10.17 pm	15 minutes	8 hours
Fair Work Commission	6	3.45 pm	10.35 pm	20 minutes	8 hours 30 minutes
Fair Work Ombudsman	11	3.45 pm	10.56 pm	4 minutes	8 hours 30 minutes
Fair Work Building and Construction	8	9.00 pm	-	Did not appear	3 hours
Comcare	8	7.00 pm	-	Sent home at 9.11 pm	2 hours
Safe Work Australia	5	7.00 pm	-	Sent home at 9.11 pm	3 hours

**Officers' attendance at the Additional Senate Estimates hearing for Friday 12 February 2016**

Outcome/ Agency	Number of officers at hearing	Scheduled appearance time as per agenda	Commenced	Time giving evidence	Approximate waiting time
Fair Work Building and Construction	8	9.00 am	9.00 am	5 hours 20 minutes	-
Department	5	-	9.00 am	-	-

The fully absorbed costs arising from attendance at the hearing by the officer's outlined above are not readily available and would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department's resources to obtain.