

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ15-000187

Senator McKenzie provided in writing.

Question

Budget Estimates hearing

1. Could you please provide information about the cost (for example staff time, travel & accommodation) that your Agency/Department incurred as a result of being involved with the Budget Estimates hearing for the Employment and Education Committee?
2. Does your Agency/Department have any comments to make regarding the running of Budget Estimate hearings or suggestions on how it could be improved?

Answer

1. It is not possible to provide detail of costs for the staff time involved with the Budget Estimates hearing as no records are kept for this. The Department of Employment incurred a cost of \$523.55 for the airfare and taxi fares for one interstate employee to travel to Canberra to attend the hearing. The employee travelled within one day so no accommodation costs were required.
2. The Department notes that it would be helpful to have an indication of timing for each outcome and agency to avoid unnecessary waiting time and, for interstate attendees, travel costs.