

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Agency - Fair Work Building and Construction

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000930

Senator Cameron asked on 19 October 2016 on proof Hansard page 133

Question

FWBC - Travel by Director of FWBC

Mr O'Keeffe: The records do go through our books. We have supplied to the Senate before information where you have asked, for example, 'Has Mr Hadgkiss travelled to Hobart?' He has given you that information. We have looked it up. It has been in the—

Senator CAMERON: Can you do that again?

Mr O'Keeffe: We know where to find that.

Senator CAMERON: Can you do that again for the period from the last time you provided that information to the present? Can you also ensure we know what that funding was expended for, not just that he went to Hobart and stayed in such a hotel? I want to know where he went, how much was expended, whether there was any entertainment expenses. I want to know that. Also, I want to know why he undertook that travel. And I want to know who he met when he undertook the travel.

Senator MARSHALL: And can you dip into the funds enough to buy the man a diary?

Senator CAMERON: Can that be done?

Mr O'Keeffe: I will take that on notice, as you have asked.

Senator CAMERON: I am not asking you to take it on notice. I am asking you to provide the information.

CHAIR: But he will have to take it on notice, Senator, to do that because he does not have it with him.

Mr O'Keeffe: Correct.

Senator CAMERON: So I want that information—absolutely. Do you understand your obligations to the Senate, Mr O'Keeffe?

Mr O'Keeffe: Yes, Senator.

Senator CAMERON: What is that obligation in terms of providing information to the Senate?

Mr O'Keeffe: To provide the information that is available.

Senator CAMERON: So that information is available?

Senator Cash: He said he would take it on notice.

Mr O'Keeffe: I will need to see what information is available there so I can provide it to you.

Senator CAMERON: So does anyone—

Mr O'Keeffe: I cannot give you a guarantee for the exact amount of detail that is there. And I provided you last time with the information that was available.

Senator CAMERON: Yes, I am asking for that again. But I am also—

Mr O'Keeffe: So that is the degree of detail that was available. I will be able to do the same again.

CHAIR: Thank you, Mr O'Keeffe. You have taken it on notice. Thank you for that.

Senator CAMERON: Are you aware of why Mr Hadgkiss travels and who he meets?

Mr O'Keeffe: Not necessarily.

Senator CAMERON: So I want that information. Can you provide that information, Mr Hadgkiss? If Mr O'Keeffe, the chief operating officer, does not know what you are doing, can you ensure that he does know and that the Senate knows what you are doing?

Mr Hadgkiss: I will take it on notice, Senator.
 CHAIR: Mr O'Keeffe is taking it on notice.

Answer

Since 12 February 2016 (the last time FWBC appeared at Senate Estimates) to 31 October 2016, Mr Hadgkiss has taken the following travel:

Destination	Dates	Airfares	Travel allowance/ Accommodation	Taxis	Total
Canberra	10 – 12 Feb	1,417.95	707.64	119.84	2,245.42
Sydney	15 – 17 Feb	1,508.00	702.64	114.55	2,325.19
Perth	21 – 22 Feb	2,053.92	390.91	33.41	2,478.24
Sydney	9 – 10 Mar	1,024.58	373.91	79.61	1,478.10
Sydney	21– 22 Mar	1,063.51	380.91	60.90	1,505.32
Canberra	1 – 2 May	0.00	86.50	0.00	86.50
Sydney/Brisbane/ Perth/Adelaide	29 Mar – 1 Apr	748.56	912.00	51.16	1,711.73
Brisbane/Darwin	7 – 12 Apr	3,891.63	1,525.36	249.73	5,666.72
Canberra/Perth	5 – 6 May	1,996.94	284.00	142.38	2,423.32
Perth	26 – 27 May	660.81	582.27	112.93	1,356.01
Sydney	9 – 10 May	2,060.63	185.00	105.28	2,350.91
Brisbane	31 May – 1 Jun	519.01	388.36	105.60	1,012.97
Hobart	2 – 3 Jun	1,312.27	337.00	110.79	1,760.06
Sydney	8 Jun	949.22	134.55	45.92	1,129.68

Sydney/Brisbane/ Canberra	14 – 16 Jun	1,042.55	331.00	80.52	1,454.07
Sydney	21 – 22 Jun	2,268.58	535.27	201.13	3,004.98
Canberra	23 – 26 Jun	1,139.76	836.55	87.76	2,064.07
Perth	12 – 15 Jul	0.00	954.00	19.91	973.91
Sydney	04 – 5 Aug	2,076.49	350.91	114.45	2,541.85
Adelaide	10 – 14 Aug	1,505.14	1,151.00	79.89	2,736.03
Sydney	30 – 31 Aug	0.00	229.00	14.03	243.03
Canberra	18 – 20 Oct	1,438.29	490.73	99.56	2,028.58
Sydney	7 – 8 Sept	1,561.54	397.00	0.00	1,958.54
Sydney	19 – 20 Sept	1,550.05	170.00	89.28	1,809.33
Adelaide	04 – 6 Oct	0.00	421.00	0.00	421.00
Melbourne city travel				181.22	181.22
TOTAL		31,789.42	12,857.50	2,299.86	46,946.78

The cost of entertainment expenses incurred by Mr Hadgkiss when travelling is nil.

The reasons for travel are unable to be specified for each trip as FWBC does not collate this level of data, however regular travel includes attending FWBC Executive Team meetings, Audit Committee meetings and Senate Estimates hearings.

The people that Mr Hadgkiss has met with whilst travelling are unable to be specified as FWBC does not collate this level of data in finance or travel card systems.