

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Additional Estimates Hearing—February 2014**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Taxi costs**

Question: **195**

Written **Senator Ludwig**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 April 2014

1. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.
2. What are the reasons for taxi costs?

Answer

1. Taxi expenses from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date totalled \$1,594 (ex GST).

Breakdown for each business group –

Building Management (Electrical and Security)	\$139
Broadcasting & Hansard	\$233
Corporate Services	\$28
Information Communications & Technology	\$29
Office of the Secretary	\$462
Parliamentary Library	\$520
Auspice	\$183

2. Taxi costs are incurred for travel:
 - to and from Canberra Airport when travelling on official business;
 - to and from a destination airport to an official business venue or official business accommodation;
 - to and from official accommodation to a venue (if accommodation is not reasonably close to the venue);
 - to official activities (local and interstate) when transporting support equipment (e.g. broadcasting recording equipment, projectors, personal computers, etc.) where taxi travel is the most cost-effective method;
 - between Parliament House and a local venue where the employee is required to attend an official meeting or other official business; or
 - when the employee is “on call” and may be required to return to Parliament House outside of normal office hours.