

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Public Service Commission

Outcome/Program: Cross Portfolio

Topic: Boards

Senator: Ludwig

Question reference number: 341

Type of question: Written

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

Number of pages: 2

Question:

1. Since September Additional Estimates in February, 2014;
 - a. how often has each board met, break down by board name;
 - b. what travel expenses are provided;
 - c. what is the average attendance at board meetings;
 - d. how does the board deal with conflict of interest;
 - e. what conflicts of interest have been registered;
 - f. what remuneration is provided to board members;
 - g. how does the board dismiss board members who do not meet attendance standards?
 - h. Have any requests been made to ministers to dismiss board members since Additional Estimates in February, 2014?
 - i. Please list board members who have attended less than 51% of meetings
 - j. what have catering costs been for the board meetings held this year; is alcohol served;

Answer:

- 1.a) Remuneration Tribunal Secretariat - met 3 times
Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal (DFRT) - met 5 times
- b) Remuneration Tribunal – travel allowance if overnight stays are required as per Remuneration Tribunal Determination 2013/16, plus air fares and taxi costs
DFRT – travel allowance if overnight stays are required as per Remuneration Tribunal Determination 2013/16, plus air fares and ComCar costs.
- c) Remuneration Tribunal – average attendance is 100%
DFRT – average attendance is 100%
- d) Remuneration Tribunal – conflict of interests are dealt with on a matter by matter basis and it is a standing agenda item for each meeting.
DFRT – no conflict matters have arisen
- e) Nil.
- f) Remuneration Tribunal – part-time members - President \$87,343 pa, Members \$42,250 pa.

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DFRT – part-time members – President no remuneration as per *Defence Act 1903* Section 58F to 58Y (the person appointed as President shall be a Deputy President of Fair Work Commission). Members \$871 per day.

- g) N/A
- h) No
- i) N/A
- j) Remuneration Tribunal – light refreshments totalling \$317.30 (February and May meetings); no alcohol is served.
DFRT – Nil; no alcohol is served.