

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates 26 May-6 June 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Hire cars - All Agency Indigenous Bodies

Senator: Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig

Question reference number: 371

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 2

Question:

a) How much did each department/agency spend on hire cars from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.

b) What are the reasons for hire car costs?

Answer:

Responses for the Indigenous Affairs agencies within the Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio are provided below:

Portfolio Agency	Amount \$	Business Group	Reasons for hire car costs
Aboriginal Hostels Limited (AHL)	\$1,509.06		(a) AHL has spent a total of \$1,509.06 for the period outlined, on hire cars to provide transport to general staff member and senior executive staff for various site visits and business travel. (b) Most AHL sites are located in regional and remote areas where there is no public transport available and this is considered as the most practical and economical form of transport.
Anindilyakwa Land Council	\$975.59 (GST exclusive)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$865.65 related to travel to/from official business by the Chief Executive Officer, Mining & Environment Manager and Anthropologist• \$109.94 for external consultants travel requirements on Groote Eylandt	Hire cars are utilised where transit costs between accommodation and place of official business are a more economically viable option than the use of taxis and/or where taxis or pool vehicles are unavailable (i.e. Groote Eylandt).

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates 26 May-6 June 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Central Land Council	\$3,391		Incidental to approved travel.
Indigenous Business Australia	\$17,209	Equity and Investments \$6,535 Home Ownership \$5,361 Business Development and Assistance \$3,313 Support Services \$2,000	Hire cars are used by staff in the provision of client service delivery, business development and supporting operations nationally.
Indigenous Land Corporation	\$26,367.69		Hire car costs are in connection with staff travel, mainly in remote and rural areas of Australia.
Northern Land Council	Current information not available.		
Outback Stores	\$17,792.28		Store Visits, Store Managers and Support Staff Travel
Tiwi Land Council	\$10,936		Hire of vehicle in Darwin and on Tiwi Islands
Torres Strait Regional Authority	\$698		Hire cars are used when staff are away from Thursday Island and hiring a car is more economical than using taxis.
Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council	Nil.		