

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015-16

Finance Portfolio
27-28 May 2015

Department/Agency: Department of Finance

Outcome/Program: 3/3.1

Topic: Cost of COMCAR services for recent visits by the Netherlands and New Zealand

Senator: Ludwig

Question reference number: F68

Type of question: Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 79, 28 May 2015

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 10 July 2015

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator LUDWIG: All right; put it to the side then. Are you able to then detail for us the visit by the Netherlands—what Comcar usage was undertaken—and the same for New Zealand? Is this information available to the committee?

...

CHAIR: I think Senator Ludwig was referring to a visit by the Dutch Prime Minister—

Senator LUDWIG: The Prime Minister, yes.

CHAIR: both here in Canberra and Sydney, I think. There was a figure provided to us which did seem quite a lot for a 24-hour visit.

...

Senator Ronaldson: That is why, I think, we will take it on notice and we will see what we can or cannot do.

Answer:

The Netherlands Prime Minister visited both Sydney and Canberra - arriving in Sydney at 06:40 on Thursday 6 November 2014 and departing Sydney at 17:45 on Friday 7 November 2014.

Five vehicles and 10 drivers were provided to cover the span of hours required. Total cost of the visit was \$20,414.35 which also included charges for baggage services and an Australian transport officer.

The New Zealand Governor-General visited Sydney, Uluru, Adelaide, and Canberra - arriving into Sydney at 17:25 on Sunday 24 May 2015 and departing Sydney at 18:50 on Friday 29 May 2015.

Three vehicles and three drivers were provided to cover the span of the visit and a coach was provided in Uluru.

Costs are yet to be finalised.