

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing—November 2013**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary Departments: Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Taxi Costs**

Question No: **154**

Written: **Senator Ludwig**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 17 January 2014

- a) How much did each department/agency spend on taxis from 7 September 2013 to date? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.
b) What are the reasons for taxi costs?

Answer

- a) From 7 to 30 September 2013, the Department spent \$840.20 on taxis. The following table provides a breakdown for each business group in DPS.

Content Management Branch	\$368.75
ICT Division	\$236.94
Office of Secretary	\$6.00
Parliamentary Library	\$38.44
Building Division	\$190.07
Total	\$840.20

- b) Taxi costs are incurred for travel:
- i. to and from Canberra Airport when travelling on official business (e.g. interstate duty, course, conferences, meetings, etc.);
 - ii. to and from a destination airport to an official business venue or official business accommodation;
 - iii. to and from official accommodation to a venue (if such accommodation is not reasonably close to the venue);
 - iv. to official activities (local and interstate) when transporting support equipment (e.g. broadcasting recording equipment, projectors, PCs, etc.) where taxi travel is the most cost-effective method;
 - v. between Parliament House and a local venue where the employee is required to attend an official meeting or other official business; or
 - vi. when the employee is "on call" and may be required to return to Parliament House outside of normal office hours.