

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

SENATE ESTIMATES SESSION

Supplementary Budget Estimates 18-22 November 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet – All Agencies

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Taxi costs

Senator: Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig

Question reference number: 185

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 2

Question:

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: Indigenous Portfolio body responses are provided below:

Portfolio Body	Answer
Aboriginal Hostels Limited	<p>a) WA \$370.20 Top End (NT) \$1,315.44 QLD \$829.27 South Eastern Australia \$358.48 South Central Australia \$260.95 National Office \$5,362.63 Total \$8,496.97</p> <p>b) Short trips such as taxis to Regional Offices, Hostels, Board meetings airport, courses and conferences.</p>
Anindilyakwa Land Council	<p>a) \$629.68 (GST Exclusive) spent on taxis for period, of which majority spent by Senior Executive staff for official business travel (i.e. Chief Executive Officer; Deputy Chief Executive Officer; Chief Financial Officer).</p> <p>b) Taxi fares incurred to travel between airports, accommodation and business meetings.</p>
Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies	<p>a) \$9,221.12</p> <p>b) All for travel or attendance at meetings.</p>
Central Land Council	<p>a) \$3,340.00</p> <p>b) Approved business purpose travel.</p>
Indigenous Business Australia	<p>a) Breakdown by business group:</p>

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Portfolio Body	Answer																
	<p>Corporate and support services: \$13,192.62</p> <p>Home Ownership: \$9,266.90</p> <p>Business Development and Assistance \$12,053.86</p> <p>Equity and Investments: \$6,199.34</p> <p>Total IBA spend on taxis from 7 September to 9 December 2013 (excluding GST) \$40,712.72</p> <p>b) To attend a variety of meetings, conferences, training and events.</p>																
Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC)	<p>a) ILC spent \$17,848.62 (GST exclusive) on taxis from 7 September to 30 November 2013.</p> <p>b) The reasons for taxi costs are in connection with staff travel such as to and from the airport to the office or home, and to attend meetings.</p>																
Outback Stores Pty Ltd	<p>a) \$1,000.00</p> <p>b) The majority of this expenditure relates to airport transfers.</p>																
Torres Strait Regional Authority	<p>a) Taxi fares cost \$6,719 during the period broken up as follows:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Economic Development Programme</td><td>\$107</td></tr> <tr> <td>Native Title Office</td><td>\$2,025</td></tr> <tr> <td>Environment Programme</td><td>\$1,990</td></tr> <tr> <td>Corporate Services</td><td>\$1,352</td></tr> <tr> <td>Culture, Art & Heritage Programme</td><td>\$614</td></tr> <tr> <td>Governance & Leadership Programme</td><td>\$435</td></tr> <tr> <td>Fisheries Programme</td><td>\$196</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total</td><td>\$6,719</td></tr> </table> <p>b) Taxis are used for travel while staff are away from Thursday Island on Mainland Australia or in communities of the Torres Strait.</p>	Economic Development Programme	\$107	Native Title Office	\$2,025	Environment Programme	\$1,990	Corporate Services	\$1,352	Culture, Art & Heritage Programme	\$614	Governance & Leadership Programme	\$435	Fisheries Programme	\$196	Total	\$6,719
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Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council	Nil.																