

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO

**Program: General**

**Question No. AE16/079**

**Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 9 February 2016:**

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis during the specified period? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.
2. What are the reasons for taxi costs?
3. How much did the department spend on taxis during the specified period for their minister or minister's office?

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

1. The portfolio's response is provided below. In some cases, it is not possible to separately account for taxi and car hire, or to identify business units for the expenditure.
2. Taxis are used as a means of transport when appropriate for work-related travel or otherwise to attend work-related meetings and events.
3. Between the period 1 September 2015 to 29 February 2016 (inclusive), the department spent \$35 650.96 on taxis (including Comcar and other taxi services) to the ministers and their offices.

Department/Agency	Business Group	Amount	Total
Attorney-General's Department	Executive	\$2,984.74	\$490 495.06
	Civil Justice & Legal Services Group	\$196,692.45	
	National Security & Criminal Justice Group	\$137,458.63	
	Strategic Operations, Coordination & Arts Group	\$77,825.46	
	Australian Government Solicitor	\$39,918.82	
Administrative Appeals Tribunal			\$41 970
Australian Crime Commission			\$122 515.25
Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (non-Ministerial)			\$14 314
Australian Federal	Support Services	\$101 023	\$423 028

Police	Operations	\$132 325	
	ACT Policing	\$6651	
	Capability	\$108 449	
	National Security	\$74 580	
Australian Financial Security Authority			\$61 956.60
Australian Human Rights Commission	President, Commissioner's and Support Units	\$22 107.75	\$46 101.15
	Conciliation & Investigation Services	\$1716	
	International Program Unit	\$2007.03	
	Other Units	\$20 270.37	
	Note: Of the amount identified \$7,241.61 was fully cost recovered under fee for service arrangement, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1,824.57 related to activities on behalf of DFAT (AUSAID) for the Human Rights Technical Cooperation Programs</li> <li>\$4,370.26 related to activities on behalf of the ADF for the Defence Force Review</li> </ul>		
Australian Institute of Criminology			\$6 998
Australian Law Reform Commission	Inquiries	\$1545.77	\$2 866.19
	Executive	\$1205.93	
Australian Security and Intelligence Organisation	The information sought is not readily available as taxi costs are not separately recorded in ASIO's financial recording system. The resources required to manually check each record to identify and collate the information sought are considered unreasonable.		
AUSTRAC	Operations	\$47 071	\$96 217
	Corporate	\$25 316	
	Executive	\$23 830	
Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions			\$60 034.51
CrimTrac			\$12 279.48
Federal Court of Australia			\$97 280
Family Court and Federal Circuit Court	Judiciary	\$117 819	\$172 458
	CEO and Support	\$6 652	
	Registry Services	\$35 503	
	Principal Registrar and Principal Child Dispute Services	\$3 446	
	IT and Corporate Services	\$9 038	
High Court of Australia			\$20 590 (taxis only – Comcar are included)

			in hire car)
National Archives of Australia	Executive	\$2507.41	\$25 536.81
	Access and Communications	\$4471.33	
	Collection Management	\$4525.70	
	Government Information, Assurance and Policy	\$4109.35	
	Executive and Information Services	\$4012	
	Corporate Services	697.96	
	State Offices	\$5213.06	
Office of the Australian Information Commissioner	Executive	\$3443	\$10 868
	Regulation and Strategy	\$4996	
	Dispute Resolution	\$2429	
Office of Parliamentary Counsel			\$1 959