

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Environment portfolio

Question No: 142
Hearing: Additional Budget Estimates
Outcome: Corporate
Programme: Corporate Services Division
Topic: Portfolio Wide – Workplace Assessments
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 7 March 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Ludwig asked:

1. How much has been spent on workplace ergonomic assessments since 7 September 2013?

a) List each item of expenditure and cost

2. Have any assessments, not related to an existing disability, resulted in changes to workplace equipment or set up?

a) If so, list each item of expenditure and cost related to those changes

Answer:

Department of the Environment

1. a) For the period 7 September 2013 to 31 January 2014, \$9,557.18 was spent on external consultants for 26 workplace ergonomic assessments at an average of \$367.58 per assessment.

In addition 16 assessments were completed by Departmental staff.

2. All assessments resulted in changes to workplace set up and an estimated 95 per cent resulted in equipment purchases.

a)

Equipment	Cost
Chair – 1	\$65.00
Sit/stand ergonomic desk – 17	\$19,640.00
Total	\$19,705.00

Other items required by workstation assessments are purchased directly by work areas and we currently do not have the mechanism to fully capture and separately identify the detail of these costs against general office expenditures.

Bureau of Meteorology

1. \$15,488.

a)

156 workplace ergonomic assessments, including 14 home based work assessments, conducted by a Bureau Work Health and Safety Officer as part of routine duties	Performed as part of the routine duties no additional cost.
11 workplace ergonomic assessments by external provider	\$3275
Circumstances of existing injury an external provider was used to undertake workplace ergonomic assessments, over this period 27 were conducted.	\$12,213

2. Yes.

a) Equipment (proactive – non-injury).

Equipment	Cost
Chairs – 30	\$14,562
Chair mats – 2	\$184
Footrests – 16	\$559
Monitor risers – 28	\$2,592
Specialist mouse – 10	\$1,232
Specialist Keyboard – 7	\$934
Document holders – 5	\$237
Headset – 3	\$313
Low range legs / leg risers – 2	\$913
Ergotron adjustable arm – 1	\$850
Corner lozenge – 2	\$110
Sit/stand desk – 1	\$1,181
Wrist rest – 1	\$30
Total	\$23,697

Climate Change Authority

1. Nil.

a) Not applicable.

2. No.

a) Not applicable.

Clean Energy Regulator

1. The Clean Energy Regulator has spent \$3,524 (GST inclusive) on workplace ergonomic assessments from 7 September 2013 to 31 January 2014.
 - a) 21 workplace ergonomic assessments were conducted at an average of \$170 each.
2. On the completion of the assessments, the Clean Energy Regulator is provided with recommendations for changes to the workstation, including any special equipment required.
 - a) The Clean Energy Regulator does not record these expenses in a way that would readily allow more detailed answers to be provided. To attempt to provide the requested level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

1. Nil
 - a) Not applicable.
2. No
 - a) Not applicable.

Murray-Darling Basin Authority

1. a) The amount spent on workplace ergonomic assessments from 7 September 2013 to 31 January 2014 was \$3,900 excluding GST.
2. Yes
 - a)

Equipment	Cost
Office Chairs	\$4,247.50
Keyboards	\$1,387.84
Mouse	\$184.65
Wrist Rests	\$60.00
Keyboard Rests	\$32.75
Document Holders	\$767.48
Footrests	\$253.00
Sit-to-Stand desks	\$8,388.18
Total Excluding GST	\$15,321.40

National Water Commission

1. \$1,540.
 - a) Basic workstation assessments: \$1,022
Injury Prevention assessments \$518
2. Yes.

- a) Ergonomic chair (correct dimensions) x 1: \$582
- Footrest x 1: \$40
- Desk height adjustments x 3: \$42

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

1. Nil

a) Not applicable.

2. No

a) Not applicable.