

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Additional Estimates 2012

15 – 17 February 2012

**Question: AET 311 - 314**

**Topic: Travel Costs (IGT)**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator BUSHBY asked:**

311. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each department and agency within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.
312. Are employees taking the most direct route when travelling? If not, please explain why.
313. Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the cost per employee.
314. When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as their Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel.

**Answer:**

311. The agency has national responsibility and operates out of a single office location. In conducting reviews, fieldwork involves meeting with taxpayers and Australian Taxation Officers throughout Australia. Total domestic flight expenditure for the financial year to date is \$30,092. The agency's travel is arranged by the Department of Treasury under a service level agreement. Treasury advised that its reporting system is unable to break down classes of travel. In the financial year to date (as at 31 January 2012) total travel allowance expenditure for domestic is \$6,873 and international \$1,291.
312. Employees are required to take the direct route.
313. The agency has national responsibility and operates out of a single office location. In conducting reviews, fieldwork involves meetings with taxpayers and Australian Taxation Officers throughout Australia. Accordingly, lounge membership is provided to four executive level employees. For financial year to date (as at 31 January 2012) the cost is \$2,318.
314. No.