

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2011-12
19 October 2011

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

TOPIC: OVERSEAS SCIENCE STAFFING COSTS

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 19 October 2011, Page 37)

QUESTION No.: SI-24

Senator COLBECK: I have a couple of questions around international science. Is it true the department pays for two staff in Washington? If so, what is the cost of those staff and how is that amount broken up?

Ms Lansdown: Yes, we do pay two staff in Washington. We have a general manager position and then a locally engaged staff member who is in fact an Australian as well. I would have to take the cost on notice to make sure that I am absolutely accurate.

Senator Carr: And we have staff in India, China and Europe as well. International engagement is a very important part of the portfolio's work because the officers do not just deal with departmental work; the whole innovation and science research program and industry program does require extensive international engagement.

Senator COLBECK: So you do not have the figures here for that? This is an additional estimates process. I would have thought that the numbers would have been an important—

Ms Lansdown: We can probably dig them out for you. But, if not, we will have to take it on notice. We will see if we can get them during the course of the day.

Senator COLBECK: That would be good if you can do that. Minister, you said you have staff in India.

Senator Carr: India, China and Brussels.

Senator COLBECK: Can you also get me the numbers on India, China and Brussels, because my next question was to be on Brussels. Can you include a break-up of those costs.

ANSWER:

Washington

1. Salary and on-costs
\$196,168 for Minister-Counsellor
\$74,127 for senior Locally Engaged Staff member (LES)
2. Costs at post
\$230,452

Brussels

1. Salary and on-costs
\$258,650 Counsellor

\$149,150 for two Locally Engaged Staff members (LES).

2. Costs at post
\$339,345

Beijing

1. Salary and on-costs
\$37,632 Locally Engaged Staff member (LES)
2. Costs at post
\$7,884

Delhi

1. Salary and on-costs
\$75,912 Locally Engaged Staff member (LES)
2. Costs at post
\$45,645