

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

19 – 20 October 2011

Question No: SBT 280 - 281
Topic: ABS Travel Costs
Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bushby asked:

280. For the year 2010-11, 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.

281. For the year FYTD, 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.

Answer:

280. The total cost of all travel related expenditure for the Australian Bureau of Statistics for 2010-11 is \$15,330,394.12 (exclusive of GST).

The Australian Bureau of Statistics does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow answers to be provided to this question. To attempt to provide this level of detail would be an unreasonable diversion of agency resources.

All travel is incurred for business purposes and is undertaken on the basis of efficient, effective, economical and ethical use of Commonwealth resources. With respect to air travel, the Australian Bureau of Statistics undertakes this travel in line with the whole of Australian Government air travel policy to seek out the lowest practical fare.

281. The total cost of all travel related expenditure for the Australian Bureau of Statistics for the period 1 July 2011 to 30 September 2011 is \$10,910,711.63 (exclusive of GST).

The Australian Bureau of Statistics does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow answers to be provided to this question. To attempt to provide this level of detail would be an unreasonable diversion of agency resources.

All travel is incurred for business purposes and is undertaken on the basis of efficient, effective, economical and ethical use of Commonwealth resources. With respect to air travel, the Australian Bureau of Statistics undertakes this travel in line with the whole of Australian Government air travel policy to seek out the lowest practical fare.

Note: The increase to travel for year to date 2011 is attributable to the operational activities surrounding the 2011 Census of Population and Housing.