

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2013-2014**

Cross Portfolio

Department of Education Question No. ED0377_14

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Dept/Ag - Hire cars

1. How much did each department/agency spend on hire cars from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency. 2. What are the reasons for hire car costs?

Answer

DEPARTMENT

In the 2013-14 financial year, it is not possible to fully disaggregate expenditure between the Department of Education and the Department of Employment.

- For expenditure that can be identified as belonging to the Department of Education only, total expenditure on hire cars from 1 December 2013 to 28 February 2014 was \$6,452.25.
- For expenditure that cannot be disaggregated, the combined expenditure on hire cars by the corporate areas of both departments and the former DEEWR State Network from 1 December 2013 to 28 February 2014 was \$8,575.74.

A breakdown by business group is not readily available and would require an unreasonable diversion of resources to generate.

Hire cars are utilised where they provide the most economical and practical method of undertaking departmental business, such as when usage is high enough to be more cost effective than taxis, but not high enough to make leasing or purchase economically viable.

AGENCY

Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority

Nil

Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership

1. \$2,447.92
For AITSL to report all details requested would be an unnecessary diversion of resources.
2. Under AITSL's Travel Policy, staff are authorised to use hire cars on a case-by-case basis for travel to and from regional / interstate meetings and for AITSL business purposes only.

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

1. Nil
2. N/A

Australian Research Council

1. \$2 105.82. The breakdown by business group would involve a significant diversion of agency resources.
2. Business related travel

Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency

Cost of hire cars from November 2013 to 28 February 2014	Breakdown of business Group	Reason for car hire
\$130.71 (GST-inclusive)	Commission	Chief Commissioner to attend 2013-14 Additional Estimates hearing