

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION  
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2005-2006 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING  
30 ,31 MAY and 3 JUNE 2005**

**EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Outcome 2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplace**

**Output Group: 2.1 Workplace relations policy and analysis**

**Outputs: 2.1.1 Workplace relations policy advice**

**Question Number: W329-06**

**Question:**

Senator Marshall asked in writing

In each of the Safety Net Adjustment hearings since 1996 what was the:

- (a) Total cost borne by the department for transport of staff working on the case while interstate (eg travel to Melbourne for AIRC hearings, preliminary meetings etc.)
- (b) Total cost borne by the department for accommodation of staff working on the case while interstate (eg while in Melbourne for AIRC hearings)
- (c) Total cost borne by the department for outside research commissioned for the case
- (d) Total cost borne by the department for statistical data used in the case
- (e) Total cost borne by the department in conducting surveys for the case
- (f) Total cost borne by the department for specialist staff, consultants, advisers etc. employed or commissioned by the department for the case

**Answer:**

It is not possible to estimate the number of Departmental officials who are involved in such cases as the Safety Net Review of wages since 1996. The level of involvement of officers across the Department varies from case to case, and from work unit to work unit for a particular case. Records are not kept on the charge out of officers' time or travel costs associated with the cases as they are undertaken as part of the regular work program within overall Departmental budgets. Research work commissioned or undertaken in the Department is relevant to a wide range of policy issues. It is not possible to allocate components of this work specifically to the SNR.