

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2008-09 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome *Cross Portfolio*

DEEWR Question No. EW784_09

Senator Humphries provided in writing.

Question

Ministerial travel

How many Ministerial staff or family accompanied the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary?

For these staff/family, what was the cost of:

- a) travel
- b) accommodation, and
- c) any other expenses?

Answer

Administration related to staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* (MOP(S) Act), including payment of costs associated with overseas travel, is the responsibility of the Ministerial and Parliamentary Services Division of the Department of Finance and Deregulation.

The Department of Finance and Deregulation has advised that from 13 June to 14 June 2008 the Hon Julia Gillard MP was accompanied to New Zealand on a hosted visit by two ministerial staff. The other costs associated with this accompanied travel are \$1,149.10.

The Department of Finance and Deregulation has advised that from 21 June to 5 July 2008 the Hon Julia Gillard MP was accompanied to the USA, United Kingdom and Singapore by two ministerial staff and one family member. The total costs associated with this accompanied travel are estimated as follows:

- a) \$68,357.61
- b) \$12,020.32
- c) \$ 1,868.13

To the department's knowledge, the Hon Maxine McKew MP travelled to Peru from 21 June to 5 July 2008 unaccompanied by staff or family. However, formal advice regarding details of the Parliamentary Secretary's overseas travel can be sought from the Department of Finance and Deregulation.