

**Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet**

**Budget Estimates Hearings 2007-2008, 21-22 May 2007**



**Question: PM 1**

**Outcome 1, Output 3**

**Topic: APEC 2007 Taskforce and Comcar drivers travel costs**

**Hansard Page: F&PA 69-70**

**Senator CHRIS EVANS—So what are the total travel costs for the task force likely to be over the financial year?**

**Mr Harper—I do not have a forward projection. It is in the order of \$3.1 million for this financial year.**

**Answer:** In the 2007/08 financial year Taskforce travel costs are expected to be \$3.87m. This includes actual costs, accruals and estimated costs for June 2007. Included in this amount are airfares, accommodation, and taxis, as well as airfares and accommodation for Comcar drivers and some other contractors.

**Senator CHRIS EVANS—That is just for task force members?**

**Answer:** No see above.

**Mr Harper—The same logic applies. It also includes Comcar drivers and host department liaison officers where applicable.**

**Senator CHRIS EVANS—And that is their travel costs and TA, effectively, is it—accommodation and meals? Or is that separate?**

**Answer:** Please see inclusions above. Travel allowance for Comcar drivers is the responsibility of the Department of Finance and Administration (DOFA) and included in overall invoice from DOFA.

**Mr Harper—I think that is separate. I would have to check that.**

**Senator CHRIS EVANS—And you are able to get me the costs, on notice, for those other categories such as accommodation and meals et cetera for the year? You do not have those with you now?**

**Mr Harper—No, I do not. But, yes, we could take that on notice.**

**Answer:** See above. To disaggregate any further would be very labour intensive and time consuming and would divert existing resources from planning and implementing the APEC suite of meetings.