

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**Budget Estimates Hearing – October 2012**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General

**Program 1:** Support for the Governor-General and Official Activities

**Outcome 1:** The performance of the Governor-General's role is facilitated through the organisation and management of official duties, management and maintenance of the official household and property and administration of the Australian Honours and Awards system.

**Topic:** Travel – Mr Brady

**Senator:** Ryan

**Question reference number:** PM57

**Type of Question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 30 November 2012

**Number of Pages:** 2

In addition to matters already taken on notice in the Proof Hansard, 15 October 2012, pp. 64-65, with respect to whether the Secretary, Mr Brady, had returned early from any trips he had been on, can the office also:

- k. Provide all details of commercial flights, class, date/s and cost of travel, and the date that the booking change was made?
- l. Advise who authorised the amendment to the travel plans?

**Answer:**

The only early return from an overseas trip by the Official Secretary was in relation to flight changes necessary as a result of the volcanic ash cloud which enveloped northern Europe in May 2010. There was no cost to the Commonwealth associated with the itinerary change.

k. Commercial overseas travel undertaken by Mr Brady as Official Secretary:

<b>Date of travel</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>Purpose of travel</b>	<b>Class of travel</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Date of change made</b>
5-19 Nov 08	France Malta Singapore	Accompany Governor-General on State Visits to France, Malta and Singapore	First Class to and from Europe Business class within Europe	\$17064.86	No change
11-15 Feb 09	New Zealand	Meetings with Official	Economy class	\$1957.31	Sydney – to Canberra

		Secretary to the Governor-General of NZ, Clerk of the NZ Executive Council and the Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister of New Zealand	Canberra to Sydney Business class Sydney to Wellington return and from Sydney to Canberra		return leg on earlier flight than booked - 5.30 pm instead of 6.50 pm. No cost.
5-18 May 10	London	Meetings at Buckingham Palace: call on HM The Queen, meeting with the Private Secretary to HM The Queen, meeting with the Private Secretary to the Prince of Wales, address meeting of all Private Secretaries to senior Royals and meeting with the Commonwealth Secretariat	Business class	\$8694.97	To avoid volcanic ash cloud, left London on 15/5 instead of 17/5. Flew to Zurich at <b>own expense</b> on 15/5, departed Zurich on 17/5, arrived in Sydney on 18/5, instead of 20/5 as originally planned.
26 Nov-6 Dec 11	Zurich	To support Australia's bid for the Soccer World Cup - travelled in advance of the Governor-General	Business class	\$4,567.83	Returned to Australia with Governor-General on RAAF as scheduled.

1. In practice the Deputy Official Secretary approves all travel relating to the Official Secretary, although the Official Secretary is his own approving authority.