

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Program All

Question No. 102

Senator Barnett asked the following question at the hearing on 18 October 2010:

The 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook detailed a whole-of-government coordinated procurement arrangements for travel and related services.

- a) How has this applied to the portfolio? Please explain that changes that have occurred to the portfolio in relation to its travel and related services.
- b) Is purchasing of travel and related services less expensive under the new arrangements?
- c) Is purchasing of travel and related services more efficient under the new arrangements?
- d) How much did the portfolio spend on travel in 2008-09, 2009-10 and to date this financial year?
- e) How have staff within the portfolio found the new arrangements? For example, is it more efficient to arrange travel?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- a) All *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* (FMA Act) agencies are required to make travel arrangements through a Travel Management Company (TMC). The Department of Finance and Deregulation maintains a panel of TMC service providers. Progressively agencies will approach the panel of TMCs over the next 12 months to select their new provider through a simplified Request for Quote (RFQ) process. Additionally through their TMCs, agencies have access to the discounted fares negotiated by the Department of Finance and Deregulation through the tender process as well as access to any publicly available fare that may be lower than the negotiated fares.
- b) Yes.
- c) The online booking tool is more efficient than other manual booking processes.
- d) Portfolio spend on travel in 2008-09, 2009-10 and to date this financial year

Agency	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11 to 30 September
Attorney General's Department	\$6,925,432	\$6,245,971	\$1,389,398
Administrative Appeals Tribunal	\$183,761	\$266,495	\$67,972
Office of Parliamentary Council	\$108,326	\$160,277	\$27,876
CrimTrac	\$1,118,180	\$849,998	\$122,865
Australian Government Solicitor	\$1,458,000	\$1,078,000	\$326,000
Australian Security Intelligence Organisation	ASIO does not publicly report the detail of travel expenditure for reasons of national security.		

Australian Law Reform Commission	\$45,680	\$36,904	\$15,608
Australian Crime Commission	\$2,684,655	\$3,464,574	\$938,001
Australian Institute of Criminology	\$295,880	\$133,911	\$58,050
Criminology Research Council	\$2,540	\$2,493	Nil
Family Court of Australia	\$984,162	\$1,012,784	\$328,369
Federal Magistrates Court of Australia	\$793,052	\$58,8853	\$228,516
High Court of Australia	\$487,090	\$513,238	\$232,435
The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions	\$1,426,106	\$1,155,642	\$337,684
Australian Human Rights Council	\$1,576,031	\$1,270,791	\$253,996
Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity	\$53,599	\$72,222	\$7,570
Australian Federal Police	\$13,439,073	\$16,547,285	\$5,698,128
Federal Court of Australia	\$1,571,629	\$1,521,623	\$445,445
National Native Title Tribunal	\$728,283	\$471,931	\$97,002
Customs	\$10,137,197	\$9,550,181	\$2,057,894
AUSTRAC	\$1,895,000	\$2,294,000	\$488,000
ITSA	\$861,980	\$889,577	\$214,502

- e) Generally across the portfolio, staff find it more efficient to arrange travel under the new arrangements.