QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 17 October 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE11/0049): Internal Product

Senator Humphries (L&CA written) asked:

For the year 2010-11, and FYTD, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each Department and Agency within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.

Answer.

Department of Immigration and Citizenship

The following table itemises the travel expenses for the financial year 2010-11.

	2010-2011
Domestic	\$,000
Fares	8 212
Accommodation & Allowances	17 221
Total	25 434
International	
Fares	9 648
Accommodation & Allowances	5 041
Total	14 690
Other	
Taxi fares	1 829
Vehicle costs	3 059
Total	4 888
Total of all travel expenditure	45 013

To attempt to provide an itemised list of travel expenses including security, gifts, entertainment, would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

The following table itemises the travel expenses for the FYTD, 30 November 2011.

	FYTD
Domestic	\$, 000
Fares	4 443
Accommodation & Allowances	9 649
Total	14 092
International	
Fares	1 025
Accommodation & Allowances	299
Total	1 324
Other	
Taxi fares	847
Vehicle costs	1 086
Total	1 933
Total of all travel expenditure	17 349

Class of travel

- All staff who are required to travel domestically on behalf of the department must travel economy class unless there is a business case, or entitlement to travel business class.
- All staff who are required to travel internationally on behalf of the department are entitled to business class.

Merit Review Tribunal and Refugee Review Tribunal

The following table itemises the travel expenses for the financial year 2010-11.

	2010-11
Travel	\$,000
Fares	204
Allowances	105
Total	309

The following table itemises the travel expenses for the FYTD, 30 September 2011.

	FYTD
Travel	\$,000
Fares	48
Allowances	34
Total	82

Class of travel

- There were eight (8) Business Class bookings during the period, totalling \$19,650.
- All tribunal staff and members are encouraged to travel economy class the 'lowest practical fare' which suits the practical business needs of the traveller. Members and some officers are entitled to travel business class, however the bulk of travel is by economy class.
- Staff and members are responsible for booking their own accommodation and are paid a travelling allowance which includes an accommodation component. For members, this is as determined by the Remuneration Tribunal.