

Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport

Budget Estimates 24 May 2012

Question: 96

Topic: Credit Card Misuse

Asked By: Senator HUMPHRIES

Type of Question: RRA&T 92

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 20 July 2012

Number of pages: 1

Senator HUMPHRIES:There were some instances of credit card misuse by the gallery in the 2011 financial year. I would like some information about that. You can take this on notice. How was the matter or matters investigated? How senior were the staff who were involved? What were the amounts involved? Were the funds accounted for, and was any disciplinary action taken?

Answer:

1. The two matters were brought to the attention of the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) by the cardholder. The CFO investigated and found both instances to be accidental and minor. The CFO reported the matter in the annual Certificate of Compliance and notified the Gallery's Senior Executive.
2. The same staff member was responsible for both instances and was at the NGA4 level (ASPS4 equivalent).
3. The amounts involved were \$59.75 and \$296.42.
4. The funds were repaid to the Gallery. All NGA credit cardholders were reminded of their responsibilities under the Credit Card Policy.

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Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport

Budget Estimates 24 May 2012

Question: 97

Topic: Interim Chair of the National Gallery

Asked By: Senator HUMPHRIES

Type of Question: RRA&T 92

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 20 July 2012

Number of pages: 1

Senator HUMPHRIES:.....Why have we had only an interim chair when we have a permanent appointment for the director of the gallery?

Answer:

Mr Tim Fairfax AM was appointed Chair of the Council of the National Gallery of Australia under subsection 13(2) of the *National Gallery Act 1975*. Mr Fairfax was appointed until 31 December 2012 pending a longer term appointment to the position.