Senate Community Affairs Committee ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

2012-13 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross Question No: 184

Topic: Making the Public Service more efficient

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Boyce asked:

Can you quantify the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates for reductions in air travel? Has there been a reduction in business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

Answer:

Reductions in air travel will be achieved through increased use of technology such as video conferencing.

Savings over the forward estimates are not known.

The class of air travel for non-SES staff is generally Economy Class travel. SES officers travel Economy Class between Canberra and Sydney and Canberra and Melbourne (where those cities are the end destination), unless there are medical reasons for utilising a different class of travel. This is a Whole of Australian Government approach. In addition, FaHCSIA encourages SES employees to travel Economy Class wherever else it is practicable.

Savings over the forward estimates are not known.