

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES – 11 FEBRUARY 2016 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Expenditure on taxis

Question reference number: HS 51

Senator: Ludwig

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 April 2016

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September 2015:

- a) How much did each department/agency spend on taxis during the specified period?
Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.
- b) What are the reasons for taxi costs?
- c) How much did the department spend on taxis during the specified period for their minister or minister's office?

Answer:

- a) The department spent \$1.03 million on taxi services from 1 September 2015 to 31 January 2016. Further disaggregation would require an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.
- b) Taxis are used for staff travelling for departmental business (for example to attend departmental meetings) and for travel relating to staff attendance at conferences and seminars.
- c) The department spent \$73 on taxi services from 1 September 2015 to 31 January 2016 for the then Minister for Human Services, the Hon Stuart Robert MP.