

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Social Services Portfolio**  
**2014-15 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: Cross Outcome**

**Question No: 884**

**Topic: Hire cars**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator Ludwig** asked:

- a) How much did each department/agency spend on hire cars from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.
- b) What are the reasons for hire car costs?

**Answer:**

**Department of Social Services**

- a) For the period 1 March 2014 to 31 May 2014, the Department's expenditure on hire cars (i.e. self-drive rental cars) was \$108,092 (GST exclusive).

It is not possible to provide a breakdown by business groups without significant diversion of Departmental resources.

Note: During this period, the Department transitioned the Indigenous Affairs portfolio to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and, therefore, the above expenditure figure includes hire car costs relating to the Indigenous Affairs programme.

Departmental expenditure on hire cars for the previous three financial years was:

F/Y	Total
2013-14 to 31 May	\$294,209
2012-13	\$322,662
2011-12	\$295,916

Note that data in the above table spans Administrative Arrangements Order changes.

- b) Hire cars are used for staff travelling for official business purposes where it is deemed more efficient and economical than other forms of transport.

**Australian Aged Care Quality Agency**

- a) For the period 1 March to 31 May 2014, the Quality Agency's expenditure on hire cars (i.e. self-drive rental cars) was \$ 28,110 (GST exclusive).
- b) Hire cars are used for staff travelling for official business purposes where it is deemed more efficient and economical than other forms of transport.

**Australian Institute of Family Studies**

- a) AIFS has spent \$2,344.74 (ex GST) on car hires from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date.
- b) Hire cars are used for staff travelling for official business purposes where it is deemed more efficient and economical than other forms of transport.

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- a) \$709.40 (share of cost incurred with the AAT).
- b) Hire cars are used for staff travelling for official business purposes where it is deemed more efficient and economical than other forms of transport.

**National Disability Insurance Agency**

- a) For the period 27 February to 31 May 2014, the National Disability Insurance Agency's expenditure on hire cars was \$16,404 (GST exclusive).
- b) Hire cars are used for staff travelling for official business purposes where it is deemed efficient and economical.