

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**  
**Additional Estimates Hearings February 2014**  
**Communications Portfolio**  
**Australian Broadcasting Corporation**

**Question No: 238**

**Program No.: Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Travel costs**

**Senator Ludwig asked:**

1. From 7 September 2013, detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
2. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.

**Answer**

1. The ABC spent a total of \$9.2m on travel for the period 1 September 2013 to 31 January 2014. Domestic travel spend was \$6.4m and international travel spend was \$2.8m gross (including excess baggage).

The majority of domestic travel involved News (24%), Television (16%) and Radio (26%) and was primarily in relation to news gathering and program making.

The majority of international travel relates to News (36%), Television (17%) and ABC International staff (35%), in particular to cover news stories.

Details of expenditure are shown in the table on the following page:

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Description	Period 3 to Period 7 Actual 13/14
Airfares - Domestic	2,100,925
Allowances - Domestic	1,136,120
Accommodation - Domestic	1,504,464
Domestic taxis and pva	1,323,695
Travel Entitlements (9/B/4) under the Enterprise Agreement	68,360
Domestic Other (eg train fares and car Hire)	309,326
<b>Total Domestic Travel Expenditure</b>	<b>6,442,889</b>
Airfares - International	1,103,468
Allowances - International	1,196,722
International Other (eg train fares and car Hire)	422,804
<b>Total International Travel Expenditure</b>	<b>2,722,994</b>
Excess Baggage	34,493
<b>Total Other</b>	<b>34,493</b>
<b>Total ABC Travel Expenditure</b>	<b>9,200,376</b>

2. The ABC's travel budget for the five months to 30 June 2014 is \$7.6M. Domestic travel for the five months is budgeted at \$5.0M and the budget for International travel is \$2.4M. ABC budgets are based on financial years, and forecasting for the remainder of the 2014 calendar year will be done in July 2014.

The majority of the travel will be related to covering news stories.