

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**  
**Budget Estimates Hearings February 2016**  
**Communications Portfolio**  
**Australian Broadcasting Corporation**

**Question No: 164(b)**

**Australian Broadcasting Corporation**

**Hansard Ref: Written, 19/02/2016**

**Topic: Taxi costs**

**Senator Ludwig, Joe asked:**

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September 2015:

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

**Answer:**

1. The ABC does not separately track expenditure incurred specifically on taxis (only) nor is it feasible to determine these costs specifically from 14 September 2015, so information has been provided for the period 1 September 2015 to 31 January 2016 and may include some amounts (albeit small) not incurred specifically on taxis.

Expenditure on taxis (and related spend) over this period amounted to approximately \$1,050,371.

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<b>TAXIS By Division</b>	
<b>\$A(k) 01/09/2015 to 31/01/2016</b>	<b>2015/16</b>
ABC Commercial	30,420
ABC Resources	13,187
Finance And Operations	53,092
ABC International	21,459
Corporate Affairs	14,219
Corporate Strategy & Planning	6,449
Digital Network	19,494
Legal & Business Affairs	6,634
News	458,232
ABC People	13,301
Radio	157,293
Technology	38,385
Regional	50,776
Communication Networks	2,486
Television	142,934
Audience & Marketing	22,009
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,050,371</b>

2. Expenditure on taxis must comply with the Corporation's Taxis and Cabcharge Policy. Reasons for expenditure on taxi services include, amongst others:
  - (a) Travel to and from the airport where the employee is travelling on approved ABC business;
  - (b) Travel to and from meetings where the employee is representing the ABC;
  - (c) Complying with WH&S requirements;
  - (d) Emergency situations or where extenuating circumstances apply and the use of a taxi has been approved by the relevant manager; and
  - (e) Circumstances specified in the various employment agreements, particularly in relation to after hours work.
3. Not applicable.