

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings February 2016

Communications Portfolio

National Collecting Institutions

Question No: 164(k)

National Collecting Institutions

Hansard Ref: Written, 19/02/2016

Topic: Taxi costs

Senator Ludwig asked:

National Cultural Institutions

- Australian National Maritime Museum
- National Film and Sound Archive
- National Gallery of Australia
- National Library of Australia
- National Museum of Australia
- National Portrait Gallery
- The Museum of Australian Democracy

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:

Australian National Maritime Museum

1. The total cost that the Australian National Maritime Museum has spent on taxis in the relevant period is \$26,889.20 (excluding GST). The expenditure by business group is shown in the table below:

	Amount excluding GST
Commercial and Visitor Services	4,308.55
Public Engagement and Research	11,257.39
Operations	3,401.46
Executive, Finance & Governance	7,921.82
Total Taxi expenditure 14 September 2015 to 8 February 2016	26,889.20

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2. Where appropriate, taxis are used as a means of transport for work-related travel or for the attendance of work-related meetings or events.
3. N/A.

National Film and Sound Archive

1. The total cost that the NFSA has spent on taxis in the relevant period is \$23,924.96 (excluding GST). To provide the requested breakdown would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.
2. Taxis are used as a means of staff transport when appropriate for work-related travel or otherwise to attend work-related meetings or events.
3. N/A.

National Gallery of Australia

1. \$32,095.93 was spent on taxis and hire cars. Further breakdown of this information would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.
2. Taxis are used for travel related purposes. A detailed travel policy governing the use of taxis is available to staff.
3. N/A.

National Library of Australia

1. The Library's response for the period 14 September 2015 to 9 February 2016 is provided in the table below.

Total spend (GST Exc)	Business Unit	Amount (GST Exc)
\$12,728.44	Collections Management	2,004.56
	Australian Collections & Reader Services	1,704.26
	Resource Sharing	1,546.51
	Information Technology	910.71
	Executive & Public Programs	5,455.85
	Corporate Services	1,106.55

2. The Library utilises taxis as a means of transport, when appropriate, for work-related travel or to attend work-related meetings or events.
3. N/A.

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National Museum of Australia

1. \$20,230 (GST Exclusive).
 - a. Content and Collections \$4,578
 - b. Directorate \$9,131
 - c. Operations \$1,550
 - d. Programs and Engagement \$4,971.
2. Taxis are used to enable employees to attend work related meetings or events.
3. N/A.

National Portrait Gallery

1. The Gallery's response for the period 14 September 2015 to 9 February 2016 is provided in the table below.
2. The Gallery utilises taxis as a means of transport, when appropriate, for work-related travel or to attend work-related meetings or events.
3. N/A.

Total spend	Business Unit	Amount
\$7,456 (ex GST)	Executive & Foundation	\$2,563
	Business, Governance & HR	\$2,148
	Finance, Planning & Operations	\$71
	Collection Mngt & Display (inc Exhibitions)	\$1,682
	External Relations	\$492
	Curatorial	\$363
	Access & Learning	\$137

The Museum of Australian Democracy

1. \$6,204. This expense is across all agency staff, Advisory Council Members, external consultants, speakers and guests.
2. For staff attending conferences or other work associated activities; Advisory Council Members to attend council meetings and for external consultants while performing work duties for MoAD. Pre-approval is required.
3. N/A.