

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings February 2016

Communications Portfolio

Creative Partnerships Australia

Question No: 194(j)

Creative Partnerships Australia

Hansard Ref: Written, 19/02/2016

Topic: Travel costs - department

Senator Ludwig, Joe asked:

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. Is the minister or their office or their delegate required to approve all departmental and agency international travel?
2. If so, under what policy?
3. Provide a copy of that policy.
4. When was this policy implemented?
5. When is the minister notified, when is approved provided?
6. Detail all travel (domestic and international) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).
7. 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.
8. What date was the minister or their office notified of the travel?
9. What date did the minister or their office approve the travel?
10. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.

Answer:

1. The Minister is not required to approve international travel by Creative Partnerships' staff.
2. Not Applicable
3. Not Applicable
4. Not Applicable
5. Not Applicable
6. Not Applicable

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7. Between 14 Sep and 29 Feb, Creative Partnerships spent \$47,941 on airfares, \$27,640 on accommodation, and \$6680 on meals and incidentals. All of the airfares were economy class, with the exception of a return flight Melbourne to New York return for the CEO to participate in the New York Philanthropy Tour. There has been no other international travel undertaken by Creative Partnerships financial year to date. Creative Partnerships' travel policy is for all staff to travel economy for all domestic travel and to book the 'best fare on the day'. Accommodation is budgetted in accordance with the Australian Taxation Office's Determination for 2015/16 regarding reasonable travel and meal allowances expenses.
8. Not Applicable
9. Not Applicable
10. No international travel is planned for the rest of the calendar year. Creative Partnerships' travel forecasts are determined in its annual budgeting process and to meet its program delivery objectives, however the agency does not forecast travel in a way that would readily allow an answer to this question. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.