

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings February 2016

Communications Portfolio

Department of Communications and the Arts

Question No: 220(a)

Program 1.1

Hansard Ref: Written, 19/02/2016

Topic: Ministerial Motor vehicle

Senator Ludwig, Joe asked:

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

1. Has the Minister been provided with or had access to a motor vehicle? If so:
 - (a) What is the make and model?
 - (b) How much did it cost?
 - (c) When was it provided?
 - (d) Was the entire cost met by the department? If not, how was the cost met?
 - (e) What, if any, have been the ongoing costs associated with this motor vehicle? Please include costs such as maintenance and fuel.
 - (f) Are these costs met by the department? If not, how are these costs met?
 - (g) Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine if a minister is entitled to a motor vehicle.
 - (h) Have these guidelines changed during the specified period of time? If so, please detail.
 - (i) Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine how a minister is to use a motor vehicle they have been provided with. Please include details such as whether the motor vehicle can be used for personal uses.
 - (j) Have these guidelines changed during the specified period of time? If so, please detail.

Answer:

1. Yes.
 - (a) Ford territory Titanium 4.0 RWD Automatic Petrol.
 - (b) Monthly lease expenses are \$1,064 (GST excl).
 - (c) The lease was transferred to the Department on 14 September 2015.
 - (d) The Department has paid for the vehicle costs since the date of transfer.
 - (e) The expenses for the period 14 September 2015 to 31 January 2016 were vehicle lease expenses of \$3,191 (GST excl) and \$77 (GST excl) for fuel and miscellaneous expenses.
 - (f) Yes.
 - (g) Guidelines regarding the Minister's entitlements to a motor vehicle are available on the Department of Finance website at www.maps.finance.gov.au/entitlements_handbooks.
 - (h) Additional information about these guidelines should be sought from the Department of Finance.

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings February 2016

Communications Portfolio

Department of Communications and the Arts

- (i) Guidelines as to as to how a Minister is to use a motor vehicle including details on private vehicle use are available on the Department of Finance website at **www.maps.finance.gov.au/entitlements_handbooks**.
- (j) Refer to (h).