

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

4 – 6 June 2013

Question: BET 945-952

Topic: Travel Costs

Written: 17 June 2013

Senator BUSHBY asked:

945. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that includes airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).
946. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that includes airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
947. What travel is planned for the rest of this financial year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
948. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
949. What is the policy for business class airfare tickets? Is there still a reduction in business flights as per the media release by the Minister for Finance and Deregulation and the Special Minister of State dated 25 September 2012?
950. Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the total costs of the lounge memberships.
951. When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as an Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel.
952. Does the department/agency elect to offset emissions for employees work related travel? If yes, what is the cost?

Answer:

945. Not applicable.
946. For the period from 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013, total travel expenses incurred were as follows:

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Type	Amount
Domestic	
Domestic Airfares	\$31,615
Domestic Allowances	\$25,120
International	
International Airfares	\$129,677
International Allowances	\$50,850
Total Travel Expenses FY2012-13 YTD	\$237,262

Allowances figures are inclusive of accommodation, meals and incidentals. Alcohol, gifts and entertainment are not paid to staff and are not included in these figures. Our reporting system is not able to break down classes of travel - it is assumed that all international travel is business class.

The domestic trips were largely for:

- financial market liaison;
- conducting due diligence on RMBS investments;
- activities associated with the launch of retail trading of government securities; and
- attendance at conferences, events and training courses.

The international trips were largely for promotion of government securities.

947. For the period 1 June 2013 to 30 June 2013, the following travel was undertaken:

Type	Cost
Domestic Trips	\$5,528
International Trips	\$38,952
TOTAL travel expense June 2013	\$44,480

The domestic trips were largely for:

- attendance at conferences, events and training courses; and
- conducting due diligence on RMBS investments.

The international trips were for the following purposes:

- attendance at the Annual Reserve Management Seminar for Sovereign Institutions;
- attendance by overseas deployee at meetings with the AOFM and the Department of the Treasury; and
- promotion of government securities.

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948. The following trips are currently planned for the remainder of the calendar year.

Type	Days
Domestic Trips	16
International Trips	5

The domestic trips are for the following:

- attendance at meetings with service providers/contractors;
- attendance at courses and conferences; and
- conducting due diligence on RMBS investments.

The international trip is to attend a meeting of the OECD Working Party on Debt Management and for promotion of government securities.

949. The AOFM's policy is for all domestic travel to be economy class unless it is undertaken as part of an overseas trip. This policy is applied to all staff including SES. This policy was in place prior to the 25 September 2012 media release.

950. The AOFM does not provide lounge memberships to employees.

951. No support or administrative staff travelled with SES employees for the financial year to date (from 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013).

952. All the AOFM's travel services are provided by the Department of the Treasury. Please see their response to this question.