

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015-16**

Finance Portfolio  
27-28 May 2015

**Department/Agency:** Department of Finance

**Outcome/Program:** 3/3.1

**Topic:** MOPS Act (Cth) entitlements – Office of the Treasurer

**Senator:** Ludwig

**Question reference number:** F93

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** Friday, 10 July 2015

**Number of pages:** 3

**Question:**

Please provide the following information with reference to the Office of the Treasurer in the 2014-15 Financial Year.

1. In the 2014-15 financial year, how many ongoing and non-ongoing Senior Government Personal Employees and Government Personal Employees (other than senior staff) did the Treasurer employ?
  - a) Please provide a list of their classification and level (and salary point) pursuant to Part 5.2.1 of *Ministers of State Entitlements*.
  - b) Are there any personal employees that are employed as Advancers?
    - i. If so, how many?
    - ii. What is their level (or salary point) and classification?
  - c) Are there any personal employees that are employed as graphic designers?
    - i. If so, how many?
    - ii. What is their level (or salary point) and classification?
  - d) Are there any personal employees that are employed as speech writers?
    - i. If so, how many?
    - ii. For each person or persons employed in the capacity of a speech writer, what is their level (or salary point) and classification?
  - e) Are there any personal employees that are not employed in the policy, media or administrative classification?
    - i. If so, please detail their responsibilities.
  - f) Please provide a gender profile.
2. In accordance with the departmental determination 2007/PM/1 – Senior Staff Guidelines (Private-Plated Vehicles): how many entitled Senior Government Personal Employees attached to the Office of the Treasurer were currently claiming a private-plated vehicle or a Private-Plated Vehicle Allowance (PPVA) 2014-15 financial year?
  - a) Referring to Guideline 4, what are the makes and models selected from the list of Australian manufacturers vehicles issued by the Department, under a vehicle package?

- i. Were there an exceptions granted?
    - ii. If so, why?
    - iii. If so, please detail the make, model and cost.
  - b) Referring to Guideline 9, what is the total of fuel and maintenance costs that were met at official expense for all vehicles?
  - c) Referring to Guideline 12, how many parking and traffic infringement notices were issued and employees nominated for payment by the responsible employee?
    - i. Were there an exceptions granted?
    - ii. If so, please detail how many times this occurred and for what reasons and who granted the exception?
  - d) Referring to Guideline 14, were there any accidents where the ComInsure excess was met by the Department?
    - i. If so, how many?
  - e) Referring to Guideline 15, were there any incidents where the conduct of the employee rendered the ComInsure policy void or voidable?
    - i. If so, how many times?
    - ii. If so, were these costs met by the Department?
3. Please itemise all, ministerial and personal employee overseas travel from 30 June 2014 to Budget Estimates with the location and country, date, total amount spent and the purpose of the travel.
  4. Pursuant to question 3, please provide the following supplementary information.
    - a) How much was spent on accommodation and meals?
    - b) How many personal staff travelled in advance of the Treasurer and what was their classification?
    - c) How many personal staff accompanied the Treasurer and what was their classification?
    - d) How much was spent on accommodation and meals.
      - i. Please itemise this expenditure.
      - ii. What amount of the subtotal (if any) was spent on hospitality, dining at restaurants or hotels and how many times did this occur?
      - iii. If so, how much money was spent on wine or alcoholic beverages and on what type?
      - iv. If so, please provide the relevant guest lists.
  5. Please detail according to each travel item pursuant to question 3, how much was spent on official hospitality?
  6. Please detail according to each travel item pursuant to question 3, how much was spent on non-portfolio related official hospitality?

**Answer:**

1. As at 28 May 2015, the number of ongoing and non-ongoing staff employed by the then Treasurer was 14.
  - a) The Department tabled a document at the Budget Estimates 2015-16 ([Personal Positions as at 1 May 2015](#)) which provides details of positions allocated to the Treasurer. The salary ranges and classifications applicable are provided in Attachments A and B of the *Commonwealth Members of Parliament Staff Enterprise Agreement 2012-2015* (the MOP(S) EA). Due to the possibility of individuals being identified, it would not be appropriate to provide further detail regarding individual employees.

- b) - e). There are no classifications for Advancers, speech writers or graphic designers in the MOP(S) EA. The duties performed by staff are determined by the then Treasurer.
  - f) Of the 14 staff employed as at 28 May 2015, 50% were male, 50% female.
2. As at 28 May 2015, no Senior staff were claiming a private plated vehicle. At this date, four Senior staff in the Office of the Treasurer were receiving the Private-Plated Vehicle Allowance.
- a) Not applicable.
  - b) – c). Nil.
  - d) No.
  - e) Not applicable.
3. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.
- 4.
- a) – d) ii. Refer to part 3.
  - d)
    - iii. Personal staff travel entitlement does not cover the cost of alcohol.
    - iv. The department does not hold this information.
5. – 6. Refer to part 3.