

Question: 75

Topic: Travel costs – departmental

Written: 31 October 2014

Senator LUDWIG asked:

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

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. List all occurrences of travel that this has occurred under.
6. Detail the process.
7. When is the minister notified, when is approved provided?
8. 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).
9. 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.
10. What date was the minister or their office was notified of the travel?
11. What date did the minister or their office approve the travel?
12. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.

Answer

As a parliamentary department, the department does not report to a Minister or Parliamentary Secretary.

The department has spent \$141,846 on travel since 4 June 2014. The majority of the department's travel relates to the support of Senate Committees and support to Parliamentary delegations.

Air Fares	\$ 43,619
Car Hire/Taxis	\$ 20,463
Accommodation/Meals	\$ 76,271
Incidental Travel Expenses	\$ 1,493
Total	\$ 141,846