

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Environment portfolio

Question No: 109
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Corporate
Programme: Corporate Strategies Division
Topic: Portfolio wide – Travel costs Ministerial
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 7 March 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Ludwig asked:

From 7 September 2013, detail all travel conducted by the Minister/parliamentary secretary

- a) List each location, method of travel, itinerary and purpose of trip;
- b) List the total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals), and;
- c) List the number of staff that accompanied the Minister/parliamentary secretary, listing the total costs per staff member, the class of airplane travelled, the classification of staff accompanying the Minister/parliamentary secretary.
- d) What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.

Answer:

- a) Costs of official travel by Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries, and accompanying staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984 (MOP(S) Act)*, are largely paid for by the Department of Finance. Details of expenditure on entitlements (including domestic travel, car costs, overseas travel, travelling allowance, office facilities costs, office administrative costs and family travel) for all Senators and Members are compiled every six months in a report titled *Parliamentarians' Expenditure on Entitlements paid by the Department of Finance*. The reports and supporting information are published on the Finance website.
- b) Refer to answer a)
- c) Refer to answer a)
- d) Planned travel arrangements for Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries are not publicly available.