

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2013

Communications Portfolio

NBN Co Limited

Question No: 231

Program No. NBN Co

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Taxi Costs

Senator Ludwig asked:

1. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis from 7 September 2013 to date? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.
2. What are the reasons for taxi costs?

Answer:

1. The values below include taxi and train expenditure for the period of 1 September 2013 to 30 November 2013.

Cost center	Taxis/Train (A805220) Sep 13- Nov 13 2013/2014
Chief Operating Office (C11000)	278,298
Product & Sales (C31000)	16,688
Reg Affairs & Ind Anlys (C31300)	2,700
Chief Executive Office (C61000)	1,557
Technology Organisation (C62000)	15,434
Finance (C63000)	15,296
Strategy & Transformation (C64125)	27,231
Corporate - (C64000)	101,432
Communications (C71000)	17,256
Total	475,892

2. NBN Co employees use taxis predominately when travelling interstate i.e. from airport to NBN Co office, for travel to attend meetings where public transport is less efficient or where an NBN Co employee is required to work after 8pm.

Clause 6.4 of the Travel and Reimbursement Policy states the following:

6.4 Taxis

Taxi fares going to and from business activities will be reimbursed. Receipts/Tax Invoices should be obtained for all journeys and attached to Expense Claims. Reimbursement for taxis home from the office for late work is permissible where a manager requests or authorises an employee/contractor to work back late (beyond 8pm) and the employee/contractor would be required to travel late on public transport.

¹ Taxi and train expenditure from 1 September 2013 has been disclosed in order to align with the NBN Co Limited month end process