

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio  
Budget Estimates Hearing 2011-12  
30 May 2011

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

**TOPIC:** Travel Costs

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Abetz

**QUESTION No.:** BI-63

- 1) For the FYTD, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by your portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries. Include what sum was spent on travel, accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.
- 2) For the FYTD, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for any Minister and Parliamentary staff that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.
- 3) For the FYTD, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.

**ANSWER**

- 1) Costs of official travel by Ministers are paid for by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (Finance). Information about destinations and the cost of travel undertaken is tabled in the Parliament every six months in a report titled *Parliamentarians' Expenditure on Entitlements paid by the Department of Finance and Deregulation*. The report also includes car transport costs as advised by other Departments in respect of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries. The reports and supporting information are also published on the Finance website.

Costs for domestic accommodation, food and incidental expenses are met by individual travellers from domestic travelling allowances paid at a daily rate.

The Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research does not cover costs associated with domestic travel for Ministers. In relation to the Ministers' overseas travel, the following costs were met by the Department:

**Minister Carr**

- \$347.71 - Passport and Visa costs
- \$4,282.28 - Official hospitality and other expenses (overseas travel to the UK, Belgium, France, Switzerland and Germany in March 2011)
- \$534.37 – Official hospitality (overseas travel to Israel, Jordon and the United Emirates in December 2010)

## Minister Sherry

- \$13.00 - Passport costs
- \$1,039.27 – Interpreter fees (overseas travel to China, Hong Kong, Macau and Beijing in April 2011)

- 2) Costs of overseas travel by any accompanying staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* are also included in the report tabled in the Parliament every six months titled *Parliamentarians' Expenditure on Entitlements paid by the Department of Finance and Deregulation*. The reports and supporting information are also published on the Finance website.

Costs for domestic accommodation, food and incidental expenses are met by individual travellers from domestic travelling allowances paid at a daily rate.

The Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research does not cover costs associated with domestic travel for Ministerial staff. In relation to Ministerial staff overseas travel, the following costs were met by the Department:

### Minister Carr's Ministerial staff

- \$647.35 - Visa costs

### Minister Sherry's Ministerial staff

- \$20.00 - Visa costs

- 3) Departmental staff accompany Ministers on International travel only. The following overseas travel costs were incurred by departmental staff travelling with Minister Carr.

### 7 March to 18 March 2011: The UK, Belgium, France, Switzerland and Germany

Travel (airfares)	Accommodation	Travel Allowance (meals & incidentals)	Total
\$15,838.14	\$4,837.42	\$1,241.55	<b>\$21,917.11</b>

### 12 December to 17 December 2010: Israel, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates

Travel (airfares)	Accommodation	Travel Allowance (meals & incidentals)	Total
\$12,591.00	\$1,301.62	\$508.75	<b>\$14,401.37</b>

\*All costs indicated above are GST Exclusive