

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2010-2011**

Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission

DEEWR Question No.EW0710_11

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

GROUP MANAGER FIELD OPERATIONS

In relation to the following line of questioning at Senate estimates, can the ABCC provide responses to the questions below. Senator ABETZ—Let me ask: is there a position Group Manager Field Operations? Mr Johns—Yes. Senator ABETZ—What is happening to that position? Mr Johns—Nothing. Senator ABETZ—That is being maintained as is and will not be operating out of Canberra? Mr Johns—The person who is in that role is a resident in Canberra and they do work out of the Canberra office from time to time and they also work out of the other offices as per the requirements of the job. Senator ABETZ—That person will continue to conduct business as usual from Canberra and travel as required? Mr Johns—I expect so. Hansard, EEW 83 1. Was the Group Manager Field Operations recruited on the basis that the position would be located in Melbourne? 2. Did the Group Manager receive allowances and assistance on this basis? 3. What accommodation and travel allowances are paid to the Group Manager when working in Melbourne and Canberra?

Answer

The Office of the Australian Building and Construction Commissioner has provided the following response:

1. No. The vacancy for the Group Manager Field Operations was advertised in the Public Service Gazette on 10 June 2010, with the location either Melbourne or Sydney.
2. The previous Commissioner John Lloyd approved a total of 10 weeks accommodation in Melbourne and two return trips to Canberra.
3. Under the ABCC Finance Direction 15, the Group Manager is entitled to travel allowances and accommodation for work related travel outside of the home state.
 - a. In relation to travel to Melbourne the overnight daily cap for a SES employee is \$330.00. Employees undertaking official travel are able to charge travel expenditure up to a specified daily cap. Expenditure on accommodation, meals and incidentals may be incurred in any combination up to the daily cap.

- b. As the Group Manager's base is Canberra no accommodation or travelling allowance is paid while the Group manager is in Canberra.