

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

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

Agency - Fair Work Australia

DEEWR Question No.EW0753_11

Senator Ryan provided in writing.

Question

PURCHASED MYKI CARDS FROM TRANSPORT WORKERS UNIONS

"FWA purchased \$19,714.50 for "passenger railway transportation" from the Transport Workers Union of Australia (CN360919) and the Transport Ticketing Authority (TTA). The description was "Myki cards". What are these Myki cards for? Why were they purchased from the Transport Workers Union of Australia? How many Myki cards were purchased from the TWU? How many Myki cards were purchased from the Transport Ticketing Authority? What is the value on each Myki card from the TWU? What is the value on each Myki card from the Transport Ticketing Authority? Who received a Myki card purchased from the TWU? Who received a Myki card purchased from the Transport Ticketing Authority? Why were these contracts published on www.tenders.gov.au on 25 January 2011, the day before Australia Day? When were the contracts entered into and executed? "

Answer

Fair Work Australia (FWA) has provided the following response.

FWA has a transport fares assistance arrangement/policy for staff whereby FWA pays for an annual rail, bus or ferry ticket and employees reimburse FWA the amount via a fortnightly payroll deduction. Such an arrangement is reasonably common amongst public service agencies.

Myki is a smartcard and is part of the ticketing system for travel on Melbourne's public transport system.

Myki cards are purchased from the Transport Ticketing Authority (TTA), which is a Victorian government authority responsible for the management of the public transport ticketing system. The TTA offers a 'Commuter Club' service where public and private sector employers are able to purchase yearly travel passes at a 10% discount on the retail price.

In the \$19,714.50 (inclusive of GST) transaction noted in the question, 16 Myki cards were purchased from the TTA.

The value on each Myki card varies depending on how many zones of Melbourne

public transport are associated with the employee's annual ticket. A 365 day zone 1 Myki has a value of \$1053.00. A 365 day zone 1 & 2 Myki has a value of \$1626.30. FWA purchased 11 x zone 1 Myki cards and 5 x zone 1 & 2.

All Myki cards under the Commuter Club service that FWA offers to Melbourne staff are purchased from the TTA (a state government authority).

The invoice from the TTA was dated 10 December 2010 and payment was made on 16 December 2010.

FWA is required to report transactions over \$10,000 on the Austender system (i.e. www.tenders.gov.au). The payments in the report published on 25 January 2011 were for the period 13 December 2010 to 25 January 2011 and were uploaded on 25 January 2011.

The payment to TTA was included in the Austender import file generated by our FMIS. However due to an error caused by an invalid character in the supplier code TTA was not recognised in the report and the next supplier on the database the Transport Workers Union (TWU) was substituted in the file and thus the report published on Austender.

It should be noted that no payment was made to the TWU.