

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Additional Budget Estimates Hearing – February 2009

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Outcome 3, Output 3.1

Topic: Employee relocation costs

Question reference number: F43

Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 86, 24 February 2009

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 April 2009

Number of Pages: 1

Senator Ronaldson asked:

I thought it interesting that between 2007 and October 2008 the relocations were only \$25,000, which seemed a remarkably small figure for the relocation of 65 staff and their families. I assume that that was the correct figure. I appreciate you might need to take this on notice, but did that include all travel expenses, including air fares and car travel? Did it include the cost of furniture and belongings removal? Did it include the allowance for temporary accommodation? Could you please provide the committee with a breakdown of those relocation costs, itemised by travel expenses, furniture and belongings removal and allowance for temporary accommodation.

Answer:

The breakdown of the reported relocation costs for all government personal staff who commenced and ceased employment in the period December 2007 to 21 October 2008, and their subsequent replacements, is as follows:

- Travel expenses: \$934.65
- Furniture and belongings removal: \$14,715.11
- Temporary accommodation allowance: \$9,947.22

The travel expenses do not include airfares that may have been arranged through the relevant office and paid as part of normal personal staff travel and can not therefore be specifically identified as part of the relocation costs.

Since the original answer was provided, payments of motor vehicle allowance that specifically relate to relocation costs have been identified. The payment of motor vehicle allowance associated with relocations was an additional amount of \$3,100.96.