

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2010

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Outcome 3, Program 3.1

Topic: Overseas travel by the Minister for Sport

Question reference number: F65

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 26 March 2010

Number of Pages: 2

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Minister Ellis hosted a meeting of Commonwealth Sports Minister meeting in Beijing in 2008.

- a) Please provide a detailed itinerary of the Minister's visit and the meetings she held and with who she met?
- b) Please provide the total expenditure for the Minister's visit and meetings in Beijing?

Answer:

Dates, destinations, the purpose and costs paid by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (Finance), of all official overseas travel are tabled in the Parliament every six months in a report titled *Parliamentarians' Travel Paid By The Department of Finance and Deregulation*. These reports are now also published on the Finance internet site.

- a) The Minister for Sport travelled to Beijing twice during 2008: from 5 to 18 August 2008 to attend the Olympic Games; and from 4 to 11 September 2008 to attend the Paralympic Games. Itineraries involved the following:

China - 5 to 18 August 2008				
	Country	City	Date	Time
Depart	Australia	Adelaide	05-Oct-08	7.00
Arrive	Australia	Sydney	05-Oct-08	9.20
Depart	Australia	Sydney	05-Oct-08	11.45
Arrive	China	Beijing	05-Oct-08	21.40
Depart	China	Beijing	17-Aug-08	23.10
Arrive	Australia	Sydney	18-Aug-08	12.55
Depart	Australia	Sydney	18-Aug-08	14.25
Arrive	Australia	Adelaide	18-Aug-08	16.05

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China - 4 to 11 September 2008				
	Country	City	Date	Time
Depart	Australia	Melbourne	04-Sep-08	10.15
Arrive	Singapore	Singapore	04-Sep-08	16.00
Depart	Singapore	Singapore	04-Sep-08	16.55
Arrive	China	Beijing	04-Sep-08	23.05
Depart	China	Beijing	10-Sep-08	21.40
Arrive	Australia	Sydney	11-Sep-08	11.30
Depart	Australia	Sydney	11-Sep-08	14.25
Arrive	Australia	Adelaide	11-Sep-08	16.05

Finance has no knowledge of any meetings held or attendance at those meetings. This part of the question would need to be directed to the Department of Health and Ageing.

b) Expenditure paid by Finance for the Minister for Sport's travel to China is as follows:

China - 5 to 18 August 2008				
Traveller	Travel	Accommodation	Other	Total
Minister Ellis	\$ 8,325.15	\$ 6,952.22	\$ 1,881.37	\$ 17,158.74
Adviser	\$ 8,003.80	\$ 6,622.85	\$ 1,433.26	\$ 16,059.91
Total	\$ 16,328.95	\$ 13,575.06	\$ 3,314.63	\$ 33,218.64
China - 4 to 11 September 2008				
Traveller	Travel	Accommodation	Other	Total
Minister Ellis	\$ 7,384.87	\$ 3,324.50	\$ 478.87	\$ 11,188.24
Adviser	\$ 7,384.87	\$ 3,324.50	\$ 622.40	\$ 11,331.77
Total	\$ 14,769.74	\$ 6,649.00	\$ 1,101.27	\$ 22,520.01
<p>Note - Travel includes airfares and ground transport. Where accounts for accommodation or ground transport have been charged as a single amount for both travellers and are unable to be disaggregated, the amount has been split equally between Ms Ellis and the adviser for reporting purposes.</p>				