

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Australian Electoral Commission

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings 2005-06 – 01 November 2005

Question: F42

Outcome: Australian Electoral Commission

Topic: Spending on domestic and international airfares

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fielding asked:

1. How much money has the portfolio spent on domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?
2. How much money has the portfolio spent on overseas airfares for each of the last three financial years?
3. How much money has the portfolio spent on economy class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?
4. How much money has the portfolio spent on business class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?
5. How much has the portfolio spent on first class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?
6. What would be the estimated financial year dollar saving if all public servants in the portfolio travelled economy class for flights of less than one and a half hours duration?

Answer:

1. 2004-05: \$751,543
2003-04: \$583,615
2002-03: \$798,880
2. 2004-05: \$386,389
2003-04: \$176,109
2002-03: \$282,603
3. 2004-05: \$573,260
2003-04: \$446,158
2002-03: \$582,697

Note: The break down between classes of domestic airfares for all years has been estimated using data provided by Qantas for the 2003-04 financial year.

- 4. 2004-05: \$178,283
2003-04: \$137,457
2002-03: \$216,183

Note: The break down between classes of domestic airfares for all years has been estimated using data provided by Qantas for the 2003-04 financial year.

- 5. Nil

- 6. It is not possible to calculate savings. In order to calculate savings, every travelled flight in question would have to be reviewed. A comparison against historical data for best fare of the day would have to be undertaken. The time involved in completing such a review is prohibitive and AEC does not have access to best fare of the day data.