

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Finance and Administration Portfolio**

**Department of Finance and Administration**

**Supplementary Estimates Hearings - 1 November 2005**

**Question: F46**

**Outcome: 3, Output: 3**

**Topic: Domestic Travel for Parliamentarians and their staff**

**Hansard Page: F&PA 8**

**Senator Steve Fielding asked:**

Staff of Politicians

Ministerial staff

1. How much money was spent on domestic airfares for Ministerial staff for each of the last three financial years?
2. How much money was spent on overseas airfares for Ministerial staff for each of the last three financial years?
3. How much money was spent on economy class domestic airfares for Ministerial staff for each of the last three financial years?
4. How much money was spent on business class domestic airfares for Ministerial staff for each of the last three financial years?
5. How much money was spent on first class domestic airfares for Ministerial staff for each of the last three financial years?
6. What would be the estimated financial year dollar saving if all Ministerial staff travelled economy class for flights of less than one and a half hours duration?
7. What is the dollar value of travel allowance claimed by Ministerial staff for each of the last three financial years?

Staff of Shadow Ministers

8. How much money was spent on domestic airfares for staff of shadow ministers for each of the last three financial years?
9. How much money was spent on overseas airfares for staff of shadow ministers for each of the last three financial years?
10. How much money was spent on economy class domestic airfares for staff of shadow ministers for each of the last three financial years?
11. How much money was spent on business class domestic airfares for staff of shadow ministers for each of the last three financial years?
12. How much money was spent on first class domestic airfares for staff of shadow ministers for each of the last three financial years?
13. What would be the estimated financial year dollar saving if all staff of shadow ministers travelled economy class for flights of less than one and a half hours duration?

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14. What is the dollar value of travel allowance claimed by the staff of shadow ministers for each of the last three financial years?

**Politicians**

**Ministers**

15. How much money was spent on domestic airfares for Ministers for each of the last three financial years?

16. How much money was spent on overseas airfares for Ministers for each of the last three financial years?

17. How much money was spent on economy class domestic airfares for Ministers for each of the last three financial years?

18. How much money was spent on business class domestic airfares for Ministers for each of the last three financial years?

19. How much money was spent on first class domestic airfares for Ministers for each of the last three financial years?

20. What would be the estimated financial year dollar saving if all Ministers travelled economy class for flights of less than one and a half hours duration?

21. What is the dollar value of travel allowance claimed by Ministers for each of the last three financial years?

**Shadow Ministers**

22. How much money was spent on domestic airfares for Shadow Ministers for each of the last three financial years?

23. How much money was spent on overseas airfares for Shadow Ministers for each of the last three financial years?

24. How much money was spent on economy class domestic airfares for Shadow Ministers for each of the last three financial years?

25. How much money was spent on business class domestic airfares for Shadow Ministers for each of the last three financial years?

26. How much money was spent on first class domestic airfares for Shadow Ministers for each of the last three financial years?

27. What would be the estimated financial year dollar saving if all Shadow Ministers travelled economy class for flights of less than one and a half hours duration?

28. What is the dollar value of travel allowance claimed by Shadow Ministers for each of the last three financial years?

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**Caretaker period**

**Airfares**

- 29. For the caretaker period last year (31 August 2004 to 9 October 2004), what was the cost of all air travel undertaken by Ministerial staff?
- 30. For the caretaker period last year (31 August 2004 to 9 October 2004), what was the cost of all air travel undertaken by staff of shadow ministers?
- 31. For the caretaker period last year (31 August 2004 to 9 October 2004), what was the cost of all air travel undertaken by Ministers?
- 32. For the caretaker period last year (31 August 2004 to 9 October 2004), what was the cost of all air travel undertaken by shadow ministers?

**Travel allowance**

- 33. For the caretaker period last year (31 August 2004 to 9 October 2004), what was the cost of all travel allowance claimed by Ministerial staff?
- 34. For the caretaker period last year (31 August 2004 to 9 October 2004), what was the cost of all travel allowance claimed by staff of shadow ministers?
- 35. For the caretaker period last year (31 August 2004 to 9 October 2004), what was the cost of all travel allowance claimed by Ministers?
- 36. For the caretaker period last year (31 August 2004 to 9 October 2004), what was the cost of all travel allowance claimed by shadow ministers?

**Answer:**

Answers to the honourable Senator's questions are included in the following table.

Question	2002/2003	2003/2004	2004/2005
<b>Ministerial Staff*</b>			
1	\$4,469,298.09	\$4,129,422.83	\$4,671,921.10
2	\$1,352,353.74	\$1,353,989.02	\$1,170,060.16
3	\$2,165,248.89	\$1,954,245.67	\$2,189,938.66
4	\$1,324,121.99	\$1,278,325.32	\$1,696,057.01
4a <sup>i</sup>	\$979,927.21	\$896,851.84	\$785,925.43
5	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6 <sup>ii</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a
7	\$2,263,532.66	\$2,604,300.55	\$3,480,440.97
<b>Staff of Shadow Ministers**</b>			
8	\$1,022,340.01	\$1,108,695.13	\$1,115,032.17

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9	\$14,376.42	\$35,484.88	\$11,075.53
10	\$767,248.49	\$781,426.78	\$791,125.44
11	\$125,427.39	\$155,577.40	\$169,897.01
11a <sup>i</sup>	\$129,664.13	\$171,690.95	\$154,009.72
12	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
13 <sup>ii</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a
14	\$488,621.84	\$874,357.73	\$924,070.09
<b>Ministers***</b>			
15	\$1,926,229.30	\$1,800,529.52	\$1,938,580.21
16	\$1,037,264.53	\$942,616.47	\$1,052,992.03
17	\$132,877.27	\$133,722.11	\$201,385.68
18	\$1,286,281.34	\$1,243,135.85	\$1,441,085.14
18a <sup>i</sup>	\$507,070.69	\$423,671.56	\$296,109.39
19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
20 <sup>ii</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a
21 <sup>iii</sup>	Refer to Tabling	Refer to Tabling	Refer to Tabling
<b>Shadow Ministers****</b>			
22	\$1,297,597.15	\$1,243,467.45	\$1,475,977.43
23	\$13,352.77	\$90,357.44	\$33,511.90
24	\$69,903.45	\$84,400.50	\$107,286.43
25	\$900,890.45	\$851,150.32	\$1,099,969.16
25a <sup>i</sup>	\$326,803.25	\$307,916.63	\$268,721.84
26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
27 <sup>ii</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a
28 <sup>iii</sup>	Refer to Tabling	Refer to Tabling	Refer to Tabling
<b>Caretaker Period (31 Aug 2004 to 9 Oct 2004)</b>			
29	\$661,972.75		
30	\$201,818.83		
31	\$240,919.04		
32	\$280,670.31		
33	\$1,240,654.90		
34	\$279,440.64		
35	\$74,523.00		
36	\$68,429.00		

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Notes:

i. Relates to airfares in which both 'economy and business' class legs are included in the tickets. The cost for each of the legs of travel on these tickets is not shown separately and therefore cannot be apportioned between the various classes of travel.

ii. The detailed information sought in the honourable Senator's question is not readily available in consolidated form and it would be a major diversion of resources to estimate it. The practice of successive governments has been not to authorise the expenditure of time and money involved in assembling such information on a general basis. The Department is not prepared to authorise the significant diversion of resources within Ministerial and Parliamentary Services to collect and assemble this information.

iii. The costs of travel allowance paid to Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries and Shadow Ministers by Ministerial and Parliamentary Services for the financial years 2002/2003 to 2004/2005 is available as part of the six monthly tabling of *Parliamentarians' Travel Paid by the Department of Finance and Administration*.

\*Covers personal staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* and includes Parliamentary Secretaries.

\*\*Covers personal staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* and includes Opposition Office Holders.

\*\*\*Includes Parliamentary Secretaries.

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