

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearings 2005-2006, 31 October 2005

Question: PM 62

Outcome 1

Topic: Travel expenditure for the portfolio

Direct on Notice: Written

Senator Steve Fielding asked:

1) How much money has the portfolio spent on domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?

Answer:

Prime Minister & Cabinet (PM&C)	02/03	\$397,656 (excluding GST)
	03/04	\$548,286 (excluding GST)
	04/05	\$695,186 (incl. GST, excl. other taxes)
Australian Public Service Commission (APSC)	02/03	\$261,000 (excluding GST)
	03/04	\$321,000 (excluding GST)
	04/05	\$288,000 (excluding GST)
Office of the Inspector General of Intelligence & Security (OIGIS)	02/03	\$ 10,981 (excluding GST)
	03/04	\$ 11,058 (excluding GST)
	04/05	\$ 20,576 (incl. GST, excl. other taxes)
Australian National Audit Office (ANAO)	02/03	\$719,463 (excluding GST)
	03/04	\$985,105 (excluding GST)
	04/05	\$272,701 (excluding GST)
Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General (OOSGG)	02/03	\$ 51,504 (excluding GST)
	03/04	\$ 85,384 (excluding GST)
	04/05	\$ 88,252 (incl. GST, excl. other taxes)
National Water Commission (NWC)	02/03	Nil
	03/04	Nil
	04/05	\$ 78,096* (excluding GST)
Office of National Assessments (ONA)	02/03	\$ 31,801 (including all taxes)
	03/04	\$ 46,377 (including all taxes)
	04/05	\$ 42,883 (including all taxes)

* As the National Water Commission only incurred expenditure with effect from 1 January 2005, details of airfare expenditure are only for the period 1 January to 30 June 2005. These figures also include the airfares for Commissioners.

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2) How much money has the portfolio spent on overseas airfares for each of the last three financial years?

Answer:

PM&C	02/03	\$ 60,051 (excluding GST)
	03/04	\$115,305 (excluding GST)
	04/05	\$329,601 (including all taxes)
APSC	02/03	\$ 44,000 (excluding GST)
	03/04	\$ 75,000 (excluding GST)
	04/05	\$368,000 (excluding GST)
OIGIS	02/03	Nil
	03/04	Nil
	04/05	\$ 13,340 (including all taxes)
ANAO	02/03	\$190,148 (excluding GST)
	03/04	\$186,064 (excluding GST)
	04/05	\$150,801 (including all taxes)
OOSGG	02/03	\$ 47,324 (excluding GST)
	03/04	\$197,900 (excluding GST)
	04/05	\$ 96,357 (including all taxes)
NWC	02/03	Nil
	03/04	Nil
	04/05	\$ 2,122 (including all taxes)
ONA	02/03	\$323,600 (including all taxes)
	03/04	\$349,300 (including all taxes)
	04/05	\$537,176 (including all taxes)

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3) How much money has the portfolio spent on economy class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?

Answer:

PM&C	02/03	Not available
	03/04	Not available
	04/05	\$408,243 (incl. GST, excl. other taxes)
APSC	02/03	Not available
	03/04	Not available
	04/05	\$205,000 (excluding GST)
OIGIS	02/03	Not available
	03/04	Not available
	04/05	\$ 7,282 (incl. GST, excl. other taxes)
ANAO	02/03	Not available
	03/04	Not available
	04/05	\$230,749 (incl. GST, excl other taxes)
OOSGG	02/03	Not available
	03/04	Not available
	04/05	\$ 20,714 (incl. GST, excl. other taxes)
NWC	02/03	Nil
	03/04	Nil
	04/05	\$ 34,683* (excluding GST)
ONA	02/03	Not available
	03/04	Not available
	04/05	\$ 32,537 (including all taxes)

* As the National Water Commission only incurred expenditure with effect from 1 January 2005, details of airfare expenditure are only for the period 1 January to 30 June 2005. These figures also include the airfares for Commissioners.

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4) How much money has the portfolio spent on business class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?

Answer:

PM&C	02/03	Not available
	03/04	Not available
	04/05	\$286,943 (incl. GST, excl. other taxes)
APSC	02/03	Not available
	03/04	Not available
	04/05	\$ 83,000 (excluding GST)
OIGIS	02/03	Not available
	03/04	Not available
	04/05	\$ 13,294 (incl. GST, excl. other taxes)
ANAO	02/03	Not available
	03/04	Not available
	04/05	\$ 41,952 (incl. GST, excl. other taxes)
OOSGG	02/03	Not available
	03/04	Not available
	04/05	\$ 60,981 (incl. GST, excl. other taxes)

Most of OOSGG business class travel is undertaken by Council members in accordance with Remuneration Tribunal entitlements.

NWC	02/03	Nil
	03/04	Nil
	04/05	\$ 43,413* (excluding GST)
ONA	02/03	Not available
	03/04	Not available
	04/05	\$ 10,346 (including all taxes)

* As the National Water Commission only incurred expenditure with effect from 1 January 2005, details of airfare expenditure are only for the period 1 January to 30 June 2005. These figures also include the airfares for Commissioners.

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5) How much has the portfolio spent on first class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?

Answer:

There was no first class domestic airfare expenditure by the portfolio for the financial years 02/03, 03/04 and 04/05.

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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:

Based on usage patterns for the 2004/05 financial year, estimated savings for the year would be:

PM&C	\$127,011
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APSC	\$ 9,000
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OIGIS

Not applicable to OIGIS. All public servants in OIGIS currently travel economy class. All business class expenditure was for travel by the Inspector-General, who is a statutory office holder.

ANAO	\$ 10,588
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OOSGG	\$ 14,497
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Most of OOSGG business class travel is undertaken by Council members in accordance with Remuneration Tribunal entitlements.

NWC	\$ 9,461
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ONA	\$ 2,070
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Under PM&C's Chief Executive Instructions (CEIs) only SES employees are entitled to travel business class on domestic flights. However, Australian Workplace Agreements for PM&C SES officers specifically exclude travel between Canberra and Sydney from this entitlement. Some departmental non-SES staff on ceremonial / protocol duties may be approved to travel business class.