

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**[SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2010-2011]**

[Portfolio of the Prime Minister and Cabinet]

**Department/Agency:** Australian Institute of Family Studies  
**Outcome/Output Group:** Australian Institute of Family Studies  
**Topic:** Travel Costs

**Senator:** Abetz

**Question reference number:** 131

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 3 December 2010

**Number of pages:** 2

- a) The 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook detailed a whole-of-government coordinated procurement arrangements for travel and related services. How has this applied to your department and portfolio agencies? Please explain the changes that have occurred to your department and portfolio agencies in relation to its travel and related services.
- b) Is purchasing of travel and related services less expensive under the new arrangements?
- c) Is purchasing of travel and related services more efficient under the new arrangements?
- d) Have savings been achieved in your portfolio because of the new arrangements?
- e) How much did your department and portfolio agencies spend on travel in 2008-09, 2009-10 and to date this financial year.
- f) How have staff within your department and portfolio agencies found the new arrangements? For example is it more efficient to arrange travel?

**Answer:**

- a) In May 2010 AIFS engaged in the whole-of-Government arrangements for travel services by signing the Airline Acquisition Notice and established an individual agency agreement with the existing travel management consultant.
- b) AIFS is closely monitoring the impact of the new arrangements to determine cost effectiveness.
- c) AIFS is closely monitoring the impact of the new arrangements to determine efficiency.
- d) AIFS undertakes research activities that vary significantly in scope and duration and therefore travel and related services vary.
- e) Travel expenditure on airfares, car hire and accommodation for 2008-2009, 2009-2010 and to date this financial year.

2010-2011 to 31 October 2010	\$57,713
2009-10	\$211,621
2008-09	\$212,520

- f) AIFS is closely monitoring its internal processes for efficiencies and process improvements.