

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance and Deregulation
Outcome/Program: General
Topic: Travel costs

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: F80

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 2 December 2011

Number of pages: 4

Question:

- a) For the year 2010-11, please detail all travel (itemised separately,) undertaken by your portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.
- b) For the year 2010-11, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for any Minister and Parliamentary staff that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.
- c) For the year 2010-11, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.
- d) For the year 2010-11, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each department and agency within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.
- e) For the FYTD, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by your portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.
- f) For the FYTD, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for any Minister and Parliamentary staff that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.
- g) For the FYTD, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.
- h) For the year FYTD, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each department and agency within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.

Answer:

a) Information about destinations and the cost of travel undertaken by Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries is tabled in the Parliament every six months in the report *Parliamentarians' Expenditure on Entitlements paid by the Department of Finance and Deregulation*. The report also includes car transport costs as advised by other departments in respect of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries. The reports and supporting information are also published on the Finance website.

It is not possible to individually report on all items in the question as costs for domestic accommodation, food and incidental expenses are met by individual travellers from domestic travelling allowances paid at a daily rate.

In providing home department support for its portfolio Ministers, refer to F70 from May 2011 Budget Estimates.

b) The total amount payable by the Department of Finance and Deregulation for the cost of travel for all personal staff of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries (employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984*) for 2010-11 was \$9.209 million. This includes airfares (both domestic and overseas) and travel by taxis and hire cars.

It is not possible to individually report on all items in the question as costs for domestic accommodation, food and incidental expenses are met by individual travellers from domestic travelling allowances paid at a daily rate. The total cost of travelling allowance, including Motor Vehicle Allowance, paid to personal staff of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries (employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984*) for the year 2010-11 was \$5.933 million.

Without clarification with individual staff members, it is not possible to identify if the traveller was accompanying the relevant Minister or Parliamentary Secretary or travelling alone. The department does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow this information to be provided. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

c) Refer to Attachment A.

d) The Department of Finance and Deregulation spent \$2.835 million on official travel in 2010-11 which was comprised of fares (\$1.326 million), Travel Allowances (\$0.139 million) and accommodation and meal costs (\$1.369 million). Most, but not all, of this spend was for employees.

Compiling the information to the level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

e) Information about destinations and the cost of travel undertaken by Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries is tabled in the Parliament every six months in the report *Parliamentarians' Expenditure on Entitlements paid by the Department of Finance and Deregulation*. The report also includes car transport costs as advised by other departments in respect of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries. The reports and supporting information are also published on the Finance website.

It is not possible to individually report on all items in the question as costs for domestic accommodation, food and incidental expenses are met by individual travellers from domestic travelling allowances paid at a daily rate.

In providing home department support for its portfolio Ministers, Finance has not incurred any charges for security, gifts or entertainment associated with official travel.

f) The total amount payable by the Department of Finance and Deregulation for the cost of travel for personal staff of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries (employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984*) FYTD (to 30 September 2011) was \$2.816 million. This includes airfares (both domestic and overseas) and travel by taxis and hire cars.

It is not possible to individually report on all items in the question as costs for domestic accommodation, food and incidental expenses are met by individual travellers from domestic travelling allowances paid at a daily rate. The total cost of travelling allowance, including Motor Vehicle Allowance, paid to personal staff of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries (employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984*) FYTD (to 30 September 2011) was \$1.474 million.

Without clarification with individual staff members, it is also not possible to identify if the traveller was accompanying the relevant Minister or Parliamentary Secretary or travelling alone. The department does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow this information to be provided. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

g) Nil.

h) FYTD (to 30 September 2011), the Department of Finance and Deregulation spent \$0.884 million on official travel. This was comprised of fares (\$0.421 million); Travel Allowances (\$0.024 million); and accommodation and meal costs (\$0.438 million). Most, but not all, of this spend was for employees.

Compiling the information to the level of detail requested would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

In response to the one-off special 2.5% Efficiency Dividend announced in MYEFO 2011-12, the department will be instigating measures to reduce these costs.

Department of Finance and Deregulation
Travel Details of Departmental Officials Accompanying Portfolio Ministers

1 July 2010 – 30 June 2011

Date of Travel	Minister/s	Destination	Meeting	Airfare costs including administrative and booking fees (\$)	Airport Parking (\$)	Accommodation and additional expenses (\$)	Total expenditure (\$)
12 November 2010	Wong & Sherry	Sydney	BCA and Business Reform Task Force	239.01	18.00	43.90	300.91
1 April 2011	Wong & Sherry	Sydney	Deregulation Reference Group Meeting	211.53	21.00	49.61	282.14
							583.05

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Electoral Commission

Outcome/Program: General

Topic: Travel Costs

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: F80

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 2 December 2011

Number of pages: 3

Question:

- a. For the year 2010-11, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by your portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries. Include details of what travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expense.
- b. For the year 2010-11, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for any Minister and Parliamentary staff that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.
- c. For the year 2010-11, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.
- d. For the year 2010-11, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each department and agency within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (include travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.
- e. For the FYTD, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by your portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries. Include details of what travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expense.

- f. For the FYTD, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for any Minister and Parliamentary staff that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.
- g. For the FYTD, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.
- h. For the year FYTD, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each department and agency within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (include travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.

Answer:

- a. N/A.
- b. N/A.
- c. N/A.
- d. In the year 2010-11 the total costs for travel are shown in the table below. Total costs are shown as the AEC does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow answers to be provided in the detail requested. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

Type of travel expense	\$
Domestic airfares	1,690,475
Domestic accommodation	1,048,830
Domestic travel allowances	823,313
International airfares	573,859
International accommodation	294,605
International travel allowances	184,804
Total travel expenditure	4,615,886

The AEC's SES officers are entitled to travel business class for all domestic travel.

All AEC non-SES staff are entitled to fly business class domestically between:

- Perth and all other States/Territories, except South Australia; and
- Darwin and all other States/Territories.

All AEC officers, SES and non-SES, are entitled to travel business class when travelling internationally.

The AEC's new Enterprise Agreement comes into effect on the 21 November 2011, where the entitlement for non-SES staff to travel business class domestically has been

removed. To travel business class non-SES staff will require an approved business case.

e. N/A.

f. N/A.

g. N/A.

h. In the year 2010-11 the total costs for travel are shown in the table below. Total costs are shown as the AEC does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow answers to be provided in the detail requested. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

Type of travel expense	\$
Domestic airfares	341,560
Domestic accommodation	223,472
Domestic travel allowances	222,821
International airfares	166,570
International accommodation	39,799
International travel allowances	48,955
Total travel expenditure	1,043,177

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Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: ComSuper
Outcome/Program: General
Topic: Travel costs

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: F80

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 2 December 2011

Number of pages: 2

Question:

- a) For the year 2010-11, please detail all travel (itemised separately,) undertaken by your portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.
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- d) For the year 2010-11, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each department and agency within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.
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- g) For the FYTD, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.

- h) For the year FYTD, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each department and agency within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.

Answer:

- a) N/A.
- b) N/A.
- c) N/A.
- d) ComSuper does not record travel data in a way that readily allows detailed travel answers to be provided. Total spend for travel for ComSuper employees for 2010-11 was \$181,834.63.
- e) N/A.
- f) N/A.
- g) N/A.
- h) ComSuper does not record travel data in a way that readily allows detailed travel answers to be provided. Total spend for travel for ComSuper employees for FYTD is \$132,547.25.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation

Outcome/Program:

Topic: Travel costs

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: F80

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 2 December 2011

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- a) For the year 2010-11, please detail all travel (itemised separately,) undertaken by your portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.
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their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.

- h) For the year FYTD, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each department and agency within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.

Answer:

- a) N/A.
- b) N/A.
- c) N/A.
- d) In respect of public monies the total travel costs for 2010-2011 were \$148,654. The travel was for business purposes. It is not possible to individually report on all items in the question as costs for accommodation, food and incidental expenses are met by individual travellers from domestic or international travelling allowances paid at a daily rate.
- e) N/A.
- f) N/A.
- g) Nil.
- h) In respect of public monies the total travel costs for FYTD are \$29,441. The travel was for business purposes. It is not possible to individually report on all items in the question as costs for accommodation, food and incidental expenses are met by individual travellers from domestic or international travelling allowances paid at a daily rate.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Future Fund Management Agency

Outcome/Program: General

Topic: Travel Costs

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: F80

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 2 December 2011

Number of pages: 3

Question:

- a) For the year 2010-11, please detail all travel (itemised separately,) undertaken by your portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.
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Answer:

- a) N/A.
- b) N/A.
- c) N/A.
- d) The Agency does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow answers to be provided to these questions. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources. All travel is purchased on the basis of best value for money and is undertaken in connection with the management of the assets of the Future Fund and Nation-building Funds in accordance with the Fund’s legislation. All staff travel economy class for flights within Australia and to New Zealand. Staff flying to destinations outside Australia and New Zealand travel business class.

2010-11 Financial Year	Total Cost
Travel – flights	\$1,100,183.00
Accommodation and meals	\$342,667
Taxis and other transport	\$66,589.00

- e) N/A.
- f) N/A.
- g) N/A.
- h) The agency does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow answers to be provided to these questions. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources. All travel is purchased on the basis of best value for money and is undertaken in connection with the management of the assets of the Future Fund and Nation-building Funds in accordance with the Fund’s legislation. All staff travel economy class for flights within Australia and to New Zealand. Staff flying to destinations outside Australia and New Zealand travel business class.

Financial Year to Date – 1 July to 30 September 2011	Total Cost
Travel – flights	\$270,137.00
Accommodation and meals	\$40,030.00
Taxis and other transport	\$9,655.00