

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing—October 2011

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: Overseas Travel
Question: 28
Hansard reference F&PA p.28, 17 October 2011

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

Senator FAULKNER: The one thing I was interested in was understanding whether the department had a budget for the overseas travel of staff members.

Mr Thompson: Each year we establish a budget for overseas travel. I do not have exactly what it is for 2011-12 at my fingertips now.

Senator FAULKNER: What was it in 2010-11?

Mr Thompson: Again, I do not have it at my fingertips. We can provide it at quite short notice, but I do not have it.

Senator FAULKNER: Could I ask, then, about the prospective budget for this financial year and for the two or three previous years. Could I also be provided with details of all overseas travel expenditure funded out of the DPS staff travel budget, please? I have asked that question on notice.

Answer

1 DPS allocates internal budgets at a group or branch level for travel expenses—for travel in Australia and overseas. Therefore, separate budgets for overseas travel for previous financial years are not available.

2 For 2011–12, the estimated DPS expenditure on overseas travel is \$20,000 (including the 2011–12 expenditure in the table below).

3 Below are the total DPS overseas travel costs for the previous three years and for 2011–12 to date.

Year	Overseas Travel Expenditure \$'000
2011–12 (to 2 December 2011)	7.4
2010–11	25.2
2009–10	74.5
2008–09	40.2