

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-12

Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio

Department/Agency: Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General

Program 1: Support for the Governor-General and Official Activities

Outcome 1: The performance of the Governor-General's role is facilitated through the organisation and management of official duties, management and maintenance of the official household and property and administration of the Australian Honours and Awards system.

Topic: Travel Costs

Senator: FIFIELD

Question reference number: PM146

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of Pages: 2

Question:

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.

6. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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:

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. A small number of Office staff travel to support the Governor-General's official program. The vast majority of travel is accompanying the Governor-General on the RAAF Special Purpose Aircraft, details of which are published in parliament every 6 months. There is also occasional domestic travel, mostly to Sydney by road/air to support official events at Admiralty House. Total travel costs for the Office as well as details of all overseas travel are published in the Office's Annual Report. All details of the Governor-General's domestic program are published on the Office's website at www.gg.gov.au. There is only occasional official travel by a staff that does not relate to the Governor-General's official program. Itemised trip expenditure for each staff member is not readily available. It would be considered an unreasonable diversion of resources to compile such information.
5. N/A
6. N/A
7. N/A
8. A small number of Office staff travel to support the Governor-General's official program. The vast majority of travel is accompanying the Governor-General on the RAAF Special Purpose Aircraft, details of which are published in parliament every 6 months. There is also occasional domestic travel, mostly to Sydney by road/air to support official events at Admiralty House. Total travel costs for the Office as well as details of all overseas travel are published in the Office's Annual Report. All details of the Governor-General's domestic program are published on the Office's website at www.gg.gov.au. There is only occasional official travel by a staff member that does not relate to the Governor-General's official program. Itemised trip expenditure for each staff member is not readily available. It would be considered an unreasonable diversion of resources to compile such information.