

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 17-20 October 2011

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australia Council

Outcome/Program: 2.1. Arts and Cultural Development

Topic: Domestic and International Airfares

Senator: Senator Brandis

Question reference number: 84

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 3

Question:

1. How many domestic business class airfares were paid for by The Australia Council, and what was the total cost of these fares in:
 - o 2007-08
 - o 2008-09
 - o 2009-10
 - o 2010-11
 - o 2011-12 (to date)

2. How many domestic economy class airfares did The Australia Council pay for, and what was the total cost of these fares in:
 - o 2007-08
 - o 2008-09
 - o 2009-10
 - o 2010-11
 - o 2011-12 (to date)

3. How many international first class airfares did the Australia Council pay for, and what the total cost of these fares in:
 - o 2007-08
 - o 2008-09

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- o 2009-10
- o 2010-11
- o 2011-12 (to date)

4. How many international business class airfares did the Australia Council pay for, and what the total cost of these fares in:

- o 2007-08
- o 2008-09
- o 2009-10
- o 2010-11
- o 2011-12 (to date)

5. How many economy class international airfares did the Australia Council pay for, and what was the total cost of these fares in:

- o 2007-08
- o 2008-09
- o 2009-10
- o 2010-11
- o 2011-12 (to date)

Answer:

Available information on travel expenses for employees, councillors, board members and peers is as follows:

Airfares	Domestic	International	Total
2007-08	\$410,098	\$20,325	\$430,423
2008-09	\$310,520	\$12,418	\$322,938
2009-10	\$318,519	\$29,595	\$348,115
2010-11	\$355,606	\$28,755	\$384,361
2011-12 FYTD	\$69,718	\$4,147	\$73,865

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In relation to the airfare class, the Australia Council is guided by the Remuneration Tribunal's *Determination 2011/09: Remuneration and Allowances for Holders of Part Time Public Office* and *Determination 2004/03: Official Travel by Office Holders*.

The Australia Council does not record data on economy and business class fares in a way that would readily allow answers to be provided.