

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing—October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Taxi costs FYTD**

Question: **213**

Written **Senator Ryan**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 30 November 2012

- a. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.
- b. What are the reasons for taxi costs?

Answer

- a) DPS has spent \$13,720 (ex-GST) on taxis up for this financial year to 30 September 2012. The table below shows the breakdown of taxi costs for each business group within DPS.

Branch / Section	cost \$
Building Services Branch	721
Content Management Branch	8,160
Corporate Services Branch	268
Infrastructure Services Branch	980
Parliamentary Library	1993
Projects Branch	1,055
Secretary and Deputy Secretary offices	526
Strategy and Communications Section	17
Total	13,720

- b) The reasons for the Taxi costs are:
 - i. to and from Canberra Airport when travelling on official business (eg interstate duty, course, conference, meeting, etc);
 - ii. to and from a destination airport to an official business venue or official business accommodation;
 - iii. to and from official accommodation to a venue (if such accommodation is not reasonably close to the venue);
 - iv. to official activities (local and interstate) when transporting support equipment (eg broadcasting recording equipment, projectors, PCs, etc) and taxi travel is the most cost-effective method;
 - v. between Parliament House and a local venue where the employee is required to attend an official meeting or other official business; or
 - vi. when the employee is "on call" and may be required to return to Parliament House outside of normal office hours.