

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 2011–12**

Question: **214**

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 in 2011-12? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.
- b. What are the reasons for taxi costs?

Answer

- a) For 2011-12, DPS spent \$41,321 (ex-GST) on taxis. The table below shows the breakdown of each business group within DPS:

Branch / Section	cost \$
Building Services Branch	2,064
Content Management Branch	30,532
Corporate Services Branch	416
Infrastructure Services Branch	2,888
Parliamentary Library	2,547
Projects Branch	1,652
Secretary and Deputy Secretary offices	1,098
Strategy and Communications Section	124
Total	41,321

- 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.