

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

**Portfolio**

**Question No. 126**

**Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 12 February 2013:**

Hire car costs

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

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

a) The amount spent on hire cars is identified in the table below. For some agencies, the expense to disaggregate hire car costs by each business group would require an unreasonable diversion of resources. The reporting period identified is between 1 July 2012 and 31 January 2013.

b) Hire cars are used as a means of transport where it would not be cost-effective to use other means.

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Hire car costs 1 July 2012-31 January 2013</b>		
Attorney-General's Department	The Department accounts for taxis and car hire and does not disaggregate the balances:  Total spend for taxis and car hire - \$ 357,343		
Administrative Appeals Tribunal	\$4,034.85		
Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity	\$14,186		
Australian Crime Commission	<b>Agency business group</b>	<b>Hire car costs 1 July 2012–31 January 2013</b>	
	Intervention & Prevention Directorate	\$20,583	
	Fusion, Target Development & Performance Directorate	\$4,368	
	People, Business Services & Stakeholder Directorate	\$2,079	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,029</b>	
Australian Customs and Border Protection Service	\$277,381.92		
Australian Federal Police	a) Total spend	b) Business group and amount	
	\$ 430,381	ACT Police	\$5,879
		COO	\$24,063
		National Security	\$276,337

		Operations	\$66,343
		Operations Support	\$57,759
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$430,381</b>
Australian Government Solicitor	The Australian Government Solicitor (AGS) is a government business enterprise operating on a commercial and competitive basis in providing legal and related services to government and its agencies. AGS does not receive any Budget or other appropriations and its employees are engaged outside of the <i>Public Service Act 1999</i> . The question is therefore not applicable to AGS.		
Australian Human Rights Commission	\$11,285	Of this amount, \$8,637 was fully cost recovered under fee for service arrangements including: \$8,036 related to activities undertaken on behalf of AUSAID for the Human Rights Technical Cooperation Programs.	
Australian Institute of Criminology	\$966, required for research project fieldwork in remote locations.		
Australian Law Reform Commission	Nil		
Australian Security Intelligence Organisation	\$25,181		
AUSTRAC	\$146		
CrimTrac	The estimated expenditure for the period is approximately \$1,000. Detailed information is not readily available. Information should be available for future reporting periods following the December 2012 implementation of the Phase 2 travel arrangements.		
Federal Court of Australia	\$5,953		
Federal Magistrates Court	\$20,365		
High Court of Australia	\$68,656.64		
Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia	\$6,563.02 being for rental cars to undertake Regulation and Enforcement inspections and Proceeds of Crime work.		
National Native Title Tribunal	The NNTT will not be providing a response to this question, as from 1 July 2012 the National Native Title Tribunal is no longer a <i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997</i> Agency, and is funded to carry out its functions as a sub-program of the Federal Court of Australia's appropriation.		
Office of the Australian Information Commissioner	\$2,008		
Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions	\$12,452		
Office of Parliamentary Counsel	Nil		