

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

**Portfolio**

**Question No. 93**

**Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 30 May 2013:**

Hire cars

- 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:**

For 2012-13 financial year information up to 31 January 2013, please refer to QoN 126 from the Additional Estimates round.

For the period 1 February 2013 to 31 May 2013 please see below.

**Attorney-General's Department**

Agency	Hire car costs 1 February 2011 – 31 May 2013
Attorney-General's Department	<p>The Department accounts for taxis and car hire and does not disaggregate the balances</p> <p>a)</p> <p>Total \$257,293                      Departmental \$159,693                      Executive \$8,810                      CJLS - Civil Justice &amp; Legal Services Group \$36,023                      NSCJ - National Security &amp; Criminal Justice Group \$90,249                      SPCG - Strategic Policy &amp; Coordination Group \$24,611                      Administered \$97,600</p> <p>b) Hire cars are used as a means of transport where it would not be cost-effective to use other means</p>
Administrative Appeals Tribunal	<p>a) \$1,746.05 ex-GST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$149.39 - Corporate Support</li> <li>• \$1,596.66 – Members</li> </ul> <p>b) Hire cars are used as a means of transport where it would not be cost-effective to use other means</p>

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Hire car costs 1 February 2011 – 31 May 2013</b>														
Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity	<p>a) \$2,050.94 Most hire care costs are associated with ACLEI's investigation function. To breakdown these costs by each business group would require an unreasonable diversion of resources</p> <p>b) Hire cars are used when it would not be cost-effective to use other arrangements</p>														
Australian Crime Commission	<p>a) Total \$13,127</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intervention &amp; Prevention Directorate - \$8,802</li> <li>• Fusion, Target Development &amp; Performance Directorate - \$4,325</li> </ul> <p>b) Hire cars are used as a means of transport where it would not be cost-effective to use other means</p>														
Australian Customs and Border Security	<p>a) Total \$128,409.64 To breakdown these costs by each business group would require an unreasonable diversion of resources</p> <p>b) Hire cars are used as a means of transport where it would not be cost-effective to use other means.</p>														
Australian Federal Police	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">a) <b>Business Unit</b></th> <th style="text-align: right;"><b>Amount (GST Exc.)</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ACT Policing</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$888</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chief Operating Officer</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$14,212</td> </tr> <tr> <td>National Security Operations</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$106,964</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operations Support</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$32,031</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>\$37,761</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>\$191,856</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>b) Hire cars are used as a means of transport for work related purposes where it would not be cost-effective to use other means</p>	a) <b>Business Unit</b>	<b>Amount (GST Exc.)</b>	ACT Policing	\$888	Chief Operating Officer	\$14,212	National Security Operations	\$106,964	Operations Support	\$32,031	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$37,761</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$191,856</b>
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Australian Government Solicitor	<p>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</p>														
Australian Human Rights Commission	<p>a) \$21,467</p> <p>Of this amount \$17,738 was fully cost recovered under fee for service arrangement including: \$17,558 related to activities undertaken on behalf of AUSAID</p> <p>b) Hire cars are used as a means of transport where it would not be cost-effective to use other means</p>														
Australian Institute of Criminology	<p>a) Total \$940</p> <p>b) Required for research project fieldwork in remote locations</p>														

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Hire car costs 1 February 2011 – 31 May 2013</b>
Australian Law Reform Commission	NIL response for the Australian Law Reform Commission
Australian Security Intelligence Organisation	a) Total \$33,975 To breakdown these costs by each business group would require an unreasonable diversion of resources
	b) Hire cars are used as a means of transport where it would not be cost-effective to use other means
Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre	a) Total \$309.10
	b) Hire cars are used as a means of transport where it would not be cost-effective to use other means
Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions	a) \$4,273.53 (excl. GST). To breakdown these costs by each business group would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.
	b) Hire cars are used as a means of transport where other means of transport are not available or it would not be cost-effective to do so
CrimTrac	a) \$1,005. To breakdown these costs by each business group would require an unreasonable diversion of resources
	b) Hire cars are used as a means of transport where it would not be cost-effective to use other means
Family Court of Australia	a) \$13,364 (GST Exclusive) To break down these costs by each business group would require an unreasonable diversion of resources
	b) Hire cars are used as a means of transport where it would not be cost-effective to use other means
Federal Court	a) \$2,277 To break down these costs by each business group would require an unreasonable diversion of resources
	b) Hire cars are used as a means of transport where it would not be cost-effective to use other means.
Federal Circuit Court of Australia	a) \$9,820 (GST Exclusive) To break down these costs by each business group would require an unreasonable diversion of resources
	b) Hire cars are used as a means of transport where it would not be cost-effective to use other means
High Court of Australia	a) Total \$42,203.20 To breakdown these costs by each business group would require an unreasonable diversion of resources
	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 February 2011 – 31 May 2013</b>
Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia	a) The amount spent on hire cars is identified in the table below. To breakdown these costs by each business group would require an unreasonable diversion of resources. Total \$1,723.67
	b) Hire cars are used as a means of transport where it would not be cost-effective to use other means
National Native Title Tribunal	The National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT) will not be providing a response to this question, as from 1 July 2012 the NNTT is no longer a Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997 Agency, and is funded to carry out its functions as a sub-program of the Federal Court of Australia's appropriation. On 12 March 2013 the Courts and Tribunals Legislation Amendment (Administration) Act 2013 came into operation. On that day the Australian Public Service Commissioner signed a determination which transferred all staff employed by the Tribunal to the Federal Court of Australia under s.72 of the Public Service Act, but those staff are designated staff assisting the Tribunal under the Native Title Act
Office of Parliamentary Counsel	a) Nil
	b) Nil
Office of the Australian Information Commissioner	a) The amount spent on hire cars was \$135 (excluding GST). This expense was incurred by the Corporate and Communications branch of the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner
	b) Hire cars are used where it would not be cost-effective to use other forms of transport