

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 OCTOBER 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE12/0153) PROGRAM – Internal Product

Senator Humphries (written) asked:

Portfolio wide - Travel Costs: Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the total costs of the lounge memberships.

Answer:

The Department's Travel Policy states that if an official is required to fly regularly (eight or more times a year) and there is a business need, a delegate may approve an airport corporate lounge membership for that official.

The Department's cost of Corporate Lounge Membership was \$9 808 for the 2011-12 financial year and \$1 127 for the financial year to date, 30 September 2012.

The following table itemises the classifications for staff that hold a Corporate Lounge Membership for the 2011-12 financial year and financial year to date, 30 September 2012.

Classification	FY 2011-12	FYTD 30 Sep 2012
APS 4-6	132	132
Executive Level 1-2	268	273
Legal Officers	11	11
Public Affairs Officers	4	4
Medical Officer 4	1	1
SES	75	77
Secretary	1	1
Total	492	499

The Department's lounge membership rates for both Virgin and Qantas are listed below:

- Annual Virgin Lounge Membership is \$249.00 - plus one off joining fee of \$199.00
- Annual Qantas Lounge Membership is \$275.00 - plus one off joining fee of \$210.00

MRT-RRT:

Answer:

Yes. Membership of the Qantas Club is provided to one employee (SES band 2), and 6 senior members. These memberships are provided on the basis of regular and ongoing travel for tribunal work and must be approved by the Principal Member or Registrar. The cost per employee ranges from \$413 to \$665 for a two-year membership, depending on whether a joining fee is included and the year joined. Total annual pro-rata cost of lounge memberships is \$2 556.37