

**Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

**Transport and Regional Services**

Department of Transport and Regional Services

Consideration of Senate Budget Estimates May 2005

**Question No.:** IOTS 01

**Topic:** Appointment of Inspector of Transport Security

**Hansard Page:** p. 8 (Monday, 23/5/05)

**Output:** Inspector of Transport Security

**Senator O'Brien asked:**

When was the Minister in possession of the list of suggestions from the Department?

**Answer:**

The Minister's office received a Brief from the acting Deputy Secretary of DOTARS, Martin Dolan, listing the suggested candidates for the position of the Inspector of Transport Security on 20 August 2004.

**Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

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Department of Transport and Regional Services

Consideration of Senate Budget Estimates May 2005

**Question No.:** IOTS 02

**Topic:** Mr Palmer's Working Hours

**Hansard Page:** p. 9 (Monday, 23/5/05)

**Output:** Inspector of Transport Security

**Senator O'Brien asked:**

Can you tell me how many days a week Mr Palmer devoted to his task as Inspector of Transport Security between his appointment on 23 November 2004 and 8 February 2005, the date he was appointed to conduct the Rau Inquiry?

**Answer:**

Mr Palmer devoted 98.5 hours to the position of the Inspector of Transport Security during the period 23 November 2004 to 8 February 2005.

**Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

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Consideration of Senate Budget Estimates May 2005

**Question No.:** IOTS 03

**Topic:** Inspector of Transport Security Budget Expenditure

**Hansard Page:** p. 9 (Monday, 23/5/05)

**Output:** Inspector of Transport Security

**Senator O'Brien asked:**

How much of the \$400,000 allocated to this Office will not be spent this financial year as a result of the position being filled for only a small part of the year?

**Answer:**

The Office of the Inspector of Transport Security year-to-date actual expenditure to the end of April 2005 was \$91,449. We estimate amount that around \$200,000 will not be spent this financial year.

**Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

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Department of Transport and Regional Services

Consideration of Senate Budget Estimates May 2005

**Question No.:** IOTS 04

**Topic:** Inspector of Transport Security Budget Allocation

**Hansard Page:** p. 11 (Monday, 23/5/05)

**Output:** Inspector of Transport Security

**Senator O'Brien asked:**

With regard to the allocation of \$1.6 million over four years in last year's Budget, there was no variation in the additional estimates statement. Do I take it that the Budget for this year, for next year and the following years remains at \$400,000?

**Mr Yuile**—That is correct.

**Senator O'BRIEN**— a) Can you give us a breakdown of how much has actually been expended in the current financial year, to date if possible? We certainly want the information about the amount expended on b) Mr Palmer's salary and c) travel and other entitlements. We would like that broken down by category, please.

**Mr Yuile**—Do you mean between his salary and travel?

**Senator O'BRIEN**—Yes. I am not sure if there are any other components that are critical.

**Mr Yuile**—There would be a contribution for superannuation, for example. Are you looking for his gross salary?

**Senator O'BRIEN**—I would have taken that to be rolled into the salary package component. We would also like the expenditure on travel, accommodation and the like. d) Are the premises that he is occupying rented?

**Answer:**

- a) The Office of the Inspector of Transport Security year-to-date actual expenditure to the end of April 2005 was \$91, 449.
- b) A total of \$29, 875 has been expended on Mr Palmer's salary up to and including pay date 21 April 2005. This includes Mr Palmer's retainer, salary and employer-paid superannuation contributions.
- c) A total of \$3,808 has been expended on Mr Palmer's travel to the end of April 2005. This includes flights, accommodation and other travel expenses.
- d) The space that Mr Palmer's office occupies is part of a building leased by the Department of Transport and Regional Services.