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**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

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## ASSURANCE REVIEW MEMORANDUM [2021/001]

Deborah O'Neill, Senator for New South Wales

Travel for the period 13 November 2013 to 24 March 2020 to, from and within Tasmania, and to and from Cairns.

Date: 22 June 2022

To: Nicole Pearson

Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance & Legal

### RECOMMENDATION

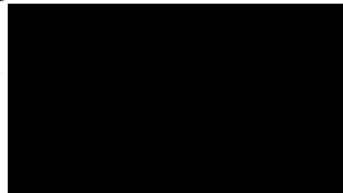
It is recommended that you:

- i. Note the contents of this assurance review, and
- ii. Accept the matter as closed with no further action required.

**NOTED & ACCEPTED AS CLOSED**

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**PLEASE DISCUSS**



Date: 22 June 2022

Nicole Pearson

Branch Manager

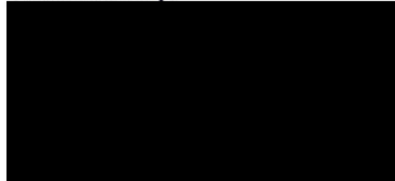
Transparency, Assurance & Legal Branch

Prepared by:



Audit & Assurance Officer, Audit & Assurance  
Transparency, Assurance & Legal Branch

Reviewed by:



A/g Assistant Director, Audit & Assurance  
Transparency, Assurance & Legal Branch

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## SCOPE

1. The scope of this Assurance Review is 13 November 2013 to 24 March 2020.

## PURPOSE

2. This Assurance Review aims to assess the use of travel and travel-related expenses by Senator Deborah O'Neill, Senator for New South Wales, during the period in scope for travel to, from and within Tasmania, and to and from Cairns.

## BACKGROUND

3. Media monitoring on 23 August 2020 identified an article published by The Sunday Telegraph, *The Sauce: Senator O'Neill's Tassie trips questioned (Attachment 1)*. The article reported that Senator O'Neill had travelled to Tasmania seven times and had repeatedly limited her travel allowance claims to parts of those trips.
4. Senator O'Neill has investment properties in both Tasmania and Cairns listed on the *Current Register of Senators' Interests 46th Parliament (Attachment 2)*.
5. On 24 August 2020, in accordance with IPEA's protocol, Dealing with Allegations of Misuse of Parliamentary Work Expenses ('the Protocol'), a Preliminary Assessment of travel and travel-related expenses incurred by the Senator in relation to her travel to, from and within Tasmania, and to and from Cairns commenced. The Preliminary Assessment found that parliamentary business resources were accessed by Senator O'Neill.
6. On 13 October 2020, in accordance with the Protocol, the decision was made to progress the matter to an Assurance Review. Through the course of the Assurance Review, IPEA assessed 16 itineraries under two frameworks.

## LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

### For travel and travel-related expenses incurred prior to 1 January 2018

7. The relevant legislation includes:
  - *Parliamentary Entitlements Act 1990 ('PE Act')*
  - *Parliamentary Entitlements Regulations 1997*
  - *Remuneration Tribunal Act 1973*
  - *Determinations of the Remuneration Tribunal*
  - *Decisions of the Special Minister of State*

### For travel and travel-related expenses incurred after 1 January 2018

8. The relevant legislation includes:
  - *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017 ('PBR Act')*
  - *Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017*
  - *Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017*
  - *Parliamentary Business Resources (Commonwealth Transport) Determination 2017*

### **Obligations**

From 1 January 2018 the principles-based legislative framework applying from imposes a number of obligations on parliamentarians in relation to their use of public resources. In summary, parliamentarians are personally responsible and accountable for their use of

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public resources. They must be prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business, and must act ethically and in good faith in using, and accounting for the use of, those resources. Specifically, a parliamentarian must not claim public resources unless they are claimed for the dominant purpose of conducting their parliamentary business.

### *Definitions*

“Parliamentary business” has the meaning given by section 6 of the PBR Act. Activities that fall within the four duty streams of parliamentary business are set out in the Parliamentary Business Determination as “parliamentary duties”, “electorate duties”, “party political duties”, and “official duties”.

## ANALYSIS

9. IPEA assessed 16 itineraries for the period in scope to determine whether each was consistent with the legislative framework at the time of travel.
10. Seven of these itineraries were for travel undertaken during the period 13 November 2013 to 31 December 2017 and were assessed to determine their compliance with the PE Act (itineraries 1-7 as per **Attachment 3**).
11. Nine of these itineraries were for travel undertaken during the period 1 January 2018 to 23 March 2020 and were assessed to determine their compliance with the PBR Act (itineraries 8-16 as per **Attachment 4**).

### Chronology of Engagement

12. During the Assurance Review IPEA engaged with Senator O’Neill on a number of occasions to obtain information in relation to the itineraries being assessed. The details of this engagement is provided in the following table.

Date	Engagement	Attachment
24 February 2021	IPEA to Senator O’Neill advising of Assurance Review and requesting information.	5
13 April 2021	Senator O’Neill to IPEA responding to request of 24 February 2021.	6
18 May 2021	IPEA met with Senator O’Neill.	NA
28 June 2021	Senator O’Neill to IPEA providing additional information.	7
24 August 2021	IPEA to Senator O’Neill requesting additional information.	8
11 October 2021	Senator O’Neill to IPEA responding to request of 24 August 2021.	9
24 November 2021	IPEA to Senator O’Neill requesting additional information.	10
16 December 2021	Senator O’Neill to IPEA responding to request of 24 November 2021.	11
23 December 2021	IPEA to Senator O’Neill advising finalisation of Assurance Review.	12

**Assessment of travel expenses – prior to 1 January 2018**

13. IPEA assessed seven itineraries for the period 13 November 2013 to 31 December 2017, to determine consistency with the legislative framework (particularly the PE Act) in force at the time of travel (itineraries 1-7 as per **Attachment 3**).
14. On 13 April 2021 and 28 June 2021 Senator O'Neill provided details of the purpose of her travel and supporting documentation for itineraries 1-7.
15. In relation to itinerary 1, assessment of the information available to IPEA, including Senator O'Neill's responses, indicated that the Senator had travelled to Tasmania for personal reasons and then conducted certain activities in Tasmania as her capacity as a Senator prior to departing.
16. On 24 November 2021 IPEA advised Senator O'Neill of its assessment of itinerary 1 under the relevant legislative framework. IPEA put to the Senator that she may wish to consider repaying the travel resources accessed in relation to that itinerary, to avoid any perception that she received a personal benefit (**Attachment 10**).
17. On 16 December 2021 Senator O'Neill confirmed that she had paid for parts of itinerary 1 personally. The Senator stated that if she was in breach of rules and IPEA determined repayment of parliamentary business resources was required, she would "*promptly do so on receipt of such a request.*" (**Attachment 11**).
18. On 23 December 2021, IPEA advised Senator O'Neill again of the legislative framework applicable to itinerary 1. IPEA stated that if assessed under the current principles-based framework introduced on 1 January 2018, the dominant purpose of the Senator's travel to and from Tasmania would not be considered parliamentary business. IPEA reissued its offer to raise an invoice for the voluntary repayment of itinerary 1 (**Attachment 12**). No response was received from Senator O'Neill.
19. As the obligations imposed upon parliamentarians by the PBR Act did not apply, there is nothing in the information available to IPEA that could allow it to conclude that the use of travel-related resources for itinerary 1 was not consistent with the legislative framework in force at the time of travel.
20. Following assessment of all information available to IPEA, including Senator O'Neill's responses and supporting documentation, IPEA assessed itineraries 1-7 as not being inconsistent with the relevant legislative framework.
21. This assessment highlights the complex nature of the PE Act, and the outcome reinforces the importance of the move to a principles-based framework.

**Assessment of travel expenses – post 1 January 2018**

22. IPEA assessed seven itineraries (itineraries 8-16) for the period 1 January 2018 to 24 March 2020, to determine consistency with the principles-based legislative framework in force at the time of travel (itineraries 8-16 as per **Attachment 4**).
23. Over the course of the engagement with Senator O'Neill, from 24 February 2021 to 23 December 2021, IPEA requested further information about the nature of the Senator's parliamentary business for itineraries 8-16. The need for documentation to support claims about "last minute" allocation of parliamentary duties and dominant purpose was emphasised to the Senator.



24. Senator O'Neill provided a number of responses and supporting documentation to IPEA detailing the dominant purpose and nature of her parliamentary business for itineraries 8-16.
25. IPEA notes that under the principles-based legislative framework, parliamentarians "must be prepared to justify publicly their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business" (section 25(3), PBR Act).
26. Following assessment of all information available to IPEA, including Senator O'Neill's responses and supporting documentation, IPEA assessed itineraries 8-16 as not being inconsistent with the principles-based legislative framework.

## **CONCLUSION**


27. On the basis of Senator O'Neill's responses, IPEA is satisfied:
  - Itineraries 1-7 were not inconsistent with the legislative framework in force at the time of travel.
  - Itineraries 8-16 were not inconsistent with the principles-based legislative framework in force at the time of travel.
28. IPEA notes that Senator O'Neill has not undertaken similar travel since March 2020. IPEA has also written to Senator O'Neill to encourage her to seek advice if she finds herself in similar circumstances in the future.

NSW

# The Sauce: Senator Deborah O'Neill's Tassie trips questioned

Linda Silmalis and Annika Smethurst, The Sunday Telegraph


August 23, 2020 12:00am

 Subscriber only

Labor Senator Deborah O'Neill has raised eyebrows among her political rivals over why she has been claiming only part of the cost of her trips to Tasmania.

Surely a work trip is a work trip and the full entitlement is claimed, our source argues. Or is it a case of O'Neill being diligent to ensure taxpayers are not charged for second of non-work time?



 Labor Senator Deborah O'Neill Picture: Adam Yip

According to a flight log sent to The Sauce last week, the Central Coast backbencher has travelled to the Apple Isle on seven occasions in the past two years.

On June 12, 2018, O'Neill charged taxpayers \$2440.36 to fly from Burnie to Perth, but nothing for the trip to Burnie.

**MORE SAUCE:**

The following month, O'Neill charged taxpayers to fly from Melbourne to Burnie, and for the flight back to Sydney, but did not claim travel allowance for the eight nights away.

In May last year, O'Neill charged taxpayers \$963.14 for a flight from Burnie to Canberra, but not the first flight to Burnie.

On November 3, taxpayers were charged \$2882.46 for a flight from Sydney to Melbourne and Melbourne to Burnie, with travel allowance claimed for two nights.

In January this year, O'Neill again charged taxpayers \$1914 to fly from Burnie to Sydney via Melbourne – but again did not charge for the flight to Burnie. O'Neill then flew to Sydney for one night – claiming travel allowance – before flying back to Burnie at taxpayer expense.

Eight days were spent in Burnie – which were not claimed for – but taxpayers were charged for the flight back to Sydney.

In March, taxpayers are again charged \$347.05 for a flight from Canberra to Launceston via Melbourne – but no return flight or travel allowance is claimed.



📷 Colleagues have asked why the Senator has only claimed for part of her Tasmanian trips. Picture: Gary Ramage

O'Neill's camp, who sent links to work duties for each of the trips, explained that the Senator was only claiming for the portion of the trips that were strictly "work duties".

When she went on leave, she covered the cost of her own flights and accommodation.

Her duties included attending various Senate hearings in Tasmania relating to Newstart, Robodebt and education, as well as attending meetings in Melbourne.

"Senator O'Neill only accesses work expenses in line with the framework governed by the independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA)," her office said in a statement.

“Weever Senator O’Neill has determined that personal duties are taking place, she does not claim expenses.”





29 July 2019

## Statement of registerable interests

### SENATORS

<b>Surname:</b>	O'Neill
<b>Other names:</b>	Deborah
<b>State/Territory:</b>	NSW
<b>Date:</b>	29/07/2019

#### 1. Shareholdings in public and private companies (including holding companies) indicating the name of the company or companies

(Note: It is NOT necessary to declare the size or value of the shareholding)

**Name of company – (including holding and subsidiary companies if applicable)**

AIG

Telstra

#### 2. Family and business trusts and nominee companies

(i) in which a beneficial interest is held, indicating the name of the trust and the nature of its operation and beneficial interest

<b>Name of trust/nominee company</b>	<b>Nature of its operation</b>	<b>Beneficial interest</b>
Partnership with Spouse	Property Investment	Joint Beneficiary

(ii) in which the Senator, the Senator's spouse or partner, or a child who is wholly or mainly dependent on the Senator for support, is a trustee (but not including a trustee of an estate where no beneficial interest is held by the Senator, the Senator's spouse or partner or dependent children), indicating the name of the trust, the nature of its operation and the beneficiary of the trust

<b>Name of trust/nominee company</b>	<b>Nature of its operation</b>	<b>Beneficiary of the trust</b>
NIL	NIL	NIL

### 3. Real estate, including the location (suburb or area only) and the purpose for which it is owned

(Note: The full street address of property is NOT required to be specified)

Location	Purpose for which owned
Copacabana, NSW	Residential
Stanley, TAS	Investment
Alcomie, TAS	Investment
Yorkey's Knob, QLD	Investment
Kingston, ACT	Residential

### 4. Registered directorships of companies

Name of company	Activities of company
CBN Developments	Not yet Active

### 5. Partnerships, indicating the nature of the interests and the activities of the partnership

Name	Nature of interest	Activities of partnership
Partnership with husband	Partnership with husband	Investment Properties

### 6. Liabilities, indicating the nature of the liability and the creditor concerned

(Note: It is NOT necessary to declare the amount of any liability)

Nature of liability	Creditor
Mortgage on residential property	NAB
Mortgage on residential property	NAB
Mortgage on investment property	NAB
Mortgage on investment property	NAB
Mortgage on investment property	CBA
Personal Loan	Westpac
Personal Loan	NAB

## 7. The nature of any bonds, debentures and like investments

(Note: It is NOT necessary to declare the value of such investments)

Type of investment	Body in which investment is held
Superannuation in managed fund	Uni Super

## 8. Saving or investment accounts, indicating their nature and the name of the bank or other institutions concerned

(Note: It is NOT necessary to declare actual amounts held in accounts)

Nature of account	Name of bank/institution
Savings and investment accounts	Westpac, ANZ, NAB, Commonwealth

## 9. The nature of any other assets (excluding household and personal effects) each valued at more than \$7,500

(Note: It is NOT necessary to declare the value of any other asset)

Nature of any other assets
Life Insurance
Vehicles x 3

## 10. The nature of any other substantial sources of income

(Note: It is NOT necessary to declare the amount of the income)

Nature of income
Income from investments properties listed

## 11. Gifts valued at more than \$750 received from official sources (such sources being an Australian or foreign national, State, provincial or local Government or a person holding an office in such a Government) or at \$300 or more where received from other than official sources, provided that a gift received by a Senator, the Senator's spouse or partner or dependent children from family members or personal friends in a purely personal capacity need not be registered unless the Senator judges that an appearance of conflict of interest may be seen to exist.

(Note: It is NOT necessary to declare the value of the gift)

Details of gifts
Foxtel in Electorate Office, Erina

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QANTAS Club and Virgin Lounge Frequent Flyer Programs

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**12. Any sponsored travel or hospitality received where the value of the sponsorship or hospitality exceeds \$300**

(Note: It is NOT necessary to declare the value of the sponsored travel etc.)

**Details of travel/hospitality**

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NIL

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**13. Being an office holder of or financial contributor donating \$300 or more in any single calendar year to any organisation**

**Name of organisation**

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Sponsor - Gosford Netball Association

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Sponsor - Davistown RSL Club

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Sponsor - Youth Performing Arts (YIPA) Central Coast

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Sponsor - National Aboriginal and Islander Skills Development Association (NAISDA)

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Sponsor - BPW (Business & Professional Women) Central Coast

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ALP NSW - Donor

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Chiefley Forum - Donor

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Member - National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU)

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**14. Any other interests where a conflict of interest with a senator's public duties could foreseeably arise or be seen to arise**

**Nature of interest**

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Member - Central Coast Leagues Club

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Member - Diggers at the Entrance

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Member - Club Umina

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Member - Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club

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Life Member - Mooney Mooney Workers Club (Revesby)

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Member - Terrigal/Wamberal Country Club

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## Itinerary 1: Travel on 11 August 2014

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel - Fares Regional Express Airlines	11/08/2014	04:20 PM	Burnie	11/08/2014	05:35 PM	Melbourne	\$430.70
Travel - Fares Jetstar Airways	11/08/2014	08:10 PM	Melbourne	11/08/2014	09:45 PM	Newcastle	\$271.82
Travel Allowance Electorate Business				11/08/2014		Newcastle	\$289.00

**Itinerary 2: Travel from 2 November 2014 to 11 November 2014**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Cabcharge	2/11/2014		Kingston	2/11/2014	07:19 AM	Pialligo	\$21.18
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	2/11/2014	08:35 AM	Canberra	2/11/2014	09:45 AM	Melbourne	\$646.32
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	2/11/2014	10:55 AM	Melbourne	2/11/2014	12:10 PM	Hobart	
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Committees				2/11/2014		Hobart	\$325.00
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Committees				3/11/2014		Launceston	\$281.00
Travel - Fares Jetstar (Cancellation Fee)	6/11/2014	6.00PM	Launceston	6/11/2014	07:35PM	Sydney	\$45.45
Cabcharge	6/11/2014		Airport	6/11/2014	07:08 PM	Launceston	\$31.55
COMCAR	7/11/2014	05:00 AM	Launceston	7/11/2014	05:40 AM	Western Junction	\$75.00
Travel - Fares – Spouse Interstate travel - Virgin Australia	7/11/2014	06:00 AM	Launceston	7/11/2014	07:00 AM	Melbourne	\$673.38
Travel - Fares – Spouse Interstate travel - Virgin Australia	7/11/2014	07:30 AM	Melbourne	7/11/2014	08:55 AM	Sydney	
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	7/11/2014	06:00 AM	Launceston	7/11/2014	07:00 AM	Melbourne	\$673.38

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	7/11/2014	07:30 AM	Melbourne	7/11/2014	08:55 AM	Sydney	
Cabcharge	7/11/2014		Airport	7/11/2014	10:47 AM	Brickfield Hill	\$56.36
COMCAR	7/11/2014	02:00 PM	Sydney	7/11/2014	04:10 PM	Erina	\$237.75

**Itinerary 3: Travel on April 2015**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel - Fares Regional Express Airways	16/04/2015	06:55 PM	Melbourne	16/04/2015	08:05 PM	Burnie	\$440.70
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Committees				16/04/2015		Burnie	\$298.00



**Itinerary 4: Travel from 15 November 2015 to 16 November 2015**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
COMCAR	15/11/2015	02:45 PM	Copacabana	15/11/2015	04:35 PM	Mascot	\$217.25
Travel – Fares Qantas Airways	15/11/2015	05:35 PM	Sydney	15/11/2015	06:05 PM	Brisbane	\$870.18
Travel – Fares Qantas Airways	15/11/2015	07:00 PM	Brisbane	15/11/2015	09:20 PM	Cairns	
Cabcharge	15/11/2015		Aeroglen	15/11/2015	10:28 PM	Cairns City	\$22.64
Travel Allowance – Parliamentary Committees				15/11/2015		Cairns	\$291.00
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	16/11/2015	04:30 PM	Cairns	16/11/2015	06:45 PM	Brisbane	\$409.69

**Itinerary 5: Travel from 18 February 2016 to 19 February 2016**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel – Fares Regional Express Airlines	18/02/2016	04:20 PM	Burnie	18/02/2016	05:35 PM	Melbourne	\$455.70
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	18/02/2016	06:30 PM	Melbourne	18/02/2016	07:55 PM	Sydney	\$139.30
COMCAR	18/02/2016	08:00 PM	Mascot	18/02/2016	08:22 PM	Sydney	\$49.70
COMCAR	19/02/2016	02:15 PM	Sydney	19/02/2016	02:51 PM	Mascot	\$66.81
Travel – Fares Virgin Australia	19/02/2016	04:15 PM	Sydney	19/02/2016	05:50 PM	Melbourne	\$224.26
Travel - Fares Regional Express Airlines	19/02/2016	06:55 PM	Melbourne	19/02/2016	08:05 PM	Burnie	\$455.70

**Itinerary 6: Travel from 28 April 2016 to 29 April 2016**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel – Fares Qantas Airways	28/04/2016	05:00 PM	Canberra	28/04/2016	06:10 PM	Melbourne	\$1,018.26
Travel – Fares Qantas Airways	28/04/2016	07:05 PM	Melbourne	28/04/2016	08:10 PM	Devonport	
COMCAR	28/04/2016	08:15 PM	Wesley Vale	28/04/2016	08:35 PM	Devonport	\$28.00
Travel Allowance – Parliamentary Committees				28/04/2016		Devonport	\$291.00
Cabcharge	29/04/2016		Devonport	29/04/2016	02:04 PM	Wesley Vale	\$20.00
Travel – Fares Qantas Airways	29/04/2016	02:00 PM	Devonport	29/04/2016	03:05 PM	Melbourne	\$461.43
Travel – Fares Qantas Airways	29/04/2016	05:00 PM	Melbourne	29/04/2016	06:25 PM	Sydney	
COMCAR	29/04/2016	07:29 PM	Mascot	29/04/2016	09:14 PM	Copacabana	\$206.30

**Itinerary 7: Travel from 23 July 2017 to 27 July 2017**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
COMCAR	23/07/2017	07:30 AM	Copacabana	23/07/2017	09:10 AM	Mascot	\$282.90
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	23/07/2017	10:00 AM	Sydney	23/07/2017	11:35 AM	Melbourne	\$149.23
COMCAR	23/07/2017	12:38 PM	Melbourne Airport	23/07/2017	01:15 PM	East Melbourne	\$118.20
Cabcharge	23/07/2017		Melbourne	23/07/2017	06:59 PM	Melbourne	\$9.09
COMCAR	24/07/2017	06:50 AM	East Melbourne	24/07/2017	07:42 AM	Melbourne Airport	\$139.00
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	24/07/2017	07:10 PM	Melbourne	24/07/2017	08:15 PM	Launceston	\$226.25
Travel - Hire car Hertz Rent a Car	24/07/2017	08:31 PM	Launceston	27/07/2017	09:30 AM	Launceston	\$486.99
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	27/07/2017	10:15 AM	Launceston	27/07/2017	11:50 AM	Sydney	\$139.67



## Itinerary 8: Travel on 29 January 2018

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel - Fares Regional Express Airlines	29/01/2018	6:30 AM	Burnie	29/01/2018	7:45 AM	Melbourne	\$466.70
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	29/01/2018	8:30 AM	Melbourne	29/01/2018	9:55 AM	Sydney	\$771.29
COMCAR	29/01/2018	10:24 AM	Mascot	29/01/2018	10:46 AM	As Directed NSW	\$124.30

**Itinerary 9: Travel on 12 June 2018**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel - Fares Regional Express Airlines	12/06/2018	4:20 PM	Burnie	12/06/2018	5:35 PM	Melbourne	\$476.70
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	12/06/2018	8:40 PM	Melbourne	12/06/2018	11:05 PM	Perth	\$1,963.66
COMCAR	12/06/2018	11:36 PM	Perth Airport	12/06/2018	12:07 AM	Fremantle	\$58.90
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				12/06/2018		Fremantle	\$271.00

**Itinerary 10: Travel from 21 July 2018 to 30 July 2018**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel – Fares Qantas Airways	21/07/2018	8:45 AM	Melbourne	21/07/2018	10:00 AM	Launceston	\$213.85
Travel - Hire car Hertz Rent a Car	21/07/2018	10:10 AM	Launceston	29/07/2018	3:44 PM	Burnie	\$647.01
Repayment – 50% Hire car *	21/07/2018						-\$355.85
Travel Fares – Regional Express Airlines	29/07/2018	4:20 PM	Burnie	29/07/2018	5:35 PM	Melbourne	\$401.70
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	29/07/2018	7:00 PM	Melbourne	29/07/2018	8:25 PM	Sydney	\$149.23
COMCAR	29/07/2018	8:44 PM	Mascot	29/07/2018	9:05 PM	Sydney	\$126.50
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				29/07/2018		Sydney	\$405.00
COMCAR	30/07/2018	07:59 AM	Sydney	30/07/2018	08:15 AM	Pymont	\$59.00
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	30/07/2018	01:55 PM	Sydney	30/07/2018	03:50 PM	Hobart	\$672.16
COMCAR	30/07/2018	03:59 PM	Cambridge	30/07/2018	04:16 PM	Hobart	\$61.00
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				30/07/2018		Hobart	\$342.00

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
COMCAR	31/07/2018	07:55 AM	Hobart	31/07/2018	08:02 AM	Hobart	\$59.00
COMCAR	31/07/2018	12:14 PM	Hobart	31/07/2018	12:31 PM	Cambridge	\$59.00
Travel - Fares Jetstar	31/07/2018	01:45 PM	Hobart	31/07/2018	03:35 PM	Sydney	\$456.81
COMCAR	31/07/2018	03:55 PM	Mascot	31/07/2018	06:47 PM	Copacabana	\$430.03

\*Invoice #1325616 was raised on 22/03/2019 and paid on 28/03/2019.

**Itinerary 11: Travel from 23 May 2019 to 24 May 2019**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	23/05/2019	2:10 PM	Sydney	23/05/2019	5:25 PM	Cairns	\$355.45
Cabcharge	23/05/2019		Aeroglen	23/05/2019	5:32 PM	Cairns City	\$22.55
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				23/05/2019	23/05/2019	Cairns	\$314.00
Cabcharge	24/05/2019		Cairns City	24/05/2019	9:17 AM	Aeroglen	\$19.82
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	24/05/2019	10:10 AM	Cairns	24/05/2019	12:20 PM	Brisbane	\$611.74
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	24/05/2019	1:05 PM	Brisbane	24/05/2019	2:40 PM	Sydney	
COMCAR	24/05/2019	2:42 PM	Mascot	24/05/2019	5:07 PM	Copacabana	\$489.13

**Itinerary 12: Travel from 28 May 2019 to 1 June 2019**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel Fares – Regional Express Airways	28/05/2019	4:20 PM	Burnie	28/05/2019	5:35 PM	Melbourne	\$476.70
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	28/05/2019	7:05 PM	Melbourne	28/05/2019	8:10 PM	Canberra	\$486.44
Travel Allowance Party Political Duties				28/05/2019		Canberra	\$1,152.00
COMCAR	30/05/2019	9:39 AM	Kingston	30/05/2019	9:51 AM	Australian Parliament House (APH)	\$58.80
COMCAR	30/05/2019	3:26 PM	APH	30/05/2019	3:34 PM	Kingston	\$58.80
Travel Fares – Qantas Airways	1/06/2019	2:10 PM	Canberra	1/06/2019	3:05 PM	Sydney	\$126.11
COMCAR	1/06/2019	3:05 PM	Mascot	1/06/2019	5:09 PM	Copacabana	\$462.56





**Itinerary 14: Travel from 5 November 2019 to 10 November 2019**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
COMCAR	5/11/2019	7:00 AM	Melbourne	5/11/2019	7:44 AM	Melbourne Airport	\$122.13
Travel Fares – Regional Express Airways	5/11/2019	8:45 AM	Melbourne	5/11/2019	9:55 AM	Burnie	\$401.70
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				7/11/2019		Launceston	\$305.00
Travel Fares– Regional Express Airways	10/11/2019	2:00 PM	Burnie	10/11/2019	3:15 PM	Melbourne	\$401.70
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	10/11/2019	5:05 PM	Melbourne	10/11/2019	6:10 PM	Canberra	\$251.18
COMCAR	10/11/2019	6:10 PM	Pialligo	10/11/2019	7:02 PM	Kingston	\$121.80
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				10/11/2019		Canberra	\$1,455.00

**Itinerary 15: Travel from 18 January 2020 to 28 January 2020**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel Fares – Regional Express Airways	18/01/2020	4:20 PM	Burnie	18/01/2020	5:35 PM	Melbourne	\$220.70
Travel Provider	18/01/2020	8:00 PM	Melbourne	18/01/2020	9:25 PM	Sydney	\$150.58
COMCAR	18/01/2020	9:25 PM	Mascot	18/01/2020	9:55 PM	Sydney	\$128.80
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				18/01/2020		Sydney	\$415.00
COMCAR	19/01/2020	12:15 PM	Sydney	19/01/2020	12:52 PM	Mascot	\$117.60
Travel Fares Virgin Australia	19/01/2020	2:00 PM	Sydney	19/01/2020	3:35 PM	Melbourne	\$150.58
Travel Fares – Regional Express Airways	19/01/2020	6:55 PM	Melbourne	19/01/2020	8:05 PM	Burnie	\$409.70
Travel Fares – Regional Express Airways	27/01/2020	4:20 PM	Burnie	27/01/2020	5:35 PM	Melbourne	\$409.70
Travel Provider – Virgin Australia	27/01/2020	6:30 PM	Melbourne	27/01/2020	7:55 PM	Sydney	\$158.61
COMCAR	27/01/2020	7:55 PM	Mascot	27/01/2020	8:42 PM	Sydney	\$128.80
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				27/01/2020		Sydney	\$830.00
COMCAR	28/01/2020	8:00 AM	Sydney	28/01/2020	12:35 PM	Sydney	\$539.00

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
COMCAR	29/01/2020	7:23 PM	Sydney	29/01/2020	9:10 PM	Copacabana	\$209.72

**Itinerary 16: Travel on 24 March 2020**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel Fares - Qantas Airways	24/03/2020	3:10 PM	Canberra	24/03/2020	4:20 PM	Melbourne	\$347.05
Travel Fares - Qantas Airways	24/03/2020	6:55 PM	Melbourne	24/03/2020	8:10 PM	Launceston	
Repayment of airfare 20 April 2020							-\$347.05



Australian Government  
Independent Parliamentary  
Expenses Authority

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24 February 2021

Senator Deborah O'Neill  
Senator for New South Wales  
  
Suite 3.12, The Platinum Building  
4 Ilya Avenue  
Erina, NSW, 2250

e-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance review of travel and travel-related expenses**

The Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) has responsibility under the *Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority Act 2017* to review work expenses accessed by parliamentarians.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in relation to your travel to and within Tasmania, and to and from Cairns, during the period 13 November 2013 to 8 November 2020 (the Scope). As you may be aware, during this period, the legislative framework changed from the *Parliamentary Entitlements Act 1990*, to the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* on 1 January 2018.

At **Attachment A** are details of your Commonwealth funded travel within the Scope, organised into 16 itineraries. For each itinerary we have set out questions to which we seek your response to assist in our review. Where we have asked about the nature of your parliamentary business, please provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting.

Please provide a written response via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on 17 March 2021, or advise us prior to the date if you need more time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact me on [REDACTED]

Following our receipt and consideration of your response, we will contact you to arrange a meeting to discuss the review.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

A/g Director Audit & Assurance

## Attachment A

### Itinerary 1: Travel on 11 August 2014

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel - Fares Regional Express Airlines	11/08/2014	04:20 PM	Burnie	11/08/2014	05:35 PM	Melbourne	\$430.70
Travel - Fares Jetstar Airways	11/08/2014	08:10 PM	Melbourne	11/08/2014	09:45 PM	Newcastle	\$271.82
Travel Allowance Electorate Business				11/08/2014		Newcastle	\$289.00

On 11 August 2014, you flew from Burnie to Newcastle via Melbourne.

*1.1 What was the purpose of your travel from Burnie to Newcastle on 11 August 2014?*

*1.2 Why did your journey to Newcastle commence in Burnie?*

**Itinerary 2: Travel from 2 November 2014 to 11 November 2014**

<b>Cost Type</b>	<b>Departure Date</b>	<b>Departure Time</b>	<b>Departure Location</b>	<b>Arrival Date</b>	<b>Arrival Time</b>	<b>Arrival Location</b>	<b>Amount (GST &amp; service fee exc.)</b>
Cabcharge	2/11/2014		Kingston	2/11/2014	07:19 AM	Pialligo	\$21.18
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	2/11/2014	08:35 AM	Canberra	2/11/2014	09:45 AM	Melbourne	\$646.32
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	2/11/2014	10:55 AM	Melbourne	2/11/2014	12:10 PM	Hobart	
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Committees				2/11/2014		Hobart	\$325.00
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Committees				3/11/2014		Launceston	\$281.00
Travel - Fares Jetstar (Cancellation Fee)	6/11/2014	6.00PM	Launceston	6/11/2014	07:35PM	Sydney	\$45.45
Cabcharge	6/11/2014		Airport	6/11/2014	07:08 PM	Launceston	\$31.55
COMCAR	7/11/2014	05:00 AM	Launceston	7/11/2014	05:40 AM	Western Junction	\$75.00
Travel - Fares – Spouse Interstate travel - Virgin Australia	7/11/2014	06:00 AM	Launceston	7/11/2014	07:00 AM	Melbourne	\$673.38
Travel - Fares – Spouse Interstate travel - Virgin Australia	7/11/2014	07:30 AM	Melbourne	7/11/2014	08:55 AM	Sydney	
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	7/11/2014	06:00 AM	Launceston	7/11/2014	07:00 AM	Melbourne	\$673.38



Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	7/11/2014	07:30 AM	Melbourne	7/11/2014	08:55 AM	Sydney	
Cabcharge	7/11/2014		Airport	7/11/2014	10:47 AM	Brickfield Hill	\$56.36
COMCAR	7/11/2014	02:00 PM	Sydney	7/11/2014	04:10 PM	Erina	\$237.75

On 2 November 2014, you flew from Canberra to Hobart via Melbourne. You claimed one night travel allowance in Hobart on 2 November 2014 and one night travel allowance in Launceston on 3 November 2014.

IPEA understands that you chaired a public hearing for the Senate Select Committee on Health in Hobart and Launceston on 3 and 4 November 2014, respectively.

On 7 November 2014 you and your spouse then flew from Launceston to Sydney, via Melbourne.

*2.1 Please confirm that your parliamentary business in Hobart and Launceston was to chair the Senate Select Committee public hearings.*

*2.2 What was the nature of any parliamentary business in Tasmania between 5 to 7 November 2014?*

*2.3 What was the purpose of you and your spouse's travel from Launceston to Sydney via Melbourne on 7 November 2014?*

*2.4 Our data shows that you used a taxi (i.e. Cabcharge) on 6 November 2014, from the Airport to Launceston. Are you able to confirm this trip and, if correct, explain the purpose of this trip.*

**Itinerary 3: Travel on April 2015**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel - Fares Regional Express Airways	16/04/2015	06:55 PM	Melbourne	16/04/2015	08:05 PM	Burnie	\$440.70
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Committees				16/04/2015		Burnie	\$298.00

On 16 April 2015 you flew from Melbourne to Burnie, where you claimed one night of travel allowance. IPEA understands that you chaired a public hearing for the Senate Select Committee on Health in Burnie on 17 April 2015.

*3.1 Please confirm that your parliamentary business in Burnie was to chair the Senate Select Committee public hearing.*

**Itinerary 4: Travel from 15 November 2015 to 16 November 2015**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
COMCAR	15/11/2015	02:45 PM	Copacabana	15/11/2015	04:35 PM	Mascot	\$217.25
Travel – Fares Qantas Airways	15/11/2015	05:35 PM	Sydney	15/11/2015	06:05 PM	Brisbane	\$870.18
Travel – Fares Qantas Airways	15/11/2015	07:00 PM	Brisbane	15/11/2015	09:20 PM	Cairns	
Cabcharge	15/11/2015		Aeroglen	15/11/2015	10:28 PM	Cairns City	\$22.64
Travel Allowance – Parliamentary Committees				15/11/2015		Cairns	\$291.00
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	16/11/2015	04:30 PM	Cairns	16/11/2015	06:45 PM	Brisbane	\$409.69

On 15 November 2015, you travelled from Sydney to Cairns via Brisbane, where you claimed one night of travel allowance. IPEA understands that you chaired a public hearing for the Senate Select Committee on Health in Cairns on 16 November 2015.

*4.1 Please confirm that your parliamentary business in Burnie was to chair the Senate Select Committee public hearing.*

**Itinerary 5: Travel from 18 February 2016 to 19 February 2016**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel – Fares Regional Express Airlines	18/02/2016	04:20 PM	Burnie	18/02/2016	05:35 PM	Melbourne	\$455.70
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	18/02/2016	06:30 PM	Melbourne	18/02/2016	07:55 PM	Sydney	\$139.30
COMCAR	18/02/2016	08:00 PM	Mascot	18/02/2016	08:22 PM	Sydney	\$49.70
COMCAR	19/02/2016	02:15 PM	Sydney	19/02/2016	02:51 PM	Mascot	\$66.81
Travel – Fares Virgin Australia	19/02/2016	04:15 PM	Sydney	19/02/2016	05:50 PM	Melbourne	\$224.26
Travel - Fares Regional Express Airlines	19/02/2016	06:55 PM	Melbourne	19/02/2016	08:05 PM	Burnie	\$455.70

On 18 February 2016, you flew from Burnie to Sydney via Melbourne. On 19 February 2016, you flew from Sydney to Burnie via Melbourne.

*5.1 What was the purpose of your travel from Burnie to Sydney on 18 February 2016?*

*5.2 Why did your travel to Sydney commence in Burnie?*

*5.3 What was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney?*

*5.4 What was the purpose of your travel from Sydney to Burnie on 19 February 2016?*

*5.5 Did you have any parliamentary business in Burnie?*

**Itinerary 6: Travel from 28 April 2016 to 29 April 2016**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel – Fares Qantas Airways	28/04/2016	05:00 PM	Canberra	28/04/2016	06:10 PM	Melbourne	\$1,018.26
Travel – Fares Qantas Airways	28/04/2016	07:05 PM	Melbourne	28/04/2016	08:10 PM	Devonport	
COMCAR	28/04/2016	08:15 PM	Wesley Vale	28/04/2016	08:35 PM	Devonport	\$28.00
Travel Allowance – Parliamentary Committees				28/04/2016		Devonport	\$291.00
Cabcharge	29/04/2016		Devonport	29/04/2016	02:04 PM	Wesley Vale	\$20.00
Travel – Fares Qantas Airways	29/04/2016	02:00 PM	Devonport	29/04/2016	03:05 PM	Melbourne	\$461.43
Travel – Fares Qantas Airways	29/04/2016	05:00 PM	Melbourne	29/04/2016	06:25 PM	Sydney	
COMCAR	29/04/2016	07:29 PM	Mascot	29/04/2016	09:14 PM	Copacabana	\$206.30

On 28 April 2016, you travelled from Canberra to Devonport via Melbourne where you claimed one night of travel allowance. IPEA understands that you chaired a public hearing for the Senate Select Committee on Health in Devonport on 29 April 2016.

On 29 April 2016, you flew from Devonport to Sydney, via Melbourne.

*6.1 Please confirm that your parliamentary business in Devonport was to chair the Senate Select Committee public hearing.*

**Itinerary 7: Travel from 23 July 2017 to 27 July 2017**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
COMCAR	23/07/2017	07:30 AM	Copacabana	23/07/2017	09:10 AM	Mascot	\$282.90
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	23/07/2017	10:00 AM	Sydney	23/07/2017	11:35 AM	Melbourne	\$149.23
COMCAR	23/07/2017	12:38 PM	Melbourne Airport	23/07/2017	01:15 PM	East Melbourne	\$118.20
Cabcharge	23/07/2017		Melbourne	23/07/2017	06:59 PM	Melbourne	\$9.09
COMCAR	24/07/2017	06:50 AM	East Melbourne	24/07/2017	07:42 AM	Melbourne Airport	\$139.00
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	24/07/2017	07:10 PM	Melbourne	24/07/2017	08:15 PM	Launceston	\$226.25
Travel - Hire car Hertz Rent a Car	24/07/2017	08:31 PM	Launceston	27/07/2017	09:30 AM	Launceston	\$486.99
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	27/07/2017	10:15 AM	Launceston	27/07/2017	11:50 AM	Sydney	\$139.67

On 24 July 2017, you travelled from Melbourne to Launceston. You hired a car in Launceston for three nights, from 24 to 27 July 2017. You then travelled from Launceston to Sydney on 27 July 2017.

*7.1 What was the purpose of your travel from Melbourne to Launceston on 24 July 2017?*

*7.2 What was the nature of any parliamentary business from 24 to 27 July 2017 in Launceston?*

Itineraries from 1 January 2018 – new legislative framework applies.

**Itinerary 8: Travel on 29 January 2018**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel - Fares Regional Express Airlines	29/01/2018	6:30 AM	Burnie	29/01/2018	7:45 AM	Melbourne	\$466.70
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	29/01/2018	8:30 AM	Melbourne	29/01/2018	9:55 AM	Sydney	\$771.29
COMCAR	29/01/2018	10:24 AM	Mascot	29/01/2018	10:46 AM	As Directed NSW	\$124.30

On 29 January 2018, you flew from Burnie to Sydney via Melbourne.

*8.1 What was the dominant purpose of your travel from Burnie to Sydney on 29 January 2018?*

*8.2 Why did your travel to Sydney commence in Burnie?*



**Itinerary 9: Travel on 12 June 2018**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel - Fares Regional Express Airlines	12/06/2018	4:20 PM	Burnie	12/06/2018	5:35 PM	Melbourne	\$476.70
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	12/06/2018	8:40 PM	Melbourne	12/06/2018	11:05 PM	Perth	\$1,963.66
COMCAR	12/06/2018	11:36 PM	Perth Airport	12/06/2018	12:07 AM	Fremantle	\$58.90
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				12/06/2018		Fremantle	\$271.00

On 12 June 2018, you flew from Burnie to Perth via Melbourne. Whilst in Perth, you attended the Senate Education and Employment References Committee in Fremantle on Wednesday 13 June 2018.

*9.1 Please confirm that the dominant purpose of your travel to Perth was to attend the Senate Select Committee public hearing.*

*9.2 Why did your travel to Perth commence in Burnie?*

**Itinerary 10: Travel from 21 July 2018 to 30 July 2018**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel – Fares Qantas Airways	21/07/2018	8:45 AM	Melbourne	21/07/2018	10:00 AM	Launceston	\$213.85
Travel - Hire car Hertz Rent a Car	21/07/2018	10:10 AM	Launceston	29/07/2018	3:44 PM	Burnie	\$647.01
Repayment – 50% Hire car *	21/07/2018						-\$355.85
Travel Fares – Regional Express Airlines	29/07/2018	4:20 PM	Burnie	29/07/2018	5:35 PM	Melbourne	\$401.70
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	29/07/2018	7:00 PM	Melbourne	29/07/2018	8:25 PM	Sydney	\$149.23
COMCAR	29/07/2018	8:44 PM	Mascot	29/07/2018	9:05 PM	Sydney	\$126.50
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				29/07/2018		Sydney	\$405.00
COMCAR	30/07/2018	07:59 AM	Sydney	30/07/2018	08:15 AM	Pymont	\$59.00
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	30/07/2018	01:55 PM	Sydney	30/07/2018	03:50 PM	Hobart	\$672.16
COMCAR	30/07/2018	03:59 PM	Cambridge	30/07/2018	04:16 PM	Hobart	\$61.00
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				30/07/2018		Hobart	\$342.00

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
COMCAR	31/07/2018	07:55 AM	Hobart	31/07/2018	08:02 AM	Hobart	\$59.00
COMCAR	31/07/2018	12:14 PM	Hobart	31/07/2018	12:31 PM	Cambridge	\$59.00
Travel - Fares Jetstar	31/07/2018	01:45 PM	Hobart	31/07/2018	03:35 PM	Sydney	\$456.81
COMCAR	31/07/2018	03:55 PM	Mascot	31/07/2018	06:47 PM	Copacabana	\$430.03

\*Invoice #1325616 was raised on 22/03/2019 and paid on 28/03/2019.

On 21 July 2018, you flew from Melbourne to Launceston and then used a hire car for nine days.

On 29 July 2018, you flew from Burnie to Sydney via Melbourne and claimed one night of travel allowance in Sydney.

On 30 July 2018, you flew from Sydney to Hobart and claimed one night of travel allowance in Hobart.

On 2 August 2018, you contacted IPEA by email providing some general information in relation to your activities in Tasmania over that period. You subsequently voluntarily repaid the amount of \$355.85, calculated as 50% of the cost of a car hired from 21 July 2018 to 29 July 2018.

10.1 What was the dominant purpose of your flight from Melbourne to Launceston on 21 July 2018?

10.2 What was the dominant purpose of your hire car from 21 July 2018 to 29 July 2018?

10.3 Please provide details of the nature and timing of the activities summarised in your email of 2 August 2018.

10.4 What was the dominant purpose of your flight from Sydney to Hobart on 31 July 2018?

**Itinerary 11: Travel from 23 May 2019 to 24 May 2019**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	23/05/2019	2:10 PM	Sydney	23/05/2019	5:25 PM	Cairns	\$355.45
Cabcharge	23/05/2019		Aeroglen	23/05/2019	5:32 PM	Cairns City	\$22.55
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				23/05/2019	23/05/2019	Cairns	\$314.00
Cabcharge	24/05/2019		Cairns City	24/05/2019	9:17 AM	Aeroglen	\$19.82
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	24/05/2019	10:10 AM	Cairns	24/05/2019	12:20 PM	Brisbane	\$611.74
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	24/05/2019	1:05 PM	Brisbane	24/05/2019	2:40 PM	Sydney	
COMCAR	24/05/2019	2:42 PM	Mascot	24/05/2019	5:07 PM	Copacabana	\$489.13

On 23 May 2019, you flew from Sydney to Cairns. On 24 May 2019, you then flew from Cairns to Sydney via Brisbane.

11.1 What was the dominant purpose of your return travel from Sydney to Cairns on 23 May 2019 and 24 May 2019?

11.2 What was the nature of your parliamentary business in Cairns?

**Itinerary 12: Travel from 28 May 2019 to 1 June 2019**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel Fares – Regional Express Airways	28/05/2019	4:20 PM	Burnie	28/05/2019	5:35 PM	Melbourne	\$476.70
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	28/05/2019	7:05 PM	Melbourne	28/05/2019	8:10 PM	Canberra	\$486.44
Travel Allowance Party Political Duties				28/05/2019		Canberra	\$1,152.00
COMCAR	30/05/2019	9:39 AM	Kingston	30/05/2019	9:51 AM	Australian Parliament House (APH)	\$58.80
COMCAR	30/05/2019	3:26 PM	APH	30/05/2019	3:34 PM	Kingston	\$58.80
Travel Fares – Qantas Airways	1/06/2019	2:10 PM	Canberra	1/06/2019	3:05 PM	Sydney	\$126.11
COMCAR	1/06/2019	3:05 PM	Mascot	1/06/2019	5:09 PM	Copacabana	\$462.56

On 28 May 2019, you flew from Burnie to Canberra via Melbourne and claimed one night of travel allowance. On 1 June 2019, you flew from Canberra to Sydney and returned to your home base.

*12.1 Why did your travel to Canberra commence in Burnie?*

Itinerary 13: Travel from 28 May 2019 to 1 June 2019

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	22/08/2019	8:45 AM	Sydney	22/08/2019	10:20 AM	Melbourne	\$502.72
Travel Provider – Qantas Airways	22/08/2019	11:50 AM	Melbourne	22/08/2019	1:05 PM	Launceston	
Repayment of airfare (includes GST) 25 October 2019							-\$552.99
Payment of 25% loading							-\$138.25

On 22 August 2019, you flew from Sydney to Launceston via Melbourne.

On 16 October 2019, your office contacted IPEA, requesting an invoice be raised to repay these flights. IPEA raised Invoice No. 1347729 on 16 October 2019, which was paid by your office on 25 October 2019. In accordance with Section 39 *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* the invoice also included a 25% loading as the repayment was made more than 28 days after the day of the claim.

13.1 Please confirm that the dominant purpose of your flight was not for parliamentary business.

**Itinerary 14: Travel from 5 November 2019 to 10 November 2019**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
COMCAR	5/11/2019	7:00 AM	Melbourne	5/11/2019	7:44 AM	Melbourne Airport	\$122.13
Travel Fares – Regional Express Airways	5/11/2019	8:45 AM	Melbourne	5/11/2019	9:55 AM	Burnie	\$401.70
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				7/11/2019		Launceston	\$305.00
Travel Fares– Regional Express Airways	10/11/2019	2:00 PM	Burnie	10/11/2019	3:15 PM	Melbourne	\$401.70
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	10/11/2019	5:05 PM	Melbourne	10/11/2019	6:10 PM	Canberra	\$251.18
COMCAR	10/11/2019	6:10 PM	Pialligo	10/11/2019	7:02 PM	Kingston	\$121.80
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				10/11/2019		Canberra	\$1,455.00

On 5 November 2019, you flew from Melbourne to Burnie.

IPEA understands that you attended a public hearing for the Senate Community Affairs References Committee Hearing in Launceston on 8 November 2019.

On 10 November 2019, you flew from Burnie to Canberra, via Melbourne.

14.1 What was the dominant purpose of your flight from Melbourne to Burnie on 5 November 2019?

14.2 What was the nature of any parliamentary business in Tasmania on 9 November 2019?

**Itinerary 15: Travel from 18 January 2020 to 28 January 2020**

<b>Cost Type</b>	<b>Departure Date</b>	<b>Departure Time</b>	<b>Departure Location</b>	<b>Arrival Date</b>	<b>Arrival Time</b>	<b>Arrival Location</b>	<b>Amount (GST &amp; service fee exc.)</b>
Travel Fares – Regional Express Airways	18/01/2020	4:20 PM	Burnie	18/01/2020	5:35 PM	Melbourne	\$220.70
Travel Provider	18/01/2020	8:00 PM	Melbourne	18/01/2020	9:25 PM	Sydney	\$150.58
COMCAR	18/01/2020	9:25 PM	Mascot	18/01/2020	9:55 PM	Sydney	\$128.80
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				18/01/2020		Sydney	\$415.00
COMCAR	19/01/2020	12:15 PM	Sydney	19/01/2020	12:52 PM	Mascot	\$117.60
Travel Fares Virgin Australia	19/01/2020	2:00 PM	Sydney	19/01/2020	3:35 PM	Melbourne	\$150.58
Travel Fares – Regional Express Airways	19/01/2020	6:55 PM	Melbourne	19/01/2020	8:05 PM	Burnie	\$409.70
Travel Fares – Regional Express Airways	27/01/2020	4:20 PM	Burnie	27/01/2020	5:35 PM	Melbourne	\$409.70
Travel Provider – Virgin Australia	27/01/2020	6:30 PM	Melbourne	27/01/2020	7:55 PM	Sydney	\$158.61
COMCAR	27/01/2020	7:55 PM	Mascot	27/01/2020	8:42 PM	Sydney	\$128.80
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				27/01/2020		Sydney	\$830.00
COMCAR	28/01/2020	8:00 AM	Sydney	28/01/2020	12:35 PM	Sydney	\$539.00



Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
COMCAR	29/01/2020	7:23 PM	Sydney	29/01/2020	9:10 PM	Copacabana	\$209.72

On 18 January 2020, you flew from Burnie to Sydney, via Melbourne and claimed one night of travel allowance in Sydney.

On 19 January 2020, you flew from Sydney to Burnie via Melbourne, stayed in Tasmania for eight nights and did not claim any travel allowance.

On 27 January 2020, you flew from Burnie to Sydney via Melbourne and claimed one night of travel allowance in Sydney.

*15.1 What was the dominant purpose of your travel from Burnie to Sydney on 18 January 2020?*

*15.2 What was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney on 18 January 2020?*

*15.3 Why did your trip to Sydney on 18 January 2020 commence in Burnie?*

*15.4 What was the dominant purpose of your travel from Sydney to Burnie on 19 January 2020?*

*15.5 What was the nature of any parliamentary business in Tasmania from 19 to 27 January 2020?*

*15.6 What was the dominant purpose of your travel from Burnie to Sydney on 27 January 2020?*

Itinerary 16: Travel on 24 March 2020

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel Fares - Qantas Airways	24/03/2020	3:10 PM	Canberra	24/03/2020	4:20 PM	Melbourne	\$347.05
Travel Fares - Qantas Airways	24/03/2020	6:55 PM	Melbourne	24/03/2020	8:10 PM	Launceston	
Repayment of airfare 20 April 2020							-\$347.05

On 24 March 2020 you flew from Canberra to Launceston, via Melbourne.

On 20 April 2020, your office contacted IPEA, requesting an invoice be raised to repay these flights. IPEA raised Invoice No. 1366128 on 20 April 2020 which was paid by your office that day.

16.1 What was the dominant purpose of your travel from Canberra to Launceston on 24 March 2020?

16.2 Why did you request an invoice be raised to repay these flights?

## Responses from Senator O'Neill

### Itinerary 1

#### 1.1

I was on personal leave in Tasmania, I took the opportunity at the end of that personally funded travel to do a day's work in Tasmania and did media and a visit to the Burnie Campus of the University of Tasmania to meet with staff and students regarding education access and funding. I flew then from Burnie to Newcastle to my next series of meetings with students and staff at Newcastle campus of the University of Newcastle and later that day Ourimbah campus.

#### 1.2

To conduct Caucus Committee work in Tasmania and Newcastle.

### Itinerary 2

#### 2.1

I attended the Senate Select Committee into Public Health in Hobart and Launceston on 3rd (Hobart) and 4th (Launceston) of November.

#### 2.2

Following Parliamentary hearings on November 3 and 4 I undertook personal leave on 5 to 7 November and in an abundance of caution I did not charge the taxpayer travel allowance during those days.

#### 2.3

My spouse was in attendance with myself at the Parliamentary hearings on 3 and 4 of November and in abundance of caution to the taxpayer he paid for his own travel costs to Hobart.

#### 2.4

I cannot recall the events surrounding this taxi use as it is now 7 years later. I therefore request an invoice be generated so I can reimburse this expense.

### Itinerary 3

#### 3.1

On 17 April 2015 I chaired the Senate Select Committee into Health, which was held in Burnie, Tasmania.

### Itinerary 4

#### 4.1

I believe this question is wrong. On 16 November 2015 I chaired the Senate Select Committee into Health, which was held in Cairns, QLD.

## Itinerary 5

5.1

I was in the state of Tasmania where I was called by the Leader of the Opposition to represent him at a function in Sydney, NSW.

5.2

This is where I was located at the time where I was asked at the last minute to represent the Leader.

5.3

Represent the Leader of the Opposition at the Sydney Catholic Business Network Lunch in my capacity of a NSW Senator and Representative in my Electorate.

5.4

To return to my previously arranged and personally paid for personal leave

5.5

No, I was on personal leave during this time and returned to that leave following the completion of my duties in Sydney.

## Itinerary 6

6.1

That is correct.

## Itinerary 7

7.1

As a member of the Joint Committee into the National Broadband Network, I attended public hearings at:

Hobart - 24 July 2017

Launceston - 25 July 2017

Burnie - 26 July 2017

[https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Joint/National\\_Broadband\\_Network/NBN/Public\\_Hearings](https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/National_Broadband_Network/NBN/Public_Hearings)

7.2

As a member of the Joint Committee into the National Broadband Network, I attended public hearings at:

Hobart - 24 July 2017

Launceston - 25 July 2017

Burnie - 26 July 2017

[https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Joint/National\\_Broadband\\_Network/NBN/Public\\_Hearings](https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/National_Broadband_Network/NBN/Public_Hearings)

## Itinerary 8

8.1

I was asked at the late notice to attend a policy meeting in my capacity as Shadow Assistant Minister for Mental Health.

8.2

I was in the state of Tasmania in a personal capacity which I paid for myself.

## Itinerary 9

9.1

Yes

9.2

This is where I was privately on leave at the time. I was asked to attend the Public Hearing into offshore petroleum industry to ensure quorum as there was some doubt about if that could be achieved. My staff calculated the financial costs of travel to be the similar to or less than travel from my home in Copacabana NSW and I was already closer to the destination. I therefore chose to depart from Burnie instead of returning to my home base prior.

## Itinerary 10

10.1

To attend meetings in my role as Shadow Assistant Minister for Mental Health and attend Senate Hearings into the exploitation of cleaners in Devonport, TAS.

10.2

To meet with stakeholders in my role as Shadow Assistant Minister for Mental Health and to attend the public hearings into the Exploitation of Cleaners in Devonport, TAS.

10.3

In an abundance of caution as I took some personal leave around those meetings and the hearing, I reimbursed 50% of the car hire. I did not claim any accommodation costs for any part of that period in Tasmania.

10.4

On 31 July 2018 I travelled from Hobart to Sydney as I attended the Senate Public Hearing into Industrial Heaths and Mental Health of First Responders in Hobart.

I travelled to Sydney to Hobart on 30 July 2018 to attend this hearing.

## Itinerary 11

11.1

To attend the National Council Dinner of the transport workers union.

11.2

To meet with NSW and other delegates and Senator's and Members of Parliament as well as caucusing which was a combined Parliamentary and Electorate capacity.

#### Itinerary 12

12.1

I was in the state of Tasmania when the Whip of the Australian Labor Party called myself to Canberra at late notice to vote for the new leadership of the party.

#### Itinerary 13

13.1

This is correct. I booked a personal flight using FCM as the booking agent. I requested an invoice to be raised to repay the costs of this flight as it was always a personal flight and personal expense.

#### Itinerary 14

14.1

To attend Public hearing into Newstart and Centrelink in Launceston on 8 November and in abundance of caution I did not claim any travel allowance from the taxpayer prior to and after the public hearing.

14.2

Instead of returning to my home base and thus travelling to Canberra for a sitting week on 10 November 2019 with attendant costs, I delayed my travel for 1 day and travelled direct to Canberra as it was a cheaper option. I did not seek payment for travel allowance for any period of my stay.

#### Itinerary 15

15.1

To represent the Leader of the Opposition at a prayer service in Sydney for the Bushfires at a last-minute request from the Leader.

15.2

I was attending as a Senator of NSW and representing the Leader of the Australian Labor Party as part of my electorate duties.

15.3

This is where I was located on personal leave where I was asked at the last minute to represent the Leader in my Electorate.

15.4

To return to my personal travel after being requested by the Leader to represent him.

15.5

I did not have any Parliamentary Business and I paid for my own travel to Tasmania.

15.6

While on leave I received notification of an important meeting with key faith leaders to be held in Sydney on 28 January. I cut short my leave and returned to attend to that request as a Senator for NSW. In an abundance of caution however, I request that an invoice be generated for the cost of this travel so that I can reimburse these costs.

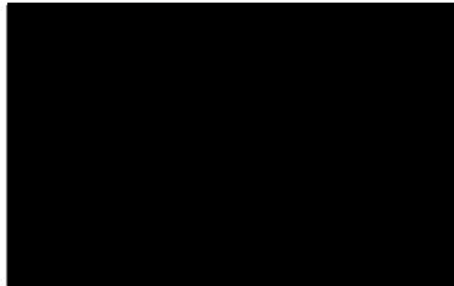
Itinerary 16

16.1

No parliamentary business hence I repaid this flight.

16.2

At the height of the Covid -19 pandemic, I booked a personal flight on the 24 March to fly later that day using FCM as the booking agent. I requested an invoice to be raised to repay the costs of this flight as it was always a personal flight and personal expense.



# Senator Deborah O'Neill

## NEW SOUTH WALES

28 June 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing to you to provide IPEA updated responses to the preliminary responses I gave regarding your queries on my travel from 2014 to 2020.

I would also like the record to show that the travel itineraries which are being queried are a very small fraction of the overall travel that I have been required to undertake as an active member of multiple House and Senate committees to do the job to which I was elected.

I am committed to Parliamentary scrutiny and to ensuring that rural, remote and regional communities in every Australian jurisdiction have access to the processes of the Australian Parliament. In non-covid times I, like many of my colleagues in all parties who take their work seriously, have travelled extensively as required and requested in order to fulfil my parliamentary responsibilities.

### Itinerary 1

I attended education summits as the secretary of the Australian Labor Party Education Committee. I have attached a media article and a public invite to these events as **Attachment A** as evidence of them occurring.

### Itinerary 5

I attach evidence of this function as proof of my need to travel as **Attachment B**. Because of this last-minute request to travel to NSW, I had to cancel my previously booked and personally paid return trip.

### Itinerary 7

I was in Tasmania as a member of the Joint Committee into the National Broadband Network and attended the public hearings in Launceston on 24 July 2017 and in Burnie on 26 July 2017. I did not attend the Hobart hearing on 24 July 2017.



### Itinerary 8

I was requested by the Shadow Minister for Mental Health, by phone call, to attend a policy meeting with Mission Australia at late notice in Sydney. Because of this last-minute request, I lost my previously booked and personally paid return trip to NSW. I attach the calendar entry for this meeting as **Attachment C** as evidence of this meeting occurring.

### Itinerary 9

I was requested at the last minute by, the Senate Education and Employment Committee Chair, to attend the hearing to ensure quorum in order to ensure that the hearing could proceed. Because of this last-minute request, I lost my previously booked and personally paid fare for my return trip to NSW.

### Itinerary 10

In addition to the public Senate hearings that I attended I have attached calendar entries for policy meetings during this trip as **Attachment D**. I also note that I had days of multiple private meetings during this time with groups and individuals that cannot be disclosed publicly due to the sensitive nature of those meetings that related to my policy work as the Shadow Assistant Minister for Innovation and Shadow Assistant Minister for Mental Health.

### Itinerary 11

I attach evidence of this meeting under **Attachment E**.

### Itinerary 12

In accordance with the rules, the Australian Labor Party Whip calling a leadership vote which required my attendance in Canberra. Because of this last-minute request, I lost my personally booked and paid for return trip to NSW. I attach evidence of this meeting under **Attachment F**.

### Itinerary 14

I would not have travelled to the state of Tasmania if not for the Community Affairs Public hearing.

### Itinerary 15

I attach evidence of this function to represent the leader of the Australian Labor Party under **Attachment G**.

I also attach evidence of my meeting with faith leaders in Sydney which I was requested to attend at late notice under **Attachment H**. Because of this last-minute request to travel to NSW I had to cancel my previously booked and personally paid return trip.

I apply, and have always conveyed to my staff undertaking travel management on my request, that any decision regarding travel for work purposes must be assessed to ensure value for the dollar for the Australian taxpayers and more recently with the change in policy statement, the dominant purpose test in order to meet the standards articulated by the Parliament on behalf of the Australian people whom I am honoured to serve. If I am called on to undertake work, even at short notice, I have always endeavoured to respond to such requests and to do so in the most cost-effective manner in accordance with prescribed standards and rules.

I appreciate both of you, as representatives of IPEA, travelling from Canberra to my electorate office in Erina to consult with me and clarify matters in the preliminary report. As discussed at that meeting, when called to work even when on leave, I was willing to forgo the loss of personal fares and disruption to time with my family at short notice as a personal cost of doing my job. Based on your advice to me at the meeting on 18 May 2021, I would like to cancel my request for an invoice to be generated for the item you identify as Itinerary 15. In that instance, but for the request to return to work I would have remained on my personal holiday with all personal costs of same covered by me.

In summary, the dominant purpose of all travel, has been for work purposes in the variety of tasks that constitute dedicated service of the Australian people in undertaking required Parliamentary business.

**Senator Deborah O'Neill**

---

Phone : (02) 4367 4565 Fax : (02) 4367 6506

Office : Suite 3.12, The Platinum Building, 4 Ilya Avenue, Erina Mail: PO Box 3627 Fountain Plaza, Erina NSW 2250

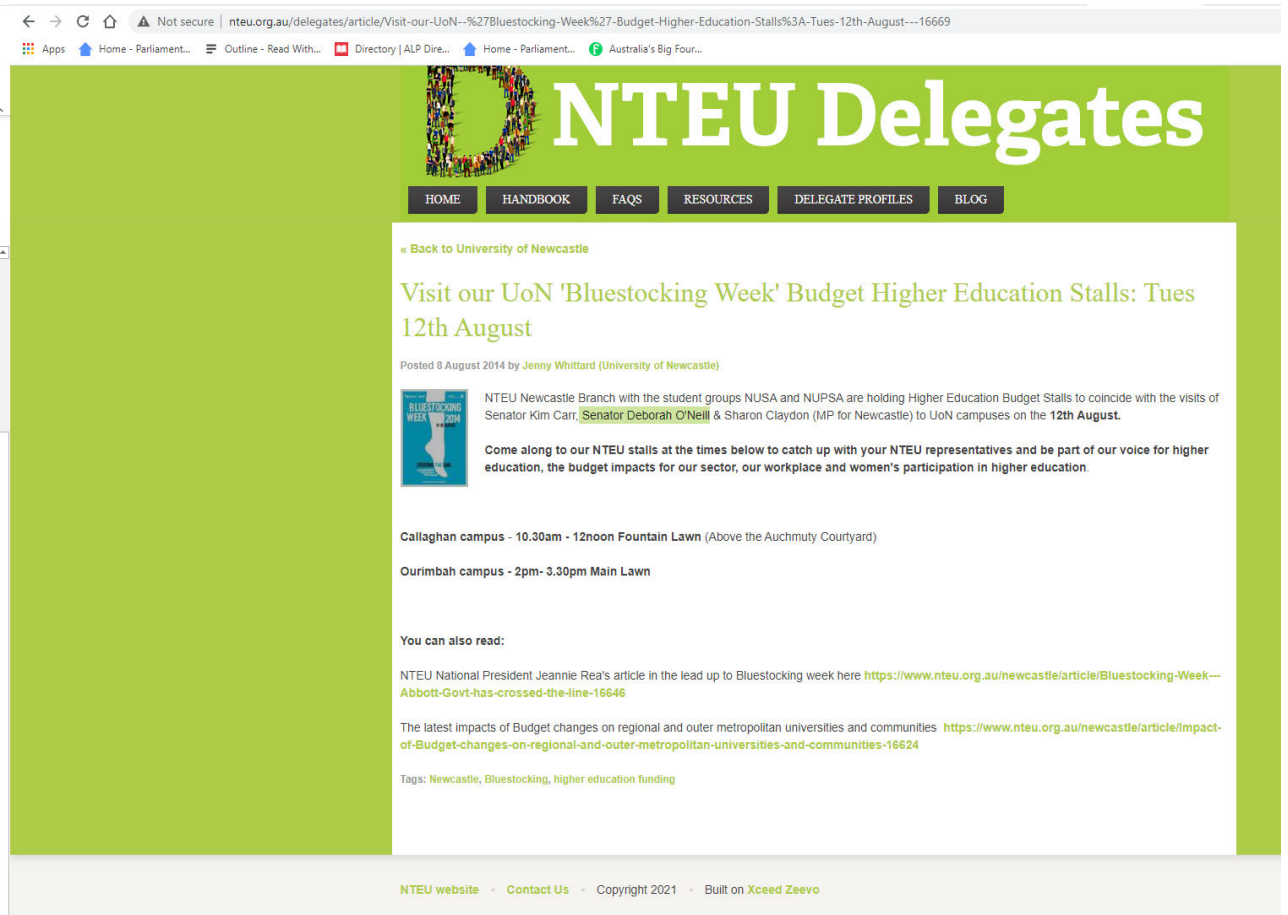
Email : 

## Attachment A

Burnie:

<https://www.theadvocate.com.au/story/2480720/i-fear-for-regional-unis/>

Newcastle:



The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the NTEU Delegates website. The page has a green header with the text "NTEU Delegates" and a navigation menu with links for HOME, HANDBOOK, FAQs, RESOURCES, DELEGATE PROFILES, and BLOG. The main content area features a white background with a green border. The article title is "Visit our UoN 'Bluestocking Week' Budget Higher Education Stalls: Tues 12th August". The article is dated 8 August 2014 and written by Jenny Whittard. The text describes the event where NTEU Newcastle Branch, NUSA, and NUPSA are holding Higher Education Budget Stalls on the 12th August at the University of Newcastle. It lists the locations and times for the stalls: Callaghan campus (10.30am - 12noon Fountain Lawn) and Ourimbah campus (2pm - 3.30pm Main Lawn). There is also a section for "You can also read:" with links to related articles. The footer contains the text "NTEU website - Contact Us - Copyright 2021 - Built on Xceed Zeevo".

← → ↻ 🏠 Not secure | nteu.org.au/delegates/article/Visit-our-UoN--%27Bluestocking-Week%27-Budget-Higher-Education-Stalls%3A-Tues-12th-August---16669

Apps Home - Parliament... Outline - Read With... Directory | ALP Dire... Home - Parliament... Australia's Big Four...


# NTEU Delegates

HOME HANDBOOK FAQs RESOURCES DELEGATE PROFILES BLOG

« Back to University of Newcastle

## Visit our UoN 'Bluestocking Week' Budget Higher Education Stalls: Tues 12th August

Posted 8 August 2014 by Jenny Whittard (University of Newcastle)



NTEU Newcastle Branch with the student groups NUSA and NUPSA are holding Higher Education Budget Stalls to coincide with the visits of Senator Kim Carr, [Senator Deborah O'Neill](#) & Sharon Claydon (MP for Newcastle) to UoN campuses on the **12th August**.

Come along to our NTEU stalls at the times below to catch up with your NTEU representatives and be part of our voice for higher education, the budget impacts for our sector, our workplace and women's participation in higher education.

**Callaghan campus - 10.30am - 12noon Fountain Lawn** (Above the Auchmuty Courtyard)

**Ourimbah campus - 2pm - 3.30pm Main Lawn**

**You can also read:**

NTEU National President Jeannie Rea's article in the lead up to Bluestocking week here <https://www.nteu.org.au/newcastle/article/Bluestocking-Week--Abbott-Govt-has-crossed-the-line-16646>

The latest impacts of Budget changes on regional and outer metropolitan universities and communities <https://www.nteu.org.au/newcastle/article/impact-of-Budget-changes-on-regional-and-outer-metropolitan-universities-and-communities-16624>

Tags: Newcastle, Bluestocking, higher education funding

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## Attachment B

1 FEB 2016



02/125  
1-2-16

It is with great pleasure that the  
Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney invites

**The Hon Bill Shorten MP**

to a Sydney Catholic Business Network lunch with

Guest speaker

**Carla Zampatti, AC**  
**Executive Chairman, Carla Zampatti Pty Ltd**

**Friday, 19 February 2016**

12 noon to 2pm sharp  
at the Hilton Hotel  
Level 2 Stateroom, 488 George St Sydney

Space for this event is strictly limited for members and guests. Please **RSVP by 12 February** to secure your attendance by emailing [businessnetwork@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:businessnetwork@sydneycatholic.org) or phoning 1800 753 959. An acknowledgement will be sent to you to confirm your attendance to the event.

Cost: Complimentary for Members; Guests \$135 each.  
Book a table for your colleagues: Member plus 9 guests \$990 or Member plus 7 guests \$770

[www.sydneycatholicnetwork.org](http://www.sydneycatholicnetwork.org)

**THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY**

THE CHURCH. ALL OF IT.

EVENT PARTNER

# Attachment C

Meeting with [redacted] Mission Australia and [redacted] Meeting

File Meeting Scheduling Assistant Tracking Insert Format Text Review Help Table Design Layout Tell me what you want to do

Cancel Meeting Copy to My Calendar Forward Add Webex Meeting Teams Meeting Meeting Notes Contact Attendees Address Book Check Names Response Options Show As: Busy Recurrence Reminder: None Categorize High Importance Low Importance Tags Dictate Voice

Attendee responses: 1 accepted, 0 tentatively accepted, 0 declined.

CONFIRMED

Title Meeting with [redacted] Mission Australia and [redacted]

Required [redacted]

Optional

Start time: Mon 29/01/2018 2:00 PM  All day  Time zones

End time: Mon 29/01/2018 3:00 PM [Make Recurring](#)

Location CPO

We look forward to meeting with Senator O'Neill on Monday. The following topics should provide a guide to the conversation and please let me know if there are any questions.

- Community mental health and Mission Australia's service delivery experience.
- Issues arising with the transition of clients with psychosocial disability to the NDIS and consequent gaps in the service landscape.
- Our Youth Survey findings on young people's rising concerns around mental health as a national issue and a barrier to future plans.
- Intersections between mental health and homelessness.
- Broader reforms needed to address homelessness including investment in affordable housing.
- The inadequacy of Newstart and Youth Allowance and its impact on the vulnerable people we work with, including links to homelessness.

Kind regards

[redacted]

[redacted]

Head of Policy and Advocacy

[redacted]

[www.missionaustralia.com.au](http://www.missionaustralia.com.au)



# Attachment D

Site Visit: Headspace Devonport - Appointment

File Appointment Scheduling Assistant Insert Format Text Review Help Tell me what you want to do

Delete Copy to My Calendar Forward Add Webex Meeting Teams Meeting Meeting Notes Invite Attendees Show As Busy Recurrence Categorize High Importance Low Importance Dictate

Actions Webex Teams Meeting Meeting Notes Attendees Options Tags Voice

CONFIRMED

Save & Close

Title Site Visit: Headspace Devonport

Starttime Mon 23/07/2018 12:30 PM All day Time zones

Endtime Mon 23/07/2018 1:30 PM Make Recurring

Location [REDACTED]

Manager: [REDACTED] The site in Devonport is more of a satellite (and as such is smaller) headspace but [REDACTED] will show you around and then is very happy to sit down with you for a chat.

47

Site Visit: YFCC - Devonport Junction

File Appointment Scheduling Assistant Insert Format Text Review Help Tell me what you want to do

Delete Copy to My Calendar Forward Add Webex Meeting Teams Meeting Meeting Notes Invite Attendees Show As Busy Recurrence Categorize High Importance Low Importance Dictate

Actions Webex Teams Meeting Meeting Notes Attendees Options Tags Voice

CONFIRMED

Save & Close

Title Site Visit: YFCC - Devonport Junction

Starttime Mon 23/07/2018 2:00 PM All day Time zones

Endtime Mon 23/07/2018 3:00 PM Make Recurring

Location [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Spoke to [REDACTED]

Parking is available in the Staff carpark at the rear of [REDACTED] (The building next door is their's too).

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Thank you for your call today with regard to Senator O'Neil visiting our facility ([REDACTED] on Monday 23 July (2018) at 1400. Our CEO [REDACTED] will be available.


Please advise if you require catering and if you have any other requirements.

Please also confirm attendance.

Thank you in advance.

[REDACTED]

Executive Assistant  
The best way to predict the future is to create it

 **YFCC**  
YOUTH, FAMILY & COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS  
Supporting Youth and Families Towards a Better Future



Meeting: [REDACTED] Appointment

File Appointment Scheduling Assistant Insert Format Text Review Help Tell me what you want to do

Delete Copy to My Calendar Forward Add Webex Meeting Teams Meeting Meeting Notes Invite Attendees Show As: Busy Reminder: None Recurrence Category: High Importance Low Importance Dictate

CONFIRMED

Title Meeting: [REDACTED] Child and Adolescent Mental Health NW Tas.

Start time Mon 23/07/2018 1:30 PM All day Time zones

End time Mon 23/07/2018 2:00 PM Make Recurring

Location [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Discussion around: Public Health Funding for Senator O'Neill.

My phone number here in the Devonport Office is [REDACTED]

I enclose a map of how to get to the office from [REDACTED]. There is short term parking behind the Community and Health Centre.

My room is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I may have a colleague with me depending on her work availability.

[REDACTED]

1:11 PM 2/6/2018

Meeting: [REDACTED] United Voice - Appointment

File Appointment Scheduling Assistant Insert Format Text Review Help Tell me what you want to do

Delete Copy to My Calendar Forward Add Webex Meeting Teams Meeting Meeting Notes Invite Attendees Show As: Busy Reminder: None Recurrence Category: High Importance Low Importance Dictate

CONFIRMED

Title Meeting: [REDACTED] United Voice

Start time Tue 24/07/2018 10:30 AM All day Time zones

End time Tue 24/07/2018 11:00 AM Make Recurring

Location Via telephone

Meeting: [REDACTED] Cradle Coast Authority - Appointment

File Appointment Scheduling Assistant Insert Format Text Review Help Tell me what you want to do

Delete Copy to My Calendar Forward Add Webex Meeting Teams Meeting Meeting Notes Invite Attendees Show As: Busy Reminder: None Recurrence Category: High Importance Low Importance Dictate

CONFIRMED

Title Meeting: [REDACTED] Cradle Coast Authority

Start time Wed 25/07/2018 3:00 PM All day Time zones

End time Wed 25/07/2018 4:00 PM Make Recurring

Location 1-3 Spring Street, Burnie (Park in Staff Parking Space)

[REDACTED]

Thank you for providing me with an opportunity to meet with the Shadow Assistant Minister for Innovation. I wear a couple of relevant hats, having just moved from a full time role at Switch Tasmania to a new role at the Cradle Coast Authority.

[REDACTED]

The Cradle Coast Authority is a regional development authority jointly owned by the nine councils of western and north west Tasmania. Increasing the innovation capacity of businesses and other organisations is a major priority for us, and we have been leading some interesting initiatives in this space.

I very much appreciate the opportunity to discuss all of this further with Senator O'Neill tomorrow.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Cradle Coast Authority | 1-3 Spring Street, Burnie | PO Box 338, BURNIE TAS 7322  
[www.cradlecoast.com](http://www.cradlecoast.com)

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Attachment E

THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY IS REQUESTED AT

THE TRANSPORT WORKERS' UNION  
NATIONAL COUNCIL DINNER

THURSDAY 23 MAY 2019

6PM REFRESHMENTS  
7PM DINNER

GRAND BALLROOM  
PULLMAN CAIRNS INTERNATIONAL

RSVP BY 3 MAY

PLEASE ADVISE OF ANY  
DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

DRESS: COCKTAIL





# Attachment F

Caucus - Appointment

File Appointment Scheduling Assistant Insert Format Text Review Help Tell me what you want to do

Delete Copy to My Calendar Forward Add Webex Meeting Teams Meeting Meeting Notes Invite Attendees Show As Busy Reminder None Recurrence Category High Importance Low Importance Dictate

Address Writer Teams Meeting Meeting Notes Attendees options tags voice

**CONFIRMED**

Title **Caucus**

Start time Thu 30/05/2019 12:00 PM All day Time zones

End time Thu 30/05/2019 2:00 PM Make Recurring

Location Opposition Party Room RG 112



**PETER KHALIL MP  
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR WILLS**

## **CAUCUS NOTICE OF MEETING**

In accordance with Rule 38 of the Rules of the Australian Parliamentary Labor Party, a meeting of the FPLP Caucus will be held on

**Thursday 30 May 2019  
Opposition Party Room  
12:00pm (RG 112)**

For enquiries and apologies, please email [REDACTED]

**PETER KHALIL MP  
SECRETARY**

Electorate Office:  
1/240 Sydney Road, Coburg VIC 3058  
T. (03) 9350 5777 F. (03) 9350 5613

Parliament Office:  
R1, 81 Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600

## Attachment G



**ST ANDREW'S  
CATHEDRAL**

**SYDNEY SQUARE**

3 January 2020

The Hon Anthony Albanese MP  
Leader of the Australian Labor Party  
334a Marrickville Rd  
MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204

Dear Mr Albanese,

I am writing to invite you to attend a special Service of Prayer for those Affected by the Bushfires, at St Andrew's Cathedral on Sunday 19 January at 10.30am.

The whole NSW community is deeply thankful for the efforts of the fire-fighters and the resilience of local communities in responding to the extraordinary and devastating bushfire season. We are conscious of the terrible losses suffered by so many, especially those who have lost loved ones, and the many hundreds deprived of homes and businesses. No doubt it will take many months for individuals, families and communities to be restored to some sense of normality. We recognise that the bushfire season is by no means at an end.

This service is an opportunity to gather as a community to pray for rain, for protection, for comfort and hope, and to offer our prayers, help and support for those affected, along with the valiant men and women in the firefighting services and in government, church and community agencies, who are seeking to respond to the needs of so many.

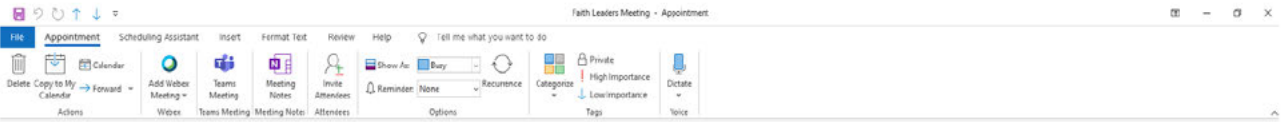
The preacher will be the [REDACTED]

I hope you (or your representative) will be able to join us on this occasion. To indicate your ability to attend, would you please RSVP to the Cathedral Office Manager, [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

# Attachment H



**CONFIRMED**

Sent: Tuesday, 21 January 2020 3:37 PM  
To: [Redacted]  
Cc: [Redacted]  
Subject: Faith Leaders Meeting on 26 Jan - 9:00am for 9:30am at UMA, Padstow.

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for calling to advise that Sen. Deborah O'Neill will be attending the meeting with Faith leaders on Tuesday 26 Jan.

The meeting will be at the [Redacted] is 9:30am for 9:30 start.

[Redacted] co-ordinating this meeting. I have cc'd him on this email so that you can communicate with him directly if needs be. His mobile number is [Redacted]

Kind regards  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Anglican Church Diocese of Sydney  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
Postal Address: PO Box G110, QVB Post Office NSW 1230

If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately and delete the email and all copies.



**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

24 August 2021

Senator Deborah O'Neill  
Senator for New South Wales  
Suite 3.12, The Platinum Building  
4 Ilya Avenue  
Erina, NSW, 2250

e-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance review of travel and travel-related expenses**

Thank you for your continued engagement with IPEA about the Assurance Review of Commonwealth-funded travel to and within Tasmania, and to and from Cairns, during the period 13 November 2013 to 8 November 2020.

Following our meeting at your office on 18 May 2021 and review of your responses provided on 13 April 2021 and 28 June 2021, I would appreciate your consideration and response in relation to the further issues outlined below. For ease of reference, **Attachment A** outlines the relevant itineraries (referred to in my original correspondence of 24 February 2021 and your responses of 13 April 2021 and 28 June 2021).

Where applicable, please provide copies of documentation to support your responses, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting.

**Itinerary 8: Travel on 29 January 2018**

In your response of 28 June 2021, you stated "Because of this last-minute request, I lost my previously booked and personally paid return trip to NSW".

1. Are you indicating that you forfeited the cost of flights from Burnie to Sydney and that you did not receive a refund or flight credit?
2. Are you able to provide details of these flights, including the date(s) for which they had been booked and the date the booking was cancelled?

Also in your response of 28 June 2021, you advised that you were asked by the Shadow Minister for Health, by phone, to attend a meeting with Mission Australia "at the last minute". You provided a copy of a diary entry of 29 January 2018 for that meeting.

3. Are you able to provide an indication of when this request was made, noting that the booking for the flights on 29 January 2018 was made on the morning of 19 January 2018?

**Itinerary 9: Travel on 12 June 2018**

In your response of 28 June 2021, you stated “Because of this last-minute request, I lost my previously booked and personally paid fare for my return trip to NSW”.

1. Are you indicating that you forfeited the cost of flights from Burnie to Sydney and that you did not receive a refund or flight credit?
2. Are you able to provide details of these flights, including the date(s) for which they had been booked and the date the booking was cancelled?

Also in your response of 28 June 2021, you advised the request for you to attend the hearing in Perth was made “at the last minute”.

3. Are you able to provide an indication of when this request was made, noting that the initial booking for the flight from Burnie on 12 June 2018 was made on Friday 25 May 2018?

**Itinerary 10: Travel from 21 July to 30 July 2018**

In relation to your travel from 21 July to 30 July 2018 to and within Tasmania, can you please:

1. Provide any further information on the nature, extent and location of parliamentary business undertaken during the period from 21 to 29 July 2018?

In your email to IPEA of 2 August 2018, you sought to repay 50% of the cost of a car hired from 21 July to 29 July 2018. You then advised that you had “manned the booth in Stanley”, can you please:

2. Provide further information in relation to this?

In relation to the car hire, noting the 1,184 kilometres travelled, the period of the car hire and the locations at which your parliamentary business was undertaken, can you please:

3. Advise what was the dominant purpose of your car hire from 21 July to 29 July 2018?

In relation to the car hire, section 6(2) of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act), states that an activity is not the **parliamentary business** of a member if the member carries it out for the dominant purpose of providing a personal benefit to the member.

The legislation does not allow for apportionment of the cost of the car hire between personal use and parliamentary business. If the parliamentary business was incidental or not the dominant purpose of the use of the hire car, an invoice should be raised for the full cost of this hire car.

**Itinerary 12: Travel from 28 May to 1 June 2019**

In your response of 28 June 2021, you stated “Because of this last minute request, I lost my personally booked and paid for return trip to NSW”.

1. Are you indicating that you forfeited the cost of flights from Burnie to Sydney and that you did not receive a refund or flight credit?
  - a. If so, given the impending requirement for a post-election Federal Parliamentary Labor Party (FPLP) Caucus, why had you not booked a flexible or refundable return fare?


2. On what date were you made aware of the timing of the FPLP Caucus?
3. Are you able to provide details of the original flights, including the date(s) for which they had been booked and the date the booking was cancelled?

**Itinerary 15: Travel from 18 January to 28 January 2020**

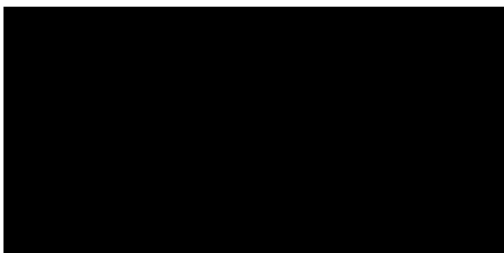
In your response of 28 June 2021, you stated "Because of this last-minute request to travel to NSW I had to cancel my previously booked and personally paid return trip".

1. Are you indicating that you forfeited the cost of flights from Burnie to Sydney and that you did not receive a refund or flight credit?
2. On what date and by whom were you asked to attend the meeting of faith leaders?
3. Are you able to provide details of the original flights, including the date(s) for which they had been booked and the date the booking was cancelled?

I appreciate your consideration of the issues outlined above to enable IPEA to proceed towards finalisation of this matter. Please provide a written response via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on 7 September 2021, or advise me prior to the date if you need more time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact me on 

Yours sincerely



A/g Director Audit & Assurance

# Attachment A

## Itinerary 8: Travel on 29 January 2018

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel - Fares Regional Express Airlines	29/01/2018	6:30 AM	Burnie	29/01/2018	7:45 AM	Melbourne	\$466.70
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	29/01/2018	8:30 AM	Melbourne	29/01/2018	9:55 AM	Sydney	\$771.29
COMCAR	29/01/2018	10:24 AM	Mascot	29/01/2018	10:46 AM	As Directed NSW	\$124.30

**Itinerary 9: Travel on 12 June 2018**

<b>Cost Type</b>	<b>Departure Date</b>	<b>Departure Time</b>	<b>Departure Location</b>	<b>Arrival Date</b>	<b>Arrival Time</b>	<b>Arrival Location</b>	<b>Amount (GST &amp; service fee exc.)</b>
Travel - Fares Regional Express Airlines	12/06/2018	4:20 PM	Burnie	12/06/2018	5:35 PM	Melbourne	\$476.70
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	12/06/2018	8:40 PM	Melbourne	12/06/2018	11:05 PM	Perth	\$1,963.66
COMCAR	12/06/2018	11:36 PM	Perth Airport	12/06/2018	12:07 AM	Fremantle	\$58.90
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				12/06/2018		Fremantle	\$271.00



**Itinerary 10: Travel from 21 July 2018 to 30 July 2018**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
Travel – Fares Qantas Airways	21/07/2018	8:45 AM	Melbourne	21/07/2018	10:00 AM	Launceston	\$213.85
Travel - Hire car Hertz Rent a Car	21/07/2018	10:10 AM	Launceston	29/07/2018	3:44 PM	Burnie	\$647.01
Repayment – 50% Hire car	21/07/2018						-\$355.85
Travel Fares – Regional Express Airlines	29/07/2018	4:20 PM	Burnie	29/07/2018	5:35 PM	Melbourne	\$401.70
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	29/07/2018	7:00 PM	Melbourne	29/07/2018	8:25 PM	Sydney	\$149.23
COMCAR	29/07/2018	8:44 PM	Mascot	29/07/2018	9:05 PM	Sydney	\$126.50
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				29/07/2018		Sydney	\$405.00
COMCAR	30/07/2018	07:59 AM	Sydney	30/07/2018	08:15 AM	Pymont	\$59.00
Travel - Fares Virgin Australia	30/07/2018	01:55 PM	Sydney	30/07/2018	03:50 PM	Hobart	\$672.16
COMCAR	30/07/2018	03:59 PM	Cambridge	30/07/2018	04:16 PM	Hobart	\$61.00
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				30/07/2018		Hobart	\$342.00

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
COMCAR	31/07/2018	07:55 AM	Hobart	31/07/2018	08:02 AM	Hobart	\$59.00
COMCAR	31/07/2018	12:14 PM	Hobart	31/07/2018	12:31 PM	Cambridge	\$59.00
Travel - Fares Jetstar	31/07/2018	01:45 PM	Hobart	31/07/2018	03:35 PM	Sydney	\$456.81
COMCAR	31/07/2018	03:55 PM	Mascot	31/07/2018	06:47 PM	Copacabana	\$430.03

**Itinerary 12: Travel from 28 May 2019 to 1 June 2019**

<b>Cost Type</b>	<b>Departure Date</b>	<b>Departure Time</b>	<b>Departure Location</b>	<b>Arrival Date</b>	<b>Arrival Time</b>	<b>Arrival Location</b>	<b>Amount (GST &amp; service fee exc.)</b>
Travel Fares – Regional Express Airways	28/05/2019	4:20 PM	Burnie	28/05/2019	5:35 PM	Melbourne	\$476.70
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	28/05/2019	7:05 PM	Melbourne	28/05/2019	8:10 PM	Canberra	\$486.44
Travel Allowance Party Political Duties				28/05/2019		Canberra	\$1,152.00
COMCAR	30/05/2019	9:39 AM	Kingston	30/05/2019	9:51 AM	Australian Parliament House (APH)	\$58.80
COMCAR	30/05/2019	3:26 PM	APH	30/05/2019	3:34 PM	Kingston	\$58.80
Travel Fares – Qantas Airways	1/06/2019	2:10 PM	Canberra	1/06/2019	3:05 PM	Sydney	\$126.11
COMCAR	1/06/2019	3:05 PM	Mascot	1/06/2019	5:09 PM	Copacabana	\$462.56

**Itinerary 15: Travel from 18 January 2020 to 28 January 2020**

<b>Cost Type</b>	<b>Departure Date</b>	<b>Departure Time</b>	<b>Departure Location</b>	<b>Arrival Date</b>	<b>Arrival Time</b>	<b>Arrival Location</b>	<b>Amount (GST &amp; service fee exc.)</b>
Travel Fares – Regional Express Airways	18/01/2020	4:20 PM	Burnie	18/01/2020	5:35 PM	Melbourne	\$220.70
Travel Provider	18/01/2020	8:00 PM	Melbourne	18/01/2020	9:25 PM	Sydney	\$150.58
COMCAR	18/01/2020	9:25 PM	Mascot	18/01/2020	9:55 PM	Sydney	\$128.80
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				18/01/2020		Sydney	\$415.00
COMCAR	19/01/2020	12:15 PM	Sydney	19/01/2020	12:52 PM	Mascot	\$117.60
Travel Fares Virgin Australia	19/01/2020	2:00 PM	Sydney	19/01/2020	3:35 PM	Melbourne	\$150.58
Travel Fares – Regional Express Airways	19/01/2020	6:55 PM	Melbourne	19/01/2020	8:05 PM	Burnie	\$409.70
Travel Fares – Regional Express Airways	27/01/2020	4:20 PM	Burnie	27/01/2020	5:35 PM	Melbourne	\$409.70
Travel Provider – Virgin Australia	27/01/2020	6:30 PM	Melbourne	27/01/2020	7:55 PM	Sydney	\$158.61
COMCAR	27/01/2020	7:55 PM	Mascot	27/01/2020	8:42 PM	Sydney	\$128.80
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				27/01/2020		Sydney	\$830.00
COMCAR	28/01/2020	8:00 AM	Sydney	28/01/2020	12:35 PM	Sydney	\$539.00

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Cost Type	Departure Date	Departure Time	Departure Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Amount (GST & service fee exc.)
COMCAR	29/01/2020	7:23 PM	Sydney	29/01/2020	9:10 PM	Copacabana	\$209.72

# Senator Deborah O'Neill

## NEW SOUTH WALES

11 October 2021

[REDACTED]  
A/g Director Audit & Assurance  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority

By email: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au)

Dear [REDACTED]

I write in response to your correspondence of 24 August 2021, seeking further verification of the truth of my claims in a previous preliminary statement.

### **Itinerary 8: Travel on 29 January 2018**

Please see attached summary of flights booked.

Booking date 13 January 2018.

Departure: Syd - Lst 27 Jan 2018 / Return: Lst - Syd 31 Jan 2018.

Request from the Shadow Minister would have been 18 or 19 January.

### **Itinerary 9: Travel on 12 June 2018**

Please see attached summary of flights booked.

Booking date 9 April 2018.

Departure: Syd - Lst 6 June 2018 / Return: Lst – Syd 13 June 2018

I don't micromanage the booking of flights. My staff would have received a request from the committee for all Senators to attend the Perth hearing on or around the date that booking was made 25 May 2018. My staffer would have known I had leave planned, as it would have been placed in the diary from around 9 April when the booking was made, for my trip with my family members to Tasmania. She would have been aware that the committee could call me to attend if necessary. I recall I indicated my unavailability and preference not to attend the hearing. However, there was some uncertainty about the attendance of Senator Marshall and so I was called on to attend to ensure quorum. When called to attend, I accepted that and had to leave my family to go to work. Had I not been required; the Perth flight would have been cancelled by my staff at the appropriate time. But for the call to attend to parliamentary business, I would not have undertaken the travel you identify in Itinerary 8.

---

Phone : (02) 4367 4565 Fax : (02) 4367 6506

Office : Suite 3.12, The Platinum Building, 4 Ilya Avenue, Erina Mail: PO Box 3627 Fountain Plaza, Erina NSW 2250

Email : [REDACTED]

**Itinerary 10: Melb - Lst 21 July 2018**

Saturday 21 July: Pick up car in Lst. Meetings with local contacts to discuss health, especially mental health in relation to my role as Shadow Minister for Mental Health.

Sunday 22 July: Day of rest – personal day.

Monday 23 July, Tuesday 24 July, Wednesday 25 July, Thursday 26 July, Friday 27 July. Meetings held in confidence with local individuals and organisations with expertise, experience, and interest in mental health. This was to inform policy making in my role as Assistant Shadow Minister for Mental Health. Also, meetings held in confidence with local individuals and organisations with expertise, experience, and interest in relation to innovation. This was to inform policy making in my role as Assistant Shadow Minister for Innovation. Multiple meetings to inform my policy making occurred with local people over the course of each of the days that week across the towns of Launceston, Ulverstone, Burnie and Devonport.

Saturday 28 July: Day of rest for me – personal day.

Sunday 29 July: Day of travel to return to Sydney for work.

Monday 30 July: Meetings in Sydney in the morning, then fly to Hobart for hearing Tuesday 31 July, then return to Sydney and home on the same day.

The dominant purpose of the travel was parliamentary business. However, because I took two days off for personal leave Sunday 22 July and Saturday 28 July, I considered it fair that I pay a portion of the car costs for my use of the vehicle on those days. I arbitrarily determined 50/50, thinking that was above and beyond the standard expected of a parliamentarian to ensure that I acted with integrity. Your letter makes it clear that I should not have requested to pay 50% of the car costs, being \$355.85. I leave it to you to discern if that sum should now, upon review, be returned to me.

I did not claim any TA as I stayed in my personal accommodation to save the taxpayer the cost of housing me, thinking the decision to save money for the taxpayer for accommodation while I was working, was above and beyond the standard expected of a parliamentarian. I chose that path as it met my determination to act with integrity. I leave it to you to discern now, if I should have claimed TA. I also leave it to you to determine if you should reimburse me at the appropriate rate, the TA for Saturday 21 July to Sunday 29 July.

I was entirely alone, undertaking parliamentary business as indicated above, driving myself to appointments and working many long hours each day. Parliamentary business was the dominant purpose of my time in Tasmania for the period you have queried. But for the need to attend to parliamentary business, I would not have undertaken the travel you identify in Itinerary 10.

---

Phone : (02) 4367 4565 Fax : (02) 4367 6506

Office : Suite 3.12, The Platinum Building, 4 Ilya Avenue, Erina Mail: PO Box 3627 Fountain Plaza, Erina NSW 2250

Email : [REDACTED]

**Itinerary 12: Travel from 28 May to 1 June 2019**

Please see attached summary of flights booked.

Booking date: 24 May 2019.

Departure: Syd-Lst Sun 26 May 2019 / Return: Wed 29 May 2019.

The timing of any meetings of a post-election FPLP caucus is unknowable to most caucus members until it is advised. It could be weeks before we convene to undertake the processes that follow an election. When I booked flights on 24 May 2019, there was no indication that the meeting was to be called within days otherwise I wouldn't have booked a return ticket. I was on leave paid for by myself. I was recalled to work. I received notification along with all other caucus members (letter previously provided). I returned from leave as requested by the whip to attend work for urgent parliamentary business. But for the call to attend to parliamentary business, I would not have undertaken the travel you identify in Itinerary 12.

**Itinerary 14: Travel from 18 January to 28 January 2020**

Please see attached summary of flights booked.

Booking date: 18 November 2019

Departure: Syd- Lst Thur 16 Jan 2020 / Return: Lst-Syd Thur 30 Jan 2020.

I was asked by Shadow Minister Tony Burke to attend the meeting of faith leaders in Western Sydney in the days immediately preceding the meeting 27 January 2020. But for the call to attend to parliamentary business, I would not have undertaken the travel you identify in Itinerary 15.

I trust that with the addition of these personal and private documents and details of my life, I have provided sufficient evidence for you to close your inquiry with a finding that I not only acted with integrity, but that I sought to act in a way that saved the taxpayer money. Further, my willingness to return to work, from pre-planned recreation time with my family, is an indication of how seriously I take the work with which I am entrusted. If I am called to assist in a parliamentary enquiry, to meet stakeholders, to represent the Leader or a Shadow Minister, I respond in the affirmative.

Please advise of the next likely steps to draw this matter to a close. I seek your assurance that my personal details and those of my family members contained in the attached supporting documents will not be made public in any way.

Regards

Senator Deborah O'Neill

---

Phone : (02) 4367 4565 Fax : (02) 4367 6506

Office : Suite 3.12, The Platinum Building, 4 Ilya Avenue, Erina Mail: PO Box 3627 Fountain Plaza, Erina NSW 2250

Email : [REDACTED]





ITEM 8



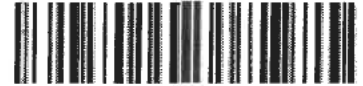
Jetstar Flight Itinerary for [REDACTED] JQ745 27/01/2018 JQ746 31/01/2018

3 messages

Jetstar <noreplyitineraries@jetstar.com>  
To: [REDACTED]

Sat, Jan 13, 2018 at 7:44 PM

SCAN THIS BARCODE AT OUR AIRPORT KIOSKS:



Booking reference



This is not a boarding pass  
Your flight itinerary

Itinerary issue date: 13 Jan 2018

Booking Contact Details

Name Deborah O'Neill  
Address 2251, Australia

Check-in options

Check in online from 28 days before your Jetstar domestic flight and jump the queue!

Web check-in

At the airport: Print this itinerary and check in at our airport kiosks or at the Jetstar counter.

Your flights

Booking date: 13 Jan 2018

Date	Flight number	Departing	Arriving
Sat 27 Jan 2018 7:10am / 07:10 <a href="#">Change flight</a>	JQ745 Airbus A320 <a href="#">Starter</a> Flight duration: 1hr 45min	Sydney Sat 27 Jan 2018 7:10am / 07:10 Sydney Airport - T2 Domestic	Launceston Sat 27 Jan 2018 8:55am / 08:55 Launceston Airport

Passenger:	Seat:	Baggage:	Extras and services requested:
MS Deborah O'Neill	<a href="#">Choose seat</a>	30kg(Add)	Book below
[REDACTED]	<a href="#">Choose seat</a>	0kg(Add)	Book below

Date	Flight number	Departing	Arriving
Wed 31 Jan 2018 9:35am / 09:35 <a href="#">Change flight</a>	JQ746 Airbus A320 <a href="#">Starter</a> Flight duration: 1hr 35min	Launceston Wed 31 Jan 2018 9:35am / 09:35 Launceston Airport	Sydney Wed 31 Jan 2018 11:10am / 11:10 Sydney Airport - T2 Domestic

Passenger:	Seat:	Baggage:	Extras and services requested:
MS Deborah O'Neill	<a href="#">Choose seat</a>	30kg(Add)	Book below
[redacted]	<a href="#">Choose seat</a>	0kg(Add)	Book below

Times are local times at the relevant airport

Operated by: Jetstar Airways

### Save time – check in online

Online check-in for Jetstar domestic flights opens 28 days before your flight departs and closes 1 hour before your flight departs. For domestic flights departing from an international terminal, online check-in opens 48 hours before your flight departs and closes 2 hours before your flight departs.

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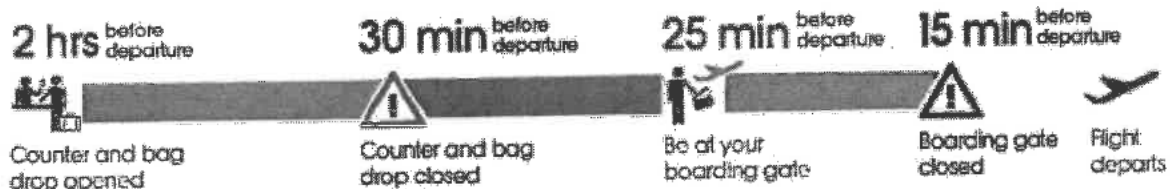
\*\*Available for selected routes only.

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## Domestic check-in times

Flight #1: Sydney > Launceston

Flight #2: Launceston > Sydney



Please, don't be late. We can't wait.



ITEM 9

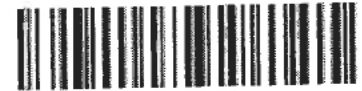
**Jetstar Flight Itinerary for [REDACTED] JQ745 06/06/2018 JQ746 13/06/2018**

1 message

Mon, Apr 9, 2018 at 5:48 PM

Jetstar <noreply@jetstar.com>  
To: [REDACTED]

SCAN THIS BARCODE AT OUR AIRPORT KIOSKS:



**Booking reference**



This is not a boarding pass

**Your flight itinerary**

Itinerary issue date: 09 Apr 2018

**Booking Contact Details**

Name Deborah O'Neill  
Address 2251, Australia

Payment of \$888.89 AUD received

**Check-in options**

Check in online from 28 days before your Jetstar domestic flight and jump the queue!

**Web check-in**

**At the airport:** Print this itinerary and check in at our airport kiosks or at the Jetstar counter.

**Your flights**

Booking date: 09 Apr 2018

Date	Flight number	Departing	Arriving
Wed 06 Jun 2018 7:10am / 07:10 <a href="#">Change flight</a>	JQ745 Airbus A320 Starter Flight duration: 1hr 50min	Sydney Wed 06 Jun 2018 7:10am / 07:10 Sydney Airport - T2 Domestic	Launceston Wed 06 Jun 2018 9:00am / 09:00 Launceston Airport

Passenger:	Seat:	Baggage:	Extras and services requested:
MS Deborah O'Neill	<a href="#">Choose seat</a>	20kg (Add.)	Book below
[REDACTED]	<a href="#">Choose seat</a>	20kg (Add.)	Book below
[REDACTED]	<a href="#">Choose seat</a>	20kg (Add.)	Book below
[REDACTED]	<a href="#">Choose seat</a>	20kg (Add.)	Book below

Date	Flight number	Departing	Arriving
------	---------------	-----------	----------

**Wed 13 Jun 2018**  
9:40am / 09:40  
[Change flight](#)

**JQ746**  
Airbus A320  
**Starter**  
Flight duration: 1hr 35min

**Launceston**  
Wed 13 Jun 2018  
9:40am / 09:40  
Launceston Airport

**Sydney**  
Wed 13 Jun 2018  
11:15am / 11:15  
Sydney Airport - T2  
Domestic

Passenger:	Seat:	Baggage:	Extras and services requested:
MS Deborah O'Neill	<a href="#">Choose seat</a>	20kg ( <a href="#">Add</a> )	Book below
[REDACTED]	<a href="#">Choose seat</a>	20kg ( <a href="#">Add</a> )	Book below
[REDACTED]	<a href="#">Choose seat</a>	20kg ( <a href="#">Add</a> )	Book below
[REDACTED]	<a href="#">Choose seat</a>	20kg ( <a href="#">Add</a> )	Book below

Times are local times at the relevant airport

Operated by: Jetstar Airways

### Save time – check in online

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[Choose seats](#)

### Add extra baggage

The earlier you purchase checked baggage, the cheaper it is.

[Add baggage](#)

### Add in-flight extras

Add meals, entertainment, comfort packs and more.

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## Domestic check-in times

Flight #1: Sydney > Launceston

Flight #2: Launceston > Sydney



ITEM 12

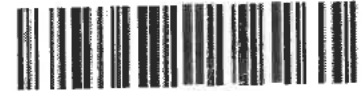
**Jetstar Flight Itinerary for (Booking ref# [REDACTED] JQ745 26/05/2019 JQ746 29/05/2019**

1 message

Jetstar <noreply@jetstar.com>  
To: [REDACTED]

Fri, May 24, 2019 at 5:46 PM

SCAN THIS BARCODE AT OUR AIRPORT KIOSKS:



This is not a boarding pass

**Your flight itinerary**

Itinerary issue date:  
24 May 2019

**Booking Contact Details**

Name: Deborah O'Neill  
Address: 2251, Australia

Payment of \$301.78 AUD received

**Your flights**

Booking date: 24 May 2019

Date	Flight number	Departing	Arriving
Sun 26 May 2019 7:10am / 07:10 <a href="#">Change flight</a>	JQ745 Airbus A320 Starter Flight duration: 1hr 50min	Sydney Sun 26 May 2019 7:10am / 07:10 Sydney Airport - T2 Domestic	Launceston Sun 26 May 2019 9:00am / 09:00 Launceston Airport

Passenger:	Seat:	Carry-on Baggage:	Checked Baggage:	Extras and services requested:
MS Deborah O'Neill	<a href="#">Choose seat</a>	7kg (Add)	20kg (Add)	Book below

Date	Flight number	Departing	Arriving
------	---------------	-----------	----------

Wed 29 May 2019  
9:40am / 09:40  
[Change flight](#)

JQ746  
Airbus A320  
**Starter**  
Flight duration:  
1hr 35min

Launceston  
Wed 29 May 2019  
9:40am / 09:40  
Launceston Airport

Sydney  
Wed 29 May 2019  
11:15am / 11:15  
Sydney Airport - T2 Domestic

Passenger:            Seat:            Carry-on Baggage:    Checked Baggage:    Extras and services requested:

MS Deborah ONeill    [Choose seat](#)    7kg ([Add](#))                    20kg ([Add](#))                    [Book below](#)

Times are local times at the relevant airport

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**Choose your seat**

Select a window, upfront or extra legroom seat.

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**Add extra baggage**

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**Domestic check-in times**

Flight #1: Sydney > Launceston

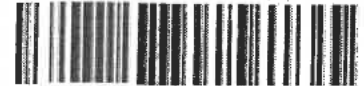
Flight #2: Launceston > Sydney

Paul Macinante

ITEM IS

**From:** Jetstar <noreplyitineraries@jetstar.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, 13 January 2020 3:19 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Jetstar Flight Itinerary for (Booking ref# [REDACTED] JQ749 16/01/2020 JQ746 30/01/2020  
**Attachments:** GST\_Adjustment\_Note.pdf

SCAN THIS BARCODE AT OUR AIRPORT KIOSKS.



This is not a boarding pass

### Your flight itinerary

Itinerary issue date:  
18 Nov 2019

### Booking Contact Details

**Name** [REDACTED]  
**Address** 2251, Australia

### Booking reference



[Manage booking](#)

### Check-in options

Check in online from 28 days before your Jetstar domestic flight and jump the queue!

[Web check-in](#)

**At the airport:** Print this itinerary and check in at our airport kiosks or at the Jetstar counter.

## Your flights

Booking date: 18 Nov 2019


Date	Flight number	Departing	Arriving
Thu 16 Jan 2020 3:00pm / 15:00 <a href="#">Change flight</a>	<b>JQ749</b> Airbus A320 <a href="#">Starter</a> Flight duration: 1hr 45min	<b>Sydney</b> Thu 16 Jan 2020 3:00pm / 15:00 Sydney Airport - T2 Domestic	<b>Launceston</b> Thu 16 Jan 2020 4:45pm / 16:45 Launceston Airport

**Passenger:** [REDACTED]   
 **Seat:** [Choose seat](#)   
 **Carry-on Baggage:** 7kg (Add)   
 **Checked Baggage:** 40kg   
 **Extras and services requested:** [Book below](#)

MS Deborah O'Neill [Choose seat](#) 7kg (Add)

40kg

[Book below](#)

Date	Flight number	Departing	Arriving	
Thu 30 Jan 2020 9:35am / 09:35 <a href="#">Change flight</a>	JQ746 Airbus A320 Starter Flight duration: 1hr 35min	Launceston Thu 30 Jan 2020 9:35am / 09:35 Launceston Airport	Sydney Thu 30 Jan 2020 11:10am / 11:10 Sydney Airport - T2 Domestic	
<b>Passenger:</b>	<b>Seat:</b>	<b>Carry-on Baggage:</b>	<b>Checked Baggage:</b>	<b>Extras and services requested:</b>
	<a href="#">Choose seat</a>	7kg (Add)	15kg (Add)	<a href="#">Book below</a>
MS Deborah O'Neill	<a href="#">Choose seat</a>	7kg (Add)	15kg (Add)	<a href="#">Book below</a>

Times are local times at the relevant airport

Operated by:  Jetstar Airways

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**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

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24 November 2021

Senator Deborah O'Neill  
Senator for New South Wales  
Suite 3.12, The Platinum Building  
4 Ilya Avenue  
Erina, NSW, 2250

e-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance review of travel and travel-related expenses**

Thank you for your letter of 12 October 2021, in relation to the Assurance Review of Commonwealth-funded travel to and within Tasmania, and to and from Cairns, during the period 13 November 2013 to 8 November 2020.

IPEA appreciates the additional information you provided, but notes some of the questions asked in our letter of 24 August 2021 have not been specifically addressed. In order that we may finalise this review, I would be grateful if you could respond to the following:

***Itinerary 10: Travel from 21 July 2018 to 30 July 2018***

You indicated you met with a number of local individuals and organisations in relation to your roles as Shadow Minister for Mental Health and Shadow Minister for Innovation. IPEA acknowledges the matters discussed may have been confidential, however, it is reasonable to expect the logistics of those matters, particularly given the lapse in time, would be forthcoming and as such, is seeking more information on this matter.

1. Please provide as much detail as you are able in relation to the meetings held during this period, including, but not limited to:
  - a. number of meetings you attended;
  - b. when (date and times) the meetings were held;
  - c. location of the meetings;
  - d. entities with whom you met; and
  - e. description of the parliamentary business conducted with each entity.
  
2. Please provide further information in relation to the reference in your email of 2 August 2018, where you advised IPEA that you had "manned the booth in Stanley"?
  - a. when (date and times) was this?
  - b. what was involved when you "manned the booth in Stanley"?

**Itinerary 8, 9, 12 and 15**

1. Please advise whether you forfeited the cost of relevant flights for each trip and confirm that you received no refund or flight credit.

In relation to Itinerary 1, based on assessment of the information available to IPEA, including your response of 13 April 2021, it is apparent that you had travelled to Tasmania for personal reasons. While you conducted certain activities in your capacity as Senator before departing, the dominant purpose of your return travel to Tasmania, if assessed in accordance with post 1 January 2018 legislation, was not parliamentary business. The obligations imposed upon parliamentarians by the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* did not apply at this time. You may wish, however, to consider repaying the cost of the Burnie – Sydney flight to avoid a perception that you have received a personal benefit.

Please provide a written response via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Wednesday, 8 December 2021**, or advise me prior to the date if you need more time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact me on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]  
Director Audit & Assurance

# Senator Deborah O'Neill

## NEW SOUTH WALES

16 December 2021

██████████  
 Director, Audit and Assurance  
 Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
 By email: ██████████

Dear ██████████

Thank you for the extension of time to complete this response to your letter of 24 November 2021. Like you, I too hope this correspondence will finalise the matter of your enquiry into my travel and travel-related expenses 13 November 2013 – 8 November 2020.

### Itinerary 10: Travel from 21 July 2018 to 30 July 2018

I refer you to correspondence between IPEA and my office on 2 August 2018 and 3 August 2018. That is the most contemporaneous communication on the period about which you are seeking further information. ██████████ of your office advised a course of action, when ██████████ from my office sought advice from IPEA, to ensure I complied with the standards expected of Parliamentarians regarding travel as oversighted by IPEA.

I was very clear that the purpose of my enquiry (via ██████████) was to ensure that I was compliant with IPEA's protocols. Within days of the travel for work purposes and after receiving IPEA's compliance advice, I provided a transparent rationale for the travel in writing to IPEA. The sole purpose of my communication with IPEA was to ensure that I acted in a way that provided value for the taxpayer and in compliance with all relevant protocols. My office proceeded as advised by IPEA. You have the records of what followed.

You also have in my correspondence of 28 June 2021 (Appendix D) an outline of the meetings that I was willing to formally record in my diary. As I have indicated previously, I also undertook several additional confidential meetings with individuals from organisations in the field of mental health and innovation. As you know, I was the Assistant Minister for Mental Health and the Assistant Minister for Innovation at the time under review. The purpose of the meetings was for me to form views and gather insights to inform policy development.

I am willing to provide a day-by-day breakdown without identifying individuals who confided in me and who could be professionally compromised if I were to betray their confidence.

**Saturday 21 July 2018:** 1 x meeting in Launceston in confidence with a mental health staffer of a mental health organisation.

**Sunday 22 July 2018:** Day of rest.

**Monday 23 July 2018:** Refer to Appendix D of my correspondence dated 28 June 2021.

**Tuesday 24 July 2018:** Phone meetings back to mainland. Refer to Appendix D my correspondence dated 28 June 2021 and other communications with my office. Policy work.

**Wednesday 25 July 2018:** Hearing of the Education and Employment Committee [Wage theft? What wage theft?! \(apo.org.au\)](#)

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Phone: (02) 4367 4565 | Fax: (02) 4367 6506

Office: Suite 3.12, The Platinum Building, 4 Ilya Avenue, Erina

Mail: PO Box 3627 Fountain Plaza, Erina NSW 2250 | Email: ██████████

## Chapter 1 Introduction

1.1 On 19 June 2018, the Senate referred the following matter to the Education and Employment References Committee (the committee) for inquiry and report by 17 September:

*The exploitation of general and specialist cleaners working in retail chains for contracting or subcontracting cleaning companies, with particular reference to: (a) frameworks at both Commonwealth and industry level to protect workers from harm, including exploitation, wage theft, underpayment, wage stagnation and workplace injury; (b) measures designed to ensure workers have adequate representation and knowledge of their rights; (c) compliance with relevant workplace and taxation laws, including the effectiveness and adequacy of agencies such as the Fair Work Ombudsman and the Australian Taxation Office; (d) practices including 'phoenixing' and pyramid subcontracting; and (e) any related matters.*

...

1.5 The committee held 5 public hearings:

- 19 July 2018 in Caboolture
- 25 July 2018 in Devonport
- 4 September 2018 in Melbourne
- 14 September 2018 in Canberra
- 18 October 2018 in Canberra.

**Wednesday 25 July 2018:** Innovation meeting. Refer to Appendix D of my correspondence dated 28 June 2021.

**Thursday 26 July 2018:** Ulverstone: 2 x meetings in confidence with individuals from local mental health and social work providers in NW Tasmania. I can't recall the times. At local coffee shops. Policy research.

**Friday 27 July 2018:** Burnie: 2 x meetings in confidence with individuals from local social work, drug, and alcohol service providers in NW Tasmania. I can't recall the times. At local coffee shops. Policy research.

I recall there was also to be another formal meeting on either Thursday or Friday, but it was cancelled during that week while I was in Tasmania. The meeting was removed from my diary, and it is too long ago for anyone in the office to remember now.

**Saturday 28 July 2018:** Personal Day. I manned the booth at Stanley, speaking to local residents and handing our materials on request.

**Sunday 29 July 2018:** Day of rest.

### Itinerary 8, 9, 12 and 15.

I advise that I forfeited the cost of relevant flights for each trip, and I confirm that I received no refund or flight credit.

With regard to Itinerary 1, I paid for myself to get to Tasmania. I worked while on leave and paid for my own accommodation and transport. If I was in breach of rules and IPEA determine I need to reimburse the cost of the Burnie to Sydney flight that you are reviewing, I will promptly do so on receipt of such a request.

Regards,



DEBORAH O'NEILL  
LABOR SENATOR FOR NSW





**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

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23 December 2021

Senator Deborah O'Neill  
Senator for New South Wales  
Suite 3.12, The Platinum Building  
4 Ilya Avenue  
Erina, NSW, 2250

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance review of travel and travel-related expenses**

Thank you for your letter of 16 December 2021 in relation to the Assurance Review of your Commonwealth-funded travel to and within Tasmania, and to and from Cairns, during the period 13 November 2013 to 8 November 2020. Upon reviewing the information you have provided, the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) considers matters pertaining to Itineraries 8, 9, 10, 12 and 15 finalised.

In relation to Itinerary 1, and as advised in our letter of 24 November 2021, the obligations imposed upon parliamentarians by the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act) did not apply at the time of your travel in 2014.

As the PBR Act did not apply at the time, IPEA has not assessed whether or not you are required to repay costs in respect of this travel. However, we note that the principles-based framework introduced on 1 January 2018 provides that parliamentarians may not claim work expenses unless the dominant purpose of their use is parliamentary business. You had advised IPEA that you travelled to Tasmania for personal reasons. Under the current legislation, the dominant purpose of your travel to Tasmania and return was not parliamentary business and you would be personally responsible to meet the cost for your travel.

Should you wish to make a voluntary repayment, the cost of a Burnie – Sydney airfare at that time, inclusive of GST, was \$772.77. Please advise if you wish to make this voluntary repayment and I will arrange for an invoice to be raised.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Nicole Pearson  
Branch Manager, Transparency Assurance and Legal