

POLICE, AIRCRAFT STATISTICS

662. Hon Barry House to the Minister for Racing and Gaming representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services
- (1) Can the Minister advise the make of all aircraft currently owned by the Police Department?
 - (2) Can the Minister advise the seat capacity of all aircraft currently owned by the Police Department?
 - (3) Can the Minister advise the purpose of each aircraft currently owned by the Police Department?
 - (4) Can the Minister advise the number of companies currently participating in the Police panel roster for charter aircraft?
 - (5) Can the Minister advise the names of those companies?
 - (6) How many aircraft that are suitable for the Police Department's needs are collectively available through this panel roster?
 - (7) Does the Minister of the Police Department have any formal arrangement in place with any of the companies participating in this panel roster to ensure that a plane will always be available to the Department without notice?
 - (8) Does the Police Department have a requirement from time to time to carry what may be considered to be dangerous goods on charter aircraft?
 - (9) If yes, can the Minister provide details of those dangerous goods?
 - (10) Can the Minister advise if all aircraft owned by all companies participating in the Police panel roster are certified to carry dangerous goods such as those sometimes carried by the Police Department?
 - (11) Can the Minister guarantee that there will always be at least one aircraft owned by companies participating in the Police panel roster that is certified to carry dangerous goods available for the Police Department to use?
 - (12) Can the Minister guarantee that there will be always at least one aircraft owned by companies participating in the Police panel roster available to the Police Department 24 hours per day, seven days per week every week of the year?
 - (13) If not, why not?
 - (14) Can the Minister guarantee that there will always be at least one pilot working for one of the companies involved in the Police panel roster available to the Police Department 24 hours per day seven days per week, every week of the year?
 - (15) If not, why not?

Hon N.D. GRIFFITHS replied:

1.
 - a. Kawasaki BK117 helicopter
 - b. Piper Navajo fixed wing aircraft
 - c. Cessna 182 fixed wing aircraft
2.
 - a. five
 - b. seven
 - c. four
3. All aircraft attached to the Police Service's Air Support Unit (ASU) provide an aerial support response function to police operations throughout the State on an identified needs-basis. In addition, these aircraft are, from time-to-time, deployed in response to requests from Australian Search and Rescue (AusSAR) in Canberra on a cost-recovery basis.
4. The Police Service has two panel arrangements in place, one deals with general air charter and the other with Search and Rescue (SAR). 12 companies are available to provide general air charter services and five companies from the general charter panel are available for SAR missions.
5.

| | General | SAR |
|----------------------------|---------|-----|
| Skippers Aviation | " | |
| Complete Aviation Services | " | |
| Great Western Airlines | " | |
| Maroomba Airlines | " | |
| Regent Air Services | " | |

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|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| Pearl Aviation | " | |
| Paul Lyons Aviation | " | |
| Shine Aviation | " | " |
| Goldfields Air Services - Kalgoorlie | " | " |
| Aerial Enterprises - Broome | " | " |
| Slingair - Kununurra | " | " |
| Karratha Flying Services - Karratha | " | " |

6. There are 42 aircraft available on the panel arrangement ranging from a De Havilland Dash to Cessna 172 and including a Cessna Citation Jet. The seating capacity of these aircraft ranges from three to 36. Depending on operational requirements, any of these aircraft may be requested as circumstances dictate.
7. Contingent upon the availability of the required aircraft, a response time of one hour during business hours and two hours during non-business hours provides a suitable response for any of the Police Service's requirements.
8. Yes.
9. Firearms and associated ammunition (stored independently on an aircraft) are from time-to-time transported on charter aircraft. Other equipment recognised as "dangerous" is sometimes required to be carried on charter aircraft under sanction from CASA. Due to operational sensitivity the Police Service advises it would prefer not to provide a description of these goods.
10. Not all charter companies associated with the charter contract have general approval to carry dangerous goods. Most companies have indicated that CASA approval can be obtained within relatively short timeframes.
- 11-15 No. However, the Police Service advise given the number of charter aircraft available within the panel arrangements, it would be extremely unlikely that an appropriate aircraft could not be obtained.