

MINISTER FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT — GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT USE

893. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the Minister for Regional Development:

I refer to the minister's response to my question yesterday concerning her use of government aircraft to travel to and from Albany.

- (1) Can the minister please advise on which occasions she has visited other regional centres between 17 March and 27 November 2017 using government aircraft?
- (2) For the dates of 27 and 28 March, 25 April and 9 June, can the minister please clarify how she travelled to and from Albany?
- (3) If the above trips were on a government aircraft, did others accompany her; and who were they?
- (4) At the conclusion of the 6 to 8 October visit, can the minister confirm whether she was accompanied by any other passengers on the government aircraft on the return leg to Perth; and, if so, who were they?
- (5) With the exception of 25 April, the four other trips to Albany were either side of a weekend—three times on a Friday and once on a Monday. Does this mean that the minister stayed in Albany for those weekends or for part of them; if so, where; and who paid for the accommodation?

Hon ALANNAH MacTIERNAN replied:

I thank the member for the question.

- (1)–(4) I table the attached document detailing all my travel movements.

[See paper 922.]

- (5) On 27 and 28 March, I departed at 2.00 pm on Monday and returned to Perth at 5.30 pm on Tuesday. On Friday, 9 June, I returned to Perth, arriving at 7.45 pm. On Friday, 8 September, I returned to Perth on the weekend, as stated in my answer yesterday. I stayed in Albany at my own expense. On the weekend of Sunday, 8 October, I had a full schedule of meetings—on Friday, 6 October and Saturday, 7 October, concluding those engagements at 10.00 pm on Saturday. I departed Albany at 10.00 am on Sunday. There was no cost to government for my accommodation over the weekend, nor, indeed, have I ever sought reimbursement for accommodation in Albany. It should be noted that, as the Minister for Regional Development, there is an expectation for me to travel to regional centres across Western Australia. Given that cabinet meetings are on Mondays and Parliament sits Tuesday to Thursday, much of my regional travel occurs on Fridays and often into the weekend.