

7 WING AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE CADETS — LOTTERYWEST GRANT

Statement by Member for Swan Hills

MR F.A. ALBAN (Swan Hills) [12.52 pm]: On Friday, 23 May, I had the pleasure of presenting a Lotterywest grant of \$52 584 to 7 Wing Australian Air Force Cadets in front of 701 Squadron at RAAF Base Pearce in Bullsbrook; 7 Wing is led by Wing Commander Robert Somerville, AM. This funding will be used towards equipment to be utilised by the members of the 800-strong wing across our state. Although I spoke at length with Squadron Leader Damian Lambert and Flight Lieutenant Wendy Anderson, I was also thoroughly impressed with the professionalism of the cadets I directly spoke with, some of whom are in leadership roles within the program. The program promotes skills that will assist the cadets in not only a further career within the defence forces, but also the broader aspects of life. The commitment and dedication that these cadets demonstrate is commendable. The age of enrolment in RAAF cadets is from 12 years and six months to 18 years, and cadets may continue until they are 20 years old. It is at this point that they can apply to rejoin as instructors or officers within the cadets organisation. I commend the state government on its continued support of the community through the Lotterywest grants program—a program that is unique to our state of Western Australia.