

Admin, LACO

Subject: FW: Contribution to Economics and Industry Standing Committee

From: Embroidery Design

Sent: Monday, 26 June 2017 8:16 AM

To: Committee, Economics & Industry Standing

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Dear Sir

I consider the regional airfares to be unreasonably expensive due to:

1. The cutting back of regional bus services (and any subsidy thereof) by any previous government, thus handed to the airline sector a massive head start for pricing changes and contributed to a monopoly within the state transport choices.
2. The obliteration of regional train services over a long period of time has contributed to the ease of monopolising the regional transport sector. There should be 3 choices of travel.
3. Regional bus services that do not transport people into towns which are off the main highway only thus contribute to residents having no choice but to fly in and out.
For example, a friend wanted to catch a bus to Kalbarri. The bus would only drop her at the road house on the main highway at the scheduled drive past time of late evening. She would have to sit in the road house until the next morning until a local bus service could pick her up. She ultimately chose to fly. The airline knew this and the charge reflected it. I suspect this is the same situation for Denham and others.

Subsequently, there are additional comments I would like to make:

1. The impact of the costs of air travel may well be a heavy burden for those people needing to travel to Perth for medical reasons. Partial subsidies only partially offset the high cost of the required travel by air.
2. Rail travel to the southwest should be considered as a priority and needs to be further than Bunbury.

Yours Sincerely
Colin Scott