

REGIONAL AIRPORTS DEVELOPMENT SCHEME, GRANTS

287. Hon GREG SMITH to the Minister for Transport:

Will the minister advise the House of any recent improvements to regional airports?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

I have recently approved the latest round of grants under the Regional Airports Development Scheme that will significantly improve regional airport infrastructure. This year \$1.8m will be spent by the Government on 28 regional airports from the Kimberley right through to Esperance. This investment of \$1.8m will lever \$5.8m worth of funds from the Federal Government, local government and the private sector bringing a total of \$8.5m worth of new aviation infrastructure to regional areas. The Regional Airports Development Scheme has been running since 1994 over which time approximately \$14m has been contributed by the Government to nearly 80 airports across regional Western Australia. This investment by the Government has resulted in \$36.5m worth of regional airport infrastructure being provided in the regions over the past seven years.