

PREMIER'S OFFICE, BUDGET

166. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Premier; Minister for Public Sector Management; Water Resources; Federal Affairs

I refer the Premier to the budget for the Office of the Premier on pages 76-77 of the 2005-2006 State Budget and ask -

- (a) are the figures for operating the Office of the Premier included in the calculations for average operating costs of Ministerial Offices. If not, what was the cost of operating the Office of the Premier in 2004 - 2005?
- (b) is the budget allocation for operating this office in 2005-2006 \$4,126,283;
- (c) if not, what is this figure;
- (d) what is included in the operating expenses of this office;
- (e) what services are provided to the Premier in the budget allocation of \$12,118,000;
- (f) who is the Director of Strategic Policy in the Premier's Office;
- (g) at what level is this officer employed; and
- (h) what extra allowances are paid to this officer, and for what purpose?

Dr G.I. GALLOP replied:

- (a) The key efficiency indicator 'cost of services provided to support the Premier' is not included in the key efficiency indicators for Ministerial Offices reported under service 2. The estimated cost of services provided to the Premier including corporate service overheads in 2004/05 was \$4,126,283.
- (b) No
- (c) \$3,943,829.
- (d) The figure supplied above is an accrual figure.

This cost includes salaries and allowances, other staffing costs, communications, services and contracts, consumable supplies, maintenance of plant and equipment, and purchase of plant and equipment. It further includes a proportion of service overheads such as Human Resources, Information Technology, Finance and Records Administration. Furthermore, it includes a portion of the cost of the Office of the Director General. This is calculated as a percentage of the time spent by that office in providing services to the Office of the Premier.
- (e) The services and their projected cost (excluding income, cash balance movements and accrual items of \$303,000) provided through Service 1 - Support for the Premier as Head of Government in 2005-06 are:
 - Services supporting the Premier's Office (\$3,943,829);
 - The Government Media Office (\$3,795,716); and
 - Overseas representation in Europe, the Middle East and North Asia (\$4,689,130).
- (f) Mr Kieran Murphy is the Director of Strategic Management in the Premier's Office.
- (g) Class 1
- (h) Mr Murphy is in receipt of a salary maintenance allowance of \$119.00 per annum which will cease with the next increase to the Public Service General Agreement salary schedule.