

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION'S OFFICE, AIR CHARTER FUNDING

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

I refer the Premier to the line item relating to the Average Operating Cost Per Ministerial Office on page 79 of the 2005-2006 State Budget and ask -

- (a) A footnote says that additional funding has been included in 2005-2006 for the Ministerial Air Charter. As it says in the budget papers that it includes the two Leaders of the Opposition, what appropriation has been made for the Leader of the Opposition's office?

Dr G.I. GALLOP replied:

- (a) The key efficiency indicators 'average operating cost per ministerial office' and 'average cost of administration per ministerial office' include expenditure by the Leaders of the Opposition.

The footnote provides an explanation for the movement in these indicators between the estimated outturn for 2004-05 and the 2005-06 budget. One of the factors in that movement was additional funding of \$300,000 provided for Ministerial Air Charter in 2005-06 provided to compensate for changes in the airline and insurance environment since 1999-00 when the contract was awarded, and the increase in projected usage rates for the two aircraft.

The Ministerial Air Charter facilities are for the exclusive use of Ministers.