

MINISTERS OF THE CROWN - CORPORATE CREDIT CARDS - TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON  
RESTAURANT BILLS AND DETAILS OF "UNUSUAL TRANSACTIONS"

1323. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Indigenous Affairs; Tourism; Culture and the Arts

I refer to the Western Australian Government Corporate Credit Card Guidelines September 2003, Page 9, "Care should be taken to record and retain all transaction details particularly unusual transactions such as restaurant bills" and ask -

- (1) What was the total credit card expenditure within the Minister's Office on restaurant bills in -
  - (a) 2004-2005; and
  - (b) 2005-2006?
- (2) In terms of the guidelines above, were there any other "unusual transactions" recorded?
- (3) If yes to (2), what are the details for -
  - (a) 2004-2005; and
  - (b) 2005-2006?

Ms S.M. McHALE replied:

- (1)-(3) The Department's credit card facility and financial systems do not support the automated extraction of expenditure on specific items such as 'restaurant bills' from credit card transactions. Expenditure on Departmental credit cards is acquitted by the credit card holder, charged to standard expenditure codes and approved by the cost centre manager. Extraction of the information requested would require the manual examination of Ministerial Office credit card transactions to identify expenditure on 'restaurant bills'.

Provision of this information would require considerable research, diverting staff attention away from their normal duties and I am not prepared to allocate the State's resources to provide a response. If the Member has a specific inquiry I will endeavour to provide a reply.