



## Premier of Western Australia

Our ref: 59-033332



Ms Tracey Sharpe  
Committee Clerk  
Estimates and Financial Operations Committee  
Parliament House  
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Ms Sharpe

Please find attached answers to questions from the Estimates and Financial Operations Committee in respect to the Department of Premier and Cabinet's 2017-18 budget.

Yours sincerely

Mark McGowan MLA  
**PREMIER**  
10 OCT 2017

Public / Internet

11/10/17

## ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

### FORMAT FOR AGENCIES TO ANSWERS QUESTIONS

Department of the Premier and Cabinet                      Page Number

**Hon Martin Aldridge MLC asked:**

- 1) I refer to Budget Paper 2, Page 65 and specifically footnote 1, and I ask:  
Please detail the recent methodology change which impacts on the efficiency indicators of ministerial offices?

Answer: The methodology/cost allocation framework used by DPC to prepare the efficiency indicators for the 2017-18 Budget Papers was refined to improve the allocation of costs to Key Efficiency Indicators (KEIs).

In particular, the allocation of expenses to the new KEI within Service 2, 'Average Cost to Deliver Policy Advice' were overstated by including costs that should have been allocated to KEIs within Service 1 for the 2016-17 Estimated Actuals and 2017-18 Budget Targets.

These costs are now more appropriately allocated to the 'Average Cost of Support Provided per Ministerial Office' within Service 1, resulting in an increase to this KEI's 2016-17 estimated actual and 2017-18 Budget Target (compared to 2016-17 Budget).

The change in the cost allocation framework had little impact on the Service 1 KEI 'Average Operating Cost per Ministerial Office, however the 2016-17 Estimated Actual for this KEI does include some one-off costs related to staff severances resulting from the change in Government, resulting in a one-off increase.

- 2) I refer to Budget Paper No. 2, Volume 2, Page 65 and specifically to staff allocated or offered by the Premier or the department to cross-bench members and or parties (excluding those which normally apply to the Leader of the Opposition or Leader of the Second Party in Opposition) and I ask:

a)-e) Answer: The Government received approaches from several members in the Legislative Council concerning resourcing. The Government has agreed to provide additional resources to assist the members of the following parties with research into the government's legislative agenda:

Greens WA	2.0 FTE (to be shared among the members)
Pauline Hanson's One Nation	2.0 FTE (to be shared among the members)
Shooters, Fishers and Farmers	1.0FTE (to be shared among the members)
Liberal Democrats	1.0 FTE (to be shared among the members)

Additional staff will be employed under the *Parliamentary and Electorate Staff (Employment) Act 1992*. Not all members have employed staff at this time so it is not possible to provide costs. The Department of the Premier and Cabinet advised the Presiding Officers of the Government's position in this matter.

3) I refer to the 'Administration of Executive Government Services' on Page 65 of Budget Paper 2 and I ask:

a) What is the 2017-18 cost of providing an Executive Transport Service to Ministers and Officeholders?

Answer: The 2017/18 budget for Executive Transport Services is \$1,411,074.

b) What is the 2017-18 cost of providing contracted charter aircraft to Minister and Officeholders?


Answer: The 2017/18 budget for Ministerial Air Charter Services is \$7,605,701.98. In 2017/18, the amount paid to date for Air Charter Transport for \*Officeholders is \$2,364.

c) What was the 2015-16 and 2016-17 actual expenditure for both functions?

Answer: The actual expenditure for both functions are as follows:

- 2015/16 \$6,967,733.43 Ministerial Air Charter service only
- 2016/17 \$7,027,097.38 Ministerial Air Charter service only
- 2015/16 \$27,638 Air Charter Transport for \*Officeholders only
- 2016/17 11,939 Air Charter Transport for \*Officeholders only
- 2015/16 \$1,928,241 Executive Transport Services only
- 2016/17 \$1,784,563 Executive Transport Services only

\*The Department of the Premier and Cabinet pay Air Charter Transport in Members capacity representing their region or district, not as an Officeholder.



Darren Foster  
Director General

Prepared by: M. Inglis; S. Basini; R. Kennedy  
Approved by: Robert Kennedy

9 October 2017