Notification under the Financial Management Act 2006 section 82(1)(a)

Legislative Council Question on Notice 1191 (b)-(d), May 8 2018

The Hon Martin Aldridge MLC asked:

(b) for each aircraft type identified in (a), will the Minister please provide the hourly operating cost for each and the number of hours flown in each of the last three years;
(c) for each aircraft type identified in (a), will the Minister please provide the number of hours that the aircraft was not available due to maintenance or service related issues;
(d) for each aircraft type identified in (a), will the Minister please provide the annual maintenance costs for each of the last three years;

I responded:

(b)-(d) This level of financial information is contained within the business case which is Cabinet-in-Confidence. Further, as the WA Police Force has commenced the procurement process, it is considered that the public release of this pre-market information could compromise WA Police Force’s sourcing strategy and future contract negotiations.

In accordance with the Financial Management Act 2006 sections 82(1)(a) and 82(2), I notify the House of my decision that it is reasonable and appropriate not to provide the information being sought on the basis that the information is subject to public interest immunity.

The information sought is considered to form part of the policy options prepared for Cabinet deliberation as part of the budget process. The WA Police Force have also advised that the information sought is commercially sensitive, as the information relates to future contract negotiations.

The commercially sensitive information sought relates the planned purchase of a helicopter by the WA Police Force, as indicated in the WA Budget Paper No. 2, p 339. The WA Police Force advises the details of the current maintenance and service costs of the existing police helicopter fleet is not information which is publicly known, nor which is capable of easily being ascertained. The disclosure of the information of this nature could compromise WA Police Force’s sourcing strategy and future contract negotiations.

A copy of this notification is also being provided to the Auditor General in accordance with the requirements of the Financial Management Act 2006 section 82(1)(b).

MICHELLE ROBERTS BA DipEd MLA
MINISTER FOR POLICE

5 DEC 2018