

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL CENTRE - CARNARVON

515. Hon KEN BASTON to the Minister for the Kimberley, Pilbara and Gascoyne:

I refer to the minister's media statement of 14 June 2006 on the Aboriginal cultural centre in Carnarvon, in which he announced funding of over \$612 000 over the next four years to establish a management board, appoint a centre manager and provide a fit-out for the manager's office.

- (1) With respect to the board -
 - (a) what costs, if any, are related to the establishment of the board; and
 - (b) what will be the annual remuneration, if any, to each board member?
- (2) With respect to the centre manager -
 - (a) what will be the annual salary of the centre manager; and
 - (b) what is the estimated fit-out cost of the manager's office?
- (3) Given that the minister's press release also states that -

The centre manager will then work with the traditional elders to confirm key activities for the building and gain funding for a full fit-out of the whole building . . .

 - (a) from where will this additional funding be drawn and from which annual budget; and
 - (b) what is the anticipated completion date for the fit-out?

Hon JON FORD replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question.

- (1)
 - (a) The costs for the establishment of the board are likely to be minimal. In fact, the people who have indicated that they would like to be on the board are offering their services as volunteers, so we are looking at costs associated with compensation for travel and those sorts of things.
 - (b) Remuneration, if any, will be determined by the Director General, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, for those issues that I have just spoken about.
- (2)
 - (a) The budget allocation is for no more than a level 7 officer under the public sector general agreement.
 - (b) An amount of \$25 000 has been allocated in the budget for the office fit-out.
- (3)
 - (a) A number of state and commonwealth funding sources are currently being pursued. For instance, there were early applications with Lotterywest, which has said that it has an allocation for some fit-out items. It has said that it would look at that favourably, provided a robust management structure was in place. The situation is the same with some of the commonwealth funding sources. Of course, the state, through the regional investment fund, would look on it favourably once a robust management structure was in place.
 - (b) The interim management board, once appointed, will prepare a development plan, which would include the anticipated completion date for the full fit-out of the centre. The final completion date will depend on the availability of cultural artefacts and the traditional owners' cultural requirements. There is some delay in that because of what has happened in the past. People have concentrated on disputes between themselves rather than focusing on the end gain. However, that seems to be resolving itself.