

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**Division 15: Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation — Services 3 and 5 to 7, Defence Issues; Tourism, \$183 660 000 —**

Ms J.M. Freeman, Chair.

Mr P. Papalia, Minister for Tourism; Defence Issues.

Mr R. Sellers, Acting Director General.

Ms L. Dawson, Deputy Director General, Industry, Science and Innovation.

Mr M. Moran, Executive Director, Defence West.

Mr P. Carden, Chief Finance Officer.

Mr R. Sansalone, Chief Financial Officer.

Ms S. Doherty, Executive Director, Events, Tourism WA.

Ms D. Belford, Acting Managing Director, Tourism WA.

Mr I.E. Johnson, Principal Policy Adviser, Tourism.

Mr P.A. Zapelli, Senior Policy Adviser, Defence Issues.

[Witnesses introduced.]

**The CHAIR:** This estimates committee will be reported by Hansard. The daily proof *Hansard* will be available tomorrow. The Chair will ensure that as many questions as possible are asked and that both questions and answers are short and to the point. If an adviser needs to answer from the lectern, will they please state their name prior to their answer. The estimates committee's consideration of the estimates will be restricted to discussion of those items for which a vote of money is proposed in the consolidated account. Questions must be clearly related to a page number, item, program or amount in the current division. Members should give these details in preface to their question. If a division or service is the responsibility of more than one minister, a minister shall only be examined in relation to their portfolio responsibilities.

The minister may agree to provide supplementary information to the committee, and I ask the minister to clearly indicate what supplementary information will be provided. I will then allocate a reference number. Supplementary information should be provided to the principal clerk by Friday, 30 October 2020. I caution members that if a minister asks that a question be put on notice, it is up to the member to lodge that through the online questions system.

I give the call to the member for Churchlands.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** I refer to the Australian Marine Complex on page 204 of budget paper No 2, volume 1. When will the final plan be —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Which line?

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** Sorry; the second line.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The AMC.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** They are “Australian Marine Complex Strategic Infrastructure and Land Use Planning” and then underneath that, the third line item, “Australian Marine Complex Upgrade”. When will the final plan be released?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Which final plan is the member talking about?

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** I am referring to “Australian Marine Complex Strategic Infrastructure and Land Use Planning” Is there a plan?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** We agreed with Minister Pyne, when he was the defence minister, that we would collaborate at state and federal levels and via the federal minister's office and defence—appropriate defence representatives—to plan for defence requirements for infrastructure at the AMC for the future. That work is ongoing. It is a matter of collaboration, and every time a draft is prepared, it is shared with the federal agencies and responsible individuals. It is just ongoing work. There is no deadline for delivery, if that is what the member is after.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** I suppose I would just like to know whether there is a plan or planning is underway.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes. It has been a valuable effort, or collaboration. There is a lot of work around determining not just what we require for defence at AMC, but also ensuring that our requirements of servicing offshore oil and gas and other sectors are incorporated in whatever plans defence have, or would aspire to have, and so that is just ongoing work. We are continuing to collaborate with the federal minister's office, and I anticipate that it will not be too much longer. I imagine that plan will be public by towards the end of the year.

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** From that, minister, we would expect to see the actual Australian Marine Complex strategic infrastructure land use plan towards the end of this year?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes. A draft has been shared with industry players. The member is probably aware of that. We received the commentary and input from industry, then we returned it to defence, and that work has been finalised. I anticipate by the end of the year.

**The CHAIR:** Further question or different question?

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** I opened with the second and third line items, so I am still dealing with those two lines. In the third line item “Australian Marine Complex Upgrade”, what does the funding for this financial year and next financial year cover? The 2020–21 budget estimate is \$23.8 million and the forward estimate for 2021–22 is 30.2 million. Can the minister please let us know what that upgrade is covering?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** That is the contribution by the state effectively to federal defence infrastructure outcomes. We announced a significant effort by the state both to create jobs and stimulate the economy in response to the COVID challenge and also to meet the requirements and future requirements of defence, so it would be nice to see the federal government contribute a little bit towards defence infrastructure outcomes in WA. That essentially is around \$84 million. It will result in the AMC 1 wharf extension and design work being done on the new finger wharf. In the event that we got full-cycle docking, the finger wharf would be accommodating that, but the AMC wharf 1 is the major wharf there. It is to be extended it so that we have capacity to accommodate the future frigates and upgrades to the wharf services, because the member would probably be aware that they have for some time now been substandard with respect to servicing ships that are alongside in maintenance. It is also creating a common user facility vessel transfer path between the wharf area and the Civmec–Luerssen shed to ensure that we can transfer up. We are ensuring that it is hardened. All of the services are underneath that transfer path, but we are also ensuring that it is hardened for the future so there is the ability to lift a vessel as large as an air warfare destroyer up into that shed. That shed has the height and volume capacity to accommodate one of those ships. In advance of any requirement being articulated, that is being done. Also, there is a number of intersection upgrades to the roads in the area that for some time have been identified as choke points and difficult areas for people working in the AMC to facilitate ease of access and egress. We are also constructing a new shipbuilding facility in the northern harbour area. All of those collectively represent that \$84 million investment by the state government into federal defence.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** I refer to page 205 of budget paper No 2, volume 1, and the eighth significant issue impacting the agency under the heading “Defence” that talks about Defence West. Can the minister provide an update on the priorities for Defence West for the upcoming financial year?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Defence West’s objectives all relate to its “Western Australian Defence and Defence Industries Strategic Plan”. The number one priority is to implement that plan, and from that plan flow a range of outcomes or tasks. The first and foremost objective for Defence West is to consolidate its massively increased resourcing and personnel staffing capacity in representing the industry and looking for opportunity for the defence industry in Western Australia, ensuring we get a share in the national interest of the \$ 279 billion or so worth of commitment by the federal government towards a sovereign defence capability. That is the number 1 priority. There are other tasks associated with that, such as, for instance, hosting the annual Indo–Pacific Defence Conference, representing at other defence expos and the like around the country or in the region, and collaborating or coordinating with the defence science centre on fostering research and development. All these things flow from meeting the objective of implementing the defence and defence industries strategic plan.

[9.10 am]

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** The minister can help me if I could not find it, but what is Defence West’s operational budget for 2020–21 and the forward estimates?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** In the fiscal year 2019–20, the total budget was \$3.831 million. In 2020–21, it rises to \$29.969 million, but that incorporates some of the planning work associated with that aforementioned \$84 million infrastructure investment.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** That is a massive jump.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It is.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** It has gone from \$3.83 million to \$29.969 million.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** That is right. We are committed to growing defence outcomes. Part of that is more than doubling or almost doubling the full-time equivalents, part of it is just general funding to enable those people to do their work and to provide more support to the defence sector, part of it is grants associated with the Defence Science Centre to foster research, development and training of our tertiary researchers in the defence sector, and part of it is

**Extract from Hansard**

[ASSEMBLY ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B — Tuesday, 20 October 2020]

p91c-120a

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

for planning and delivery of the AMC infrastructure upgrades that we talked about earlier. In spending \$84 million on infrastructure, there is a lot of practical work in getting that done. Defence West administers that budget.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** Are we able to get a breakdown of what the \$29.969 million will be spent on?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The breakdown is as follows: Defence West salaries, 2.491 million; Defence West general funding, \$2.146 million; grants, \$1.25 million; and campaign advocacy to get ready to make the case for full-cycle docking to be delivered, \$282 000. Part of the delivery of all the work associated with that \$84 million for the AMC complex upgrades is worth \$23.8 million.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** Can I just confirm that Defence West's operational budget is being used to try and assist with the development of the government's Australian Marine Complex?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Our Australian Marine Complex is Australia's Australian Marine Complex. We are seeking to assist the federal government, which should be spending its money on defence infrastructure. We are doing that because we have a dual objective. One objective is meeting the requirements of the Australian national interest in providing the most capable defence or maritime defence support facility in the region. We are expanding that and ensuring that our facilities remain at the forefront and provide the best possible support to Australia's defence force. That is our priority. Associated with that is our intent to create jobs for Western Australians and Western Australian industry, with the opportunity for Western Australian industry in meeting that objective in the near term to confront the COVID challenge and ensuring that we have a pipeline of work. I will repeat what I have said earlier: frankly, we are doing the federal government's job. I have to say that it is not doing much at the moment in its own fields of responsibility. It appears as though the federal government likes to be in charge of the borders except when it is difficult. It likes to be responsible for a full spectrum of government activities in Australia until it gets difficult, and then Peter Dutton disappears. Western Australia is carrying the defence load here. In Western Australia right now infrastructure for defence is being built by Western Australian taxpayers. It is a federal government responsibility, a defence responsibility. Perhaps it is time the defence minister was in Australia instead of Japan and delivering on her portfolio for Western Australians and Australians.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** I am still on this same line. I still need to get the answer I am looking for to the question.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I do not know what the member's question is. Can the member ask it again?

**Ms J.J. SHAW:** The member can win government and provide it himself.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** Maybe to assist the minister we could have a question on notice. Could we have a breakdown of that \$29.969 million?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No. I gave the member the breakdown.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** Sorry, minister, can I finish? When listening to the minister's answer I quickly tried to do a bit of mental arithmetic and there was \$23 million unaccounted for.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes, that is capital.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** It is still \$23 million.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It is administered by Defence West.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** Is Defence West administering the \$23 million?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes. It is building infrastructure for the federal government.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** What is it spending it on?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I told the member earlier on when he asked me which projects the money was for. The AMC 1 wharf is being extended and upgraded. There is work being done on planning for a finger wharf in the event that the federal government finally makes a decision on full-cycle docking and gives it to Western Australia where it belongs. There is also work on hardening the transfer pathway between the wharf and the Cimvec shed. There are three intersections being upgraded to enable access and egress for workers in the region and a shed down is being built in the northern section of the AMC. All those tasks are where the money is being spent.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** How many FTE employees are currently employed with Defence West to help with this large \$29.969 million task, and are there any vacancies in the staff?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** As I indicated earlier, we have expanded Defence West from nine FTEs to in the order of 17, but we are also accommodating at Defence West veterans issues staff, with staff from that portfolio being supported in Defence West as well. If the member is talking about the task itself, Defence West-associated roles, the number of FTEs is 17. Defence West employs its budget to seek consultancy where appropriate. Obviously there is work associated with environmental approvals, advanced planning and design work and the like that requires it either to

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

seek out assistance further from the department, more broadly, or from consultants as appropriate. Sorry, there is also defence. We have created a Defence Science Centre. It has a federal Defence Science and Technology agency person embedded there who is the associate director of research and development for the Defence Science Centre. A representative from the uniformed defence works there as well. He is being housed there, but we do not pay him.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** The minister just alerted that part of the Defence West budget is going to veterans issues.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No. Defence West is just housing staff there; they are accommodated administratively there.

[9.20 am]

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Is there no budget whatsoever going to veterans issues from defence?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** We are paying for power, electricity, and a desk. We are housing staff, but the actual individuals are from Minister Tinley's portfolio.

**Mr M. HUGHES:** I really only have one question, and it refers to the heading "Defence" on page 205 of budget paper No 2. The minister has alluded to work that the government has undertaken to secure full-cycle docking for the Collins class submarines. Does the minister think he covered the matter completely in his answer to the member for Churchlands, or does he have further information available to the committee about the progress of that move to secure the full-cycle docking at Fremantle?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The issue with respect to full-cycle docking is, firstly, that it arose from our "Western Australian Defence and Defence Industries Strategic Plan" crafted by Major General Jeff Sengelman, retired, who was commissioned to write a plan for Western Australia's defence industry, but also the defence requirements in Western Australia. From that plan fell the objective of arguing the case for Western Australia to be the principal site for maintenance and sustainment of frigates and submarines. That makes sense. It was logical because Western Australia is home to the largest naval base in the country. We are the closest point of land anywhere in a capital city to the areas of operations for Australia's naval forces—that is, a lot of the points of vulnerability in terms of choke points for our export capability upon which the fortunes of the nation ride to our north west. We are the closest point of any capital city to those locations, and we have a large city with a broad industrial base and a capacity to provide world-class sustainment support to our forces. That was the determining factor for us to pursue seeking all submarine maintenance to be located in Western Australia. It is also the place where all the submarines are based, where all the submariners live, and it is incredibly awkward and inconsistent with best practice around the world for submarines to be maintained in a different location far from where they are based. In fact, the chief of navy some time ago articulated his intent that all maintenance be done within 150 nautical miles of any vessel's base. That obviously precludes submarine maintenance being done in Adelaide halfway across the continent from where all the submarines are based.

About every 10 years a submarine will go into a full-cycle docking—that is, effectively taking it out of service for two years, cutting it apart completely and rebuilding it with modern technology, the most up to date capability available, and in some cases looking towards future development capability for the future submarine. A thing called life-of-type extension is also being undertaken now. All that means is that a submarine is taken out of its operational base, the crew go with it and they sail it around to Adelaide. It is taken out of the water. A number of the crew stay there and have to go backwards and forwards or remain in Adelaide whilst that work is being done. Over a two-year period, they are disrupted from their family. It is not operational time; it is counted as shore time for them, so the sailors associated with that task might, on completion, spend about three months or possibly a bit shorter, depending on how long it takes to work out once the submarine is put back together and goes out to sea. Works are up in the vicinity of Adelaide. A whole lot of support is required to cover them whilst they have come out of the docking. The worst has to be assumed, so there have to be rescue and services available to the crew right there from the time they work and they finally come back to WA, whereupon the boat goes operational and gets sent away for six months with the same crew. It is incredibly disruptive, time consuming, wasteful of effort and resources and not a good practice. In October 2018, the Premier launched the "Western Australian Defence and Defence Industries Strategic Plan". At that time, we indicated we were going to go after submarine full-cycle docking to come to WA. We do all the other maintenance. Every other bit of maintenance on submarines is done in WA with the exception of that one task. We told everybody, we told the world in October 2018, that we were pursuing that objective. Subsequently, we established a defence industry workforce office in May 2019, and the Defence Advisory Forum in June 2019. In response to the new minister talking to me once she took office in early 2019, we compiled or commissioned a couple of papers—one on strategic reasoning behind moving full-cycle docking to WA. PricewaterhouseCoopers delivered that paper. ACIL Allen Consulting did one on the economic reasoning behind that task being moved. Later in the year we got Advisian to do one on further addressing concerns that the minister had at the time about shifting the task. All that work was done, and then at the end of last year, about this time in fact, the defence minister gave a commitment to the Australian people that a decision on full-cycle docking would be made by last Christmas. That has not happened. Subsequently, understandably, there was some reasoning behind delaying the decision because of, firstly, a volcano eruption in New Zealand, then bushfires on the east coast and then COVID, but the federal

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

government has run out of excuses. We are a year down the track since that commitment was given. It is time, and it is in the national interest, that a decision be made and the Western Australian and Australian public be informed, because the it takes years to train people and build infrastructure to do this task.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** I have a point of order on estimates.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** This is a ministerial statement—please.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Sorry.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Can I just get some clarification on timing, Chair?

**The CHAIR:** You have already used 18 minutes and —

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Sorry, in regards to the portfolio.

**The CHAIR:** You need that from the minister, not from me.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** We have an hour, so can I just ask my question?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Whatever members want. If members want to do a shorter time on this portfolio and go a longer one, the member can determine it. I do not care.

**The CHAIR:** You determine when you shift over.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Okay, great. We have got tourism as well, and I notice that that was in this hour.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes, it is. There is no hour, as far as I understand. Members can take as long as they want out of the period allocated for all my portfolios, for any one of them, if they want.

**The CHAIR:** Can we go on? You did go for six and a half minutes then, minister.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Sorry; I am passionate about that particular matter!

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** I refer the minister to page 205 of budget paper No 2, volume 1. Under the heading “Defence”, there are three paragraphs that cover Defence West, the proposal to the commonwealth government and the Defence Science Centre. I outline my line of questioning in that space. The first one is: can I request, please, that the minister provide some supplementary information on how the \$29.969 million for Defence West will be spent in 2020–21?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I have already given an indication of where the funding is going.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** It is just so that I can go back through it. We just want to see the actual breakdown.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** What specifically does the member want?

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** The breakdown showing how the \$29.969 million is going to be spent is not in the budget, so all I am asking for is some supplementary information that can show us how that is going to be spent.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The \$29 million or so that the member is referring to is the first tranche of the \$84 million that will be spent over the two years on delivering an expansion and upgrades to AMC wharf 1, the planning for a finger wharf in the event that the full-cycle docking task is moved to WA, the hardening of the transfer pathway to the Cimec shed, the three road intersection upgrades and a shed in the northern facility in the northern part of the AMC. That is where the money is going.

[9.30 am]

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** All we are asking for is a budget breakdown of what the minister just said.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** What does the member mean—how much is allocated to each task?

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** We just want something like line items so we can see how that \$29.6 million is allocated—that is all.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** It is just to provide supplementary information.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** We are just asking for supplementary information.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I know what the member is asking, but I am not sure that it is a reasonable request. The \$84 million is allocated —

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** All the minister has to say is yes or no.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Does the member want me to say no? I am trying to explain why I am —

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** No, I want to minister to say yes.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** All we are asking is for the minister to provide the supplementary information.

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**The CHAIR:** Members, enough already!

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The \$84 million is associated with those individual tasks. Work has been done to identify the potential costs associated with each of those tasks. They are essentially the shovel-ready projects identified under the Defence West portfolio in the event that we needed, or had the opportunity, to pursue bringing forward infrastructure as part of the recovery plan, and that is what we did. With individual components —

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Chair, can we ask if we can get that provided by line item?

**The CHAIR:** You can ask, but he does not have to give it.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No, I will just complete my answer to the question. These are going to be refined, as more work is being done. There is detailed planning with respect to things such as environmental, geosurveys and the like.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** I do appreciate the minister trying to help me today, but all I have asked for is—

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** If the member stops talking, I will give him the answer to what I think he is after.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** I do not want the minister to give me the answer. I just want him to agree or not to provide supplementary information.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** AMC 1 —

**The CHAIR:** Members! One at a time.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No. I am not going to; I am going to read it out now.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** So you are not going to provide supplementary information?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The design of the AMC wharf extension and the new finger wharf collectively are \$45.2 million. The AMC common user facility vessel transfer path is \$5 million.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** Can the minister table that document, please?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No, I am reading them to the member. AMC intersection upgrades at three road junctions is \$3.8 million. These are notes for me. The construction of the new shipbuilding facility at the northern harbour is \$30 million.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** Minister, we need some transparency out of this \$29.9 million.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** So the member was not listening, was he?

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** I was listening.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No, the member was not listening.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** I can go back through *Hansard* and look at it.

**The CHAIR:** Member for Churchlands, the minister has the floor. You asked your question. Let the minister answer. Then, you will have another chance, and then you will have another chance and then we can do that for the whole hour if that is what you want to do.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** And I have specifically —

**The CHAIR:** Minister! All right. Everyone just take a deep breath and start again. Minister, if you want to go through that list —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Again?

**The CHAIR:** —and put it on *Hansard*, so it is on record.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I have said it on *Hansard*.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** Point of order, Chair. All I have asked for is supplementary information, and if he is not prepared to give it, that is the answer.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No, I am not going to give the member supplementary information, because I have read to the member where the allocations are. The AMC 1 wharf extension and design of the new finger wharf are \$45.2 million, AMC common user facility vessel transfer path is \$5 million, AMC intersection upgrades at the three road junctions is \$3.8 million and construction of the new shipbuilding facility in the northern harbour is \$30 million.

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** None of that adds up to \$29.969 million, so we are asking the minister for a breakdown as a supplementary.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** As I indicated, member, those tasks are part of our commitment over the next two years. The work will be done over the next two years. Not all of it is in this financial year, but each of those tasks are costed at those amounts that I told the member.

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** I refer to the same section we were referring to where it says “Defence Science Centre”. I note there were no grants or subsidies allocated to the Defence Science Centre in the 2019–20 budget, but then there ended up being \$691 000 spent and there was an 80.9 per cent increase in the 2020–21 budget to \$1.25 million. Why was that the case?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** As the member has to understand, under his government there was not any advocacy for defence—there was not any support for anything, let alone defence research. All of this is new. We created the Defence Science Centre. We argued with the federal government to commit for the first time in history to a Defence Science and Technology Group executive to Western Australia. The most senior person in Australia under the member’s government from the Defence Science and Technology Group was a torpedo technician at Stirling. We now have a senior executive. That enables to get inside opportunities for DSTG spend and look for opportunities for Western Australian industry and researchers. As it ramps up its capacity, it will give out more money. The grants schemes are regularly determined by the Defence Science Centre. I do not have any role in that. Thanks to our advocacy, there is a contribution from the federal government towards this outcome. The Defence Science Centre is funded about two-thirds by the state and one-third by the federal government. It is a regular process. There is an independent panel that determines where the grants go, and research is undertaken as available. So far, over \$1.7 million in funding has been awarded to local defence research community by the DSC. It has enabled 75 bespoke connections with industry, academia and defence, and this is really the first year that we have been in operation, so it is not surprising that we will ramp up over time.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** I refer to cash assets for the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation on page 203 of the *Budget Statements*. Is the total appropriation line —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Sorry, which line?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** The main budget.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Which line?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** I am about to say it. It is the total appropriations line near the bottom of that table. In 2020–21, we have quite a massive increase there. We have obviously discovered where the \$29 million is going, but can the minister break it down for us, because this is obviously going across all the portfolios. If the minister cannot do it now, can he provide supplementary information, because we do need transparency in estimates? We want the breakdown of this money that goes towards Tourism WA, Small Business Development Corporation, jobs, science and the different departments, because this is one lump sum that is going into the jobs, tourism, science and innovation department.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The member is asking the wrong minister. Questions about global budget matters for the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation should be addressed to the responsible minister.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Can I ask the minister, out of that budget of \$272.384 million —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** If the member is asking about defence right now, I can tell her —

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** No, we are not; we are talking about tourism, science —

**The CHAIR:** Just ask the question.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I am not answering, because this is defence.

**The CHAIR:** Just listen to the question.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** The minister is also the Minister for Tourism.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** This the defence division. If the member wants ask about tourism, she can ask that in the division about tourism.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** This is in the division of defence. There is a budget here —

**The CHAIR:** Okay, can we stop the argument across the table. Minister, just so that you are clear, just because you have defence at the table, this is actually the whole —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Chair —

**The CHAIR:** Just listen, minister, that would be good. This division is services 3, 5 and 7—defence issues and tourism.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Chair, I am not going to answer. Right now, we are doing defence. I have my advisers for defence. We are answering any question members want about defence. I am not going to talk about tourism until I have my advisers here and we are talking about tourism. As I indicated earlier —

**The CHAIR:** Minister, you are talking to me, and I will direct you that this is the division—

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** You can ask me all you want. I am not going to answer.

**Extract from Hansard**

[ASSEMBLY ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B — Tuesday, 20 October 2020]

p91c-120a

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**The CHAIR:** Minister, I am not asking you, I am telling you that the division here you have before you, the way we are doing it and the way the division goes is that you can have your advisers —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Chair.

**The CHAIR:** Minister, this is not for debate —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Actually, it is. No, Chair, understand this. At the outset before we started —

Several members interjected.

**The CHAIR:** No, no, this is not for debate.

Several members interjected.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Actually, it is. Understand this: at the outset, before we started, we talked about who was going to be sitting and what we were going to do. We were going to start with defence and then we were going to go to tourism.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Bullying the Chair—are you directing the Chair during estimates?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I am not going to talk about tourism, unless you want to stop talking about defence and move to tourism.

**The CHAIR:** Minister, the question is simply about how your division of science, innovation, defence issues and tourism is divided up. You should be able to take the member to the budget areas.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I am sorry. I am the defence issues minister right now. We are talking about the defence issues portfolio and its allocation.

[9.40 am]

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Point of order, Madam Chair. I think that perhaps we should be taking a break and work this out.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I think you need to reflect on what we agreed at the start.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** It is quite embarrassing seeing two members of the same party fighting.

**The CHAIR:** No. You agreed with them. All I am telling you is what the division is.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** This is a normal practice for conduct of estimates.

**The CHAIR:** Do not argue with me, minister. It is not —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It is not an argument.

**The CHAIR:** I am taking advice from the Clerk.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The Clerk needs to think about what we said at the outset.

**The CHAIR:** Minister!

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** This is outrageous disrespect. This is outrageous!

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Are you bullying the Clerk now?

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** The Chair is chairing the meeting.

**The CHAIR:** Okay, we are going to suspend for five minutes.

Several members interjected.

**The CHAIR:** Stop it now. Please, just all calm down.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Do we get our five minutes back?

**The CHAIR:** Yes. A five-minute break.

*Meeting suspended from 9.41 to 9.42 am*

**The CHAIR:** The Clerk's advice is that because you guys agreed to do defence, we can do defence. But the line item here that we are looking at, minister, is together, and, so the question was simply about science and tourism and budget stuff. If you wanted to —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I was explaining —

**The CHAIR:** Yes. I just want to move on. Really, honestly. I do not want to get into an argument.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Point of order—just for clarification. We did ask that question earlier and I was under the assumption that we could ask anything under division 15 that covered his portfolio area.

**Extract from Hansard**

[ASSEMBLY ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B — Tuesday, 20 October 2020]

p91c-120a

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**The CHAIR:** No. Member for North West Central, the minister came to the table and said, “Let’s do defence first,” and you guys said yes. I think there has been a misunderstanding of how the minister wants to proceed. He just wants to do defence, send his people back and have other people come forward.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I do not want to waste people’s time.

**The CHAIR:** Shall we just do tourism? Shall we just move on to tourism?

**Ms A. HAYDEN:** No, because I have not actually finished asking my question.

**The CHAIR:** Okay, ask your question, member for Darling Range.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** My question, if it was listened to in whole, was: of the total appropriation, if the defence budget comes out, can the minister actually list how much of that appropriation is by department? If the minister only wants to do defence now, do defence now. Then I will ask tourism in tourism and I will ask small business in small business. But can the minister please advise, of that total appropriation, the \$272.734 million, how much of that is the defence budget?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** As I stated earlier, the 2019–20 allocation is \$3.831 million and the 2020–21 allocation is \$21.969 million.

**Ms A. HAYDEN:** Thank you very much, minister.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It has been on the record for about an hour.

**Ms A. HAYDEN:** I am asking because I want to know the breakdown of that figure there.

**The CHAIR:** All right.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I have already given that.

**Ms A. HAYDEN:** I thought the minister would give the rest of his portfolio, but he will not.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No, I will not.

**The CHAIR:** Okay. Let us move on!

**Mr S.K. L’ESTRANGE:** I have a supplementary.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** We are going to do what we have done in every other budget estimates in history and go one at a time.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** I asked for clarification, and the minister said to ask anything in the next four hours.

**The CHAIR:** Member for Churchlands.

**Mr S.K. L’ESTRANGE:** Yes. Following on from the member for Darling Range’s question, can the minister provide through supplementary information a breakdown of that \$272.384 million so we actually know how it is being allocated?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No, because I am not the responsible minister.

**The CHAIR:** The member for Churchlands has to ask the responsible minister that.

**Ms A. HAYDEN:** Can we move to tourism, please?

**The CHAIR:** Let us move to tourism.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Is that what we are doing?

**The CHAIR:** Yes. We are moving to tourism.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Good.

**The CHAIR:** Thank you, defence.

Several members interjected.

[Witnesses introduced.]

**The CHAIR:** Member for Darling Range.

**Ms A. HAYDEN:** On page 203 of budget paper No 2, volume 1—we have not moved from where we were before—is the total appropriation of \$272.384 million. How much of that is allocated to Tourism WA?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It is \$113 million.

**Ms A. HAYDEN:** Is the minister able to provide a breakdown of that \$113 million?

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Destination marketing is allocated \$68.864 million; event tourism —

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Sorry, if the minister is not going to table it, can he read it slowly so that I can write it down.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Destination marketing is \$68.864 million, event tourism is \$28.555 million, and tourism destination development is \$15.834 million. That is a total of \$113 253 000.

**Ms A. HAYDEN:** Thank you very much, minister. I just refer to the last line item on page 205, paragraph 11, “Tourism”. It states —

Western Australia’s tourism industry recorded its highest visitor numbers and a record \$11 billion spend in 2019. The industry supported more than 100,000 jobs.

Can I just ask where we are sitting now? That is actually reporting back to 2019. We have the *Budget Statements* for 2019–20 and the estimates for 2020–21. Can the minister tell us where we are sitting now with the record \$11 billion spend in WA and the 100 000 jobs that it created?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No, because the numbers to which the member refers are derived from Tourism Research Australia data, which are backward looking. Right now we do not get great visibility of the exact spend and employment. What we do know is that Western Australia has the highest spend—this is actual data as opposed to projections and modelling based on surveys, which is what Tourism Research Australia employs. We know from ANZ card spending data that Western Australians are spending more on food and beverage than any other state. We know that they are spending more on travel than any other state. We know they are spending more on shopping than any other state. We know that Western Australia actually leads the nation despite today’s WA today article on jobs growth. I think in August, a third of all jobs created in Australia were created in Western Australia, and something like 70-plus per cent of jobs lost earlier in the year have returned with a 90 per cent of hours worked. A large component of that growth has been in the hospitality sector. When Tourism Research Australia talk about tourism, they wrap in everybody—cafes, bars, restaurants, everything— which is not necessarily just your tourism operators. We do not have granular knowledge of how many people are currently employed.

**Ms A. HAYDEN:** My question is: of the \$11 billion spend that came into WA on tourism in 2019, what does the minister estimate that spend to be?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I could not tell the member.

**Ms A. HAYDEN:** Is it 50 per cent or 70 per cent?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** As I said, that number is derived from Tourism Research Australia surveys of people undertaking travel in Western Australia, and it is always backwards looking. We will know sometime in the future when they conduct their surveys what their view is as to its projections or modelling of what was spent. It is only a model. I think the data around actual spend by people using their cards is far more accurate, but even then, it does not give me a global picture of what is spent in tourism. It just says in Western Australia, ANZ cardholders are spending more than anyone else in all those categories that I listed.

[9.50 am]

**Ms A HAYDEN:** Just on that—this will be my last question on this item, minister. I just want to ask: there is a recovery plan and I am just trying to understand if we had an \$11 billion spend and 100 000 jobs created from tourism in 2019—we are in a COVID-19 pandemic, and, as we know, a lot of tourism businesses have shut down, a lot of them have reduced staff and a lot of them have no work. What I am asking the minister is to do with the recovery plan, which is in the budget, which we will get to: how will the minister actually work out the recovery plan if he does not know what the loss to tourism has been for the state? It has gone from \$11 billion and 100 000 jobs. It does not take a rocket scientist to know that there has been a drastic drop in that revenue and those jobs. I would like to know where the minister and the department are working on recovery and what their plan is around making sure we get back to that \$11 billion and 100 000 jobs? He would need to know where we are at now, surely.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** A lot of the member’s assumptions were completely inaccurate. There are some tourism businesses that have gone into hibernation by necessity because they were overly reliant on predominantly the international market. When the federal government shut the international borders, that took away 100 per cent of some people’s market.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Which was the right thing to do.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** That is right.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** The minister does not disagree with that.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** That is correct; just in the same way as shutting the interstate border was the right thing to do, that has had an impact on some people. Having said that, the vast majority of actual tourism businesses—I’m not talking about hospitality and accommodation providers because they are —

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**Ms A HAYDEN:** The minister is in here.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Apart from inner-city hotels, I am struggling to find hospitality and accommodation providers anywhere in Western Australia who are not doing really well, and their greatest challenge is people. It is not about whether they have a market or whether there's demand. Everywhere I have travelled since the restrictions were lifted—I have travelled—twice to Kununurra, four times to Broome, to Port Hedland, to Karratha, to Kalbarri, to Geraldton, to Northam, to York, to Kalgoorlie, to Esperance, and across the metropolitan area—I have conducted tourism roundtables in all of those locations with literally hundreds of tourism operators. The challenge now, with the exception of the big city hotels and people in the CBD—the central CBD I am talking about, not the wider metropolitan area, because they are not in that situation—everywhere else and in the wider suburban area is people. That is because they have massive demand. In some cases, in many cases, people are telling me they have more income and more business than they had pre-COVID. The member's assumption with regard to the impact on tourism is not accurate. That aside, there are some people who are confronted with this challenge, where they were skewed towards an overseas market predominantly, not so much the interstate because many of those people have replaced their market with intrastate. We gave \$14.4 million worth of support to hundreds of tourism businesses. The business survival grants were not limited at all. Anyone was open to applications. Between \$15 000 and \$100 000 grants went to hundreds of small businesses, those that were predominantly impacted by the loss of the international market—more than interstate, but interstate market as well. Some of those businesses received \$100 000 to enable them to survive over the predominantly skewed towards seasonal northern regions, rightly, because the vast majority of the businesses south of Exmouth have not actually lost more than a couple of months, and some of them have recouped far more than they lost in that two-month period. If the member is talking about what we are doing—\$150 million dedicated to infrastructure for tourism across the state; \$14.4 million to survival and recovery grants for hundreds of small businesses across the state.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Where does that \$150 million come from?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** In the recovery plan, there is \$150 million dedicated to tourism infrastructure right across the state.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Is that across portfolios?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes. It is right across, but all to tourism infrastructure. A lot of national parks are getting upgrades to facilities and services and walking tracks and the like. Tens of millions of dollars have been allocated to complete the sealing of not only Cape Leveque Road, but also roads to communities to ensure there are tourism opportunities there. There is money towards Aboriginal cultural tourism. It is not really in our portfolio, but we undertook to assist travel agents. We created a \$3 million fund—the only fund in the country dedicated to travel agents.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** That was under a huge amount of pressure.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I am sorry; taxpayers' money being dedicated to supporting small businesses—I would have thought members would celebrate that.

**The CHAIR:** We have been 10 minutes on this question. Member, do you have another question?

**Ms A HAYDEN:** Just clarification. Is the minister confident that in 2020, he is going to hit the \$11 billion spend in WA on tourism and the 100 000 jobs, because that is what he is kind of saying—that there is no change in tourism.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The member for Darling Range must be the only one on the planet who has not noticed we are in a pandemic. It is extraordinary that in a pandemic, Western Australia leads the nation in growth in retail; in growth in creation of jobs; in housing construction; in travel. One of the most—in fact, I am pretty certain that the most profitable route for Qantas anywhere is Perth–Broome right now. I am pretty certain of that, but we will research that and confirm it. Almost every flight between Perth and Broome, and Perth and Exmouth are sold out. We have travel to our regions. Tourism businesses in our regions—accommodation providers, retail, cafes, pubs, restaurants, hotels in our regions—are seeing travel the likes of which has never been seen in Western Australia before in the middle of a pandemic. It is extraordinary. Our biggest challenge is getting people to do the work. I am hopeful that the tapering down of JobSeeker will assist in encouraging people to go out to the regions and take up that opportunity.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** I refer to paragraph 11, “Tourism”, on page 205, that talks about jobs. Does the minister know how many jobs have been taken up in the tourism and hospitality sector with the Work and Wander Out Yonder campaign?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I do not. What I do know is that the last time I had a report on the Work and Wander Out Yonder campaign there were in the order of 154 advertisements the hashtag on Seek, and there had been, I think, in excess of 3 000 applicants. I do not know how many have completed that process and then employed people.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** So the minister is not aware of how the campaign is working for —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No, I do not. The campaign we undertook was in partnership with a couple of online portals. One was Seek; another one was Studium. There are free ones as well. Our contribution from the tourism perspective

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

was marketing, so we got out there and told people to go there. We raised awareness. It obviously worked, because there has been a significant number of applicants. I do not know with regard to, you know, conversion. It is a difficult thing to get a grip on because private enterprise has been out advertising all the time. How much of it was attributed to our campaign as opposed to people just looking for work? I have to say, though, it is the most significant challenge that we confront right now. Because of the high demand, because of the massive demand, particularly in the regions for tourism accommodation services, experiences and the like, trying to get people to be able to support those businesses is the biggest challenge.

[10.00 am]

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** I suppose that there needs to be some sort of understanding how that campaign is working and how that is getting into the Work and Wander Out campaign and how that is impacting on businesses—especially tourism businesses. But for tourism businesses, the minister says that everyone is full or everyone is doing well, that people are travelling around because they have got nowhere else to go. They are travelling, and that is what we want to see. I appreciate all the support that the government has given, but the reality is people travel. People can only travel in Western Australia. But when it comes to our hotels and our small businesses, who are finding it very difficult to attract any workers, the impact that is having is that hotels—so, small businesses, whether a cafe or pub—are having to close their doors because they do not have enough staff to cater for the influx of tourists, and they need to give them a break. Hotel restaurants are only taking orders if someone is a guest. If someone is a visitor, then they are actually prevented from going in and getting a meal. When it comes to hotels, in terms of saying they are full, the evidence that I am receiving is some hotels are only at 40 per cent because they actually have no cleaners to clean the rooms. They have actually no staff to service their guests. What may seem to be full online or ringing up is actually not reality, because they have had to reduce their outfit in concert with the amount of staff they have got.

What is the minister doing to assist our small businesses, our tourism industry, in ensuring that, now that we have missed that opportunity in that the school holidays have gone? We have now the next peak—I am talking about the north west of Western Australia. The next round is probably early next year in, say, March, when it starts to kick up again. What is the minister doing, given the fact that the borders are closed and look like they will remain closed, that essential workers in the small business and tourism industry cannot get across to Western Australia to fill? If someone is a chef, a baker, if they have a job in hospitality, they have to have a go at the G2G Pass five or six times before they may get through. Minister, what are you doing to ease that burden on our tourism industry with the workers that are needed? If a business is able to get a worker, there is no workers' accommodation. So in places like Exmouth, Kalbarri and Shark Bay, it is impossible to get any workers' accommodation, if a business can find someone. So what is the minister doing to assist the tourism industry and those small businesses, particularly in the north west?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I will reflect on what the member started with. I did not say everyone is full. I never said that. I said that the vast majority of businesses that I encounter—I am, you know, pretty comfortable that the vast majority of businesses are now confronting a challenge around, you know, meeting the demand. Very few are in that category of having shut. There are some and most, you know, if they did not apply for the business survival grant, then, you know, it is a difficult thing to determine whether they are shut or not. But the ones that did apply for the business survival grant received funding if they met the criteria. It was a robust process, because it is a significant amount of taxpayers' money.

With respect to what is happening now, I understand what the member is saying, but no-one is opening and not making money. The businesses that the member was talking about that might have, say—I think the member was low-balling the percentage of rooms that might be open. It might be 30 per cent not full, so they might have 70 per cent of their rooms full. For instance, I know Cable Beach Club as an example. It is true that there is a shortage of people to do a lot of these tasks, so they will adjust, rightly; they will do their employee good business practice and they will not exceed their costs. They will not have their costs exceed their returns, so they are only going to operate where they make money. That is happening. With respect to what we are doing, this is a great challenge to have. I would far rather this challenge than the challenge they have in Sydney, for instance, where they are celebrating the fact that they are gradually easing out of —

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** I totally accept that; I think the minister is right in saying that.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** They are easing out of the four square metre rule. Businesses in Sydney are still in the four square metre rule inside. The deceptive vision of Josh Frydenberg outside a cafe in Bondi suggested they were open for business. We know New South Wales is not open for business. They are a drag on the national economy. It would be good if they got the tens of thousands of hospitality workers back to work so that their businesses could start contributing to tax revenues in the same way as Western Australian businesses are for the federal government. Obviously Victoria is in a worse position. Having said that, Victoria seems to be doing incredibly well at tackling the challenge and moving towards being able to open up.

In Western Australia, we are far more open. There are still constraints because of the workforce capacity constraints in a lot of regional areas. With regard to those categories that the member mentioned, particularly chefs, probably

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

a month ago now our office engaged with the emergency coordination manager to ensure that they are recognised for exemption. Part of this is good to get the message out there. When I was in Esperance, for instance, I encountered businesses that did not know that a chef from Victoria could seek an exemption and be granted an exemption to travel from Victoria, do their isolation and come and work, if they were moving to work. They are recognised in the same way as front-of-house staff. We worked with the AHA and advocated with the emergency coordinator and they have recognised that. People should know that they are able to. I know people are now coming to do work and move to Western Australia, in the same way as FIFO were encouraged to move to WA. The same thing has applied to critical occupations in hospitality.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Just further, one last question.

**The CHAIR:** We have been 22 minutes on this question.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** In terms of agriculture workers getting \$40 a day, does the minister see that hospitality or tourism industry small businesses, in terms of a worker, should receive the same sort of financial support to encourage workers to regional WA given that rents have gone through the roof? People are getting more money to rent their houses as Airbnbs than they would on the normal rental market to normally house workers. Will the minister look at having some sort of financial incentive for people to go and work in the hospitality or tourism sector, like what is happening with ag?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No, for a couple of reasons. Firstly, because I do not believe, and you know, frankly it is as onerous a proposition for people to be encouraged to work in a beautiful holiday destination in hospitality as it is to ask them to go and work in the blazing sun, picking up—I do not know, whatever—melons or pineapples in Carnarvon, or whatever the task is in agriculture. That is a different proposition altogether. With respect to the costs, the reality is, right across regional Western Australia, in particular right now, the market, supply and demand, dictates that people are valuable. I have met and I have encountered many, many businesses now who are looking at adopting practices which will make them attractive to employees. So they are seeking out accommodation, providing it as a component of what they are offering people to move. That is by necessity because it is a competitive marketplace now.

In Western Australia, labour is going to be a valuable commodity. People are valuable and employers will have to meet the market. But I do not think—you know, it is kind of interesting because agrarian socialist policy is that we should be upping our support in terms of government assistance to get people to work is an interesting proposition to pursue. I think generally it is not as difficult or as onerous a proposition, so that is a big one, and we do not want to undermine the agricultural effort. It is essential because there is time sensitivity around crops wasting in the event that we do not get workers.

Finally, one observation the member made at the end about seasonality, I have got to tell the member that I was in Broome on Friday, I was in Exmouth about three weeks ago—I do not actually think there are going to be seasons like they were in the past.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** That is okay with Exmouth and Broome, but what about all the other regional towns?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Well, no. That is also Kalbarri and Geraldton and all of the other destinations that I have been to seasonality is a thing, not this year; it is not going to be something that we experience in terms of the normal practice.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** That is why it is imperative that you fix the workers' accommodation problem.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Sure, yes; but it is a great problem to have, is it not? I would far prefer this problem.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Yes, but the challenge of the government is to work on these issues.

[10.10 am]

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** We are working on it. We are continuing to defend Western Australia's community transmission-free status that enables all these destinations to be attractive and enables Western Australians to travel, have the security of jobs and employment, and have disposable incomes to support businesses like those in the tourism sector.

**Mr M. HUGHES:** I refer to page 204, and again it is on the tourism recovery program. The minister has made a lot of mention of the inevitable consequence of COVID-19 and the way in which that has impacted on tourism and has resulted in an enhanced internal tourism market, if I can make that point. I am interested with respect to the metropolitan area whether there is any prospect, as we consider a different way forward, of a different strategy about tourism in the state that would give some consideration to really separating out what is termed Destination Perth, so we can be looking at, for example, "Destination Hills"? I am particularly concerned about the way in which perhaps the peri-urban fringe of the metropolitan area, which is a really delightful destination for visitors, is probably under-marketed. Can the minister comment on that?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes, I know the member for Kalamunda is a great advocate for the hills, and it is a brilliant, beautiful destination, which is, I must say, benefiting a lot from our environment at the moment, whereby a vast

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

number of Western Australians are seeking out day trip destinations in numbers like they have never done before. I would say we are not going to break down the regional tourism organisations. They were arrived at through a process that the previous government oversaw over a long period of time. It was determined that you get more effective outcomes through a smaller number of RTOs. They do seek out opportunities to advance the interests of destinations within their RTO, and they provide the material to Tourism WA to market to the world, both interstate and international, normally; but we are also doing it intrastate at the moment. But a lot of effort, a lot of work was done on determining arriving at the RTOs that we have. They do a good job.

I think it is a difficult one with Destination Perth because in terms of numbers of individual operators and local destinations it is a big proportion of our tourism operators in the state. They can always do more and we can do it better. I am hopeful that in due course—we are trying to bring collaboration about so that there is not duplication of effort, so I do not want to encourage fragmentation in terms of spend. I want alignment with what Tourism WA would normally do, in terms of overseas and interstate marketing by the RTOs to do their intrastate marketing, but also to feed into those practices around selling to the world and interstate. But also I would like collaboration rather than fragmentation amongst local governments, for instance, who might try and replicate a role that they will never be able to match Tourism WA's budget or effort, and all they will do is potentially waste their own ratepayers' money. So we would encourage more of what has been happening, where, yes, there are strategies and plans and effort at the local level, but it is coordinated with Destination Perth and, through them, Tourism WA. I would never encourage breaking it down smaller where we can avoid it.

**Mr M. HUGHES:** We think a greater level of nuance is needed.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes, I agree, and I understand what the member is saying. But I saw some indications that Destination Perth is working with subregional actors, like the Perth hills, to ensure that they get more of this market that we currently have; so it is an opportunity. With respect to what is happening at the moment right around the state, when I talk to tourism operators and RTOs, I say our primary objective must be to retain some of this market when we go back to some degree of normalcy. So when the borders, wherever they are, come down, you want to retain some of this WA market, which is exceptional. Even if we retain 10 per cent of it, we would have grown our market by a significant amount.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** The minister mentioned the RTOs—regional tourism organisations. What funding is given to those organisations currently? I think there are five RTOs.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** They all get the same, annually of about \$700 000.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** So that budget has not changed over the years, particularly now more than ever, where each region needs to market themselves? So there has been no change or increase in funds?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No. With respect to right now, actually they are getting more support. Normally Tourism WA does not market to Western Australians to holiday in WA. Our entire agency, which normally sells to the world, internationally and interstate, is now focused on the states. Actually an argument could be made that they do not really need it. We could say that it could be diminished or reduced. I would never do that. But we could say that we could reduce their budget because this agency, which has far more capacity than any of the RTOs, is now focused on selling to Western Australians.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Minister, also in regards to the RTOs, I want to put on the record the fantastic work they have done during the pandemic.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** That is true.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** These guys were on the ground. I know that they were feeding the information through to Tourism WA. I think they have done an outstanding job in connecting also with local governments. It is sad to see that some local governments did not take up their fantastic proposals to buy in and market their area; I wish every local government had done that. I would like to see, however, the \$700 000, which has been the ongoing funding for the RTOs that, you know, consideration be given to them getting additional extra funding because they have proven themselves during COVID-19. They have proven the relationships that they have built on the ground have been vital to tourism operators across WA surviving through COVID-19 and have been able to pivot our marketing. It is disappointing that the minister has said that they are continuing their funding over \$700 000. Is there any room for improvement for these guys to get more people on the ground, to actually go out there and educate our tourism operators and our local governments on the importance of engaging with their RTO and then with Tourism WA?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** As I said, right now the whole of Tourism Western Australia is focused on intrastate marketing, so RTOs are getting massive additional effort to address their normal objectives. I endorse the member's observations about RTOs. They did a great job, but Tourism WA, from the moment COVID confronted us, the crisis emerged, initially, threw all of their resources, in the same way that happened across state government. Every resource went

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

into supporting industry right then. So we had a dedicated team who rang personally tourism operators right across the state to sympathise, empathise and provide advice. We created a call centre in the Small Business Development Corporation to provide small business advice about what support and services were available, and the mentoring and support that they normally do was provided in a COVID context. All of that then transitioned into support and sustainment as we emerged from COVID. A lot of work was done by Tourism WA virtually. They get greater reach doing that than an individual on the ground trying to drive around an entire region like the north west, for instance, or the golden outback. There is more reach in terms of individual businesses out of those sorts of fora than out of individual efforts on the ground. Having said that, the RTOs did provide and continue to provide great support. I think they are working more collaboratively and effectively than ever before. With respect to their budget, it is an annual process, that Tourism WA will always look towards proposing a budget to government based on where perceived need is and where the best outcomes for taxpayers' money can be achieved.

[10.20 am]

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** On page 204 of budget paper No 2, volume 1, under the item "Regional Aviation Recovery", is \$15 million.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Can the minister provide a breakdown on that \$15 million, and on where that \$15 million is going and what effect that is having on regional aviation?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** For the first \$6 million, the member would recall very early on after restrictions were lifted, in recognition of the vulnerability of particularly the East Kimberley, but also the Kimberley generally, we did an 8 000 affordable flights package deal into Broome and Kununurra. So 2 300 of those went into Kununurra and the remainder went into Broome. They were both with Virgin, because the intention was to try and pressure Qantas to match that in Broome. That was effective. Those seats sold in less than a week. They had the greatest number of sales into Kununurra in a 24-hour period that they have ever witnessed.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** How much did the government put in?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** That was \$6 million. Subsequently, there was a \$9 million deal that we announced recently for 50 000 affordable flight seats into Exmouth, Broome and Kununurra. One deal was with Qantas—I do not think we have the authority; I do not think, commercially, we can tell the member the breakdown of where that money went. But with that \$9 million, I can tell the member that it is 18 000 seats into Exmouth with Qantas. That deal was done with Qantas, independent of each other, so we do not talk too much about the breakdown internally. And 20 000 seats into Broome and 13 000 to Kununurra. They have been announced. The Exmouth and Broome seats available from November go through until end of October next year, spread over that time—a certain number of seats per flight at that price. Again, the ones into Broome, we would hope that Qantas will end up matching as we get a greater return than we would might otherwise. With Kununurra, you know, when we went up there—immediately post the restrictions, we did a round table with a large number of industry representatives and local government and other players—business players—in the region. Mike McConachy, who you are probably familiar with, did a really good job. They got them all together before and they said, what do we want out of government? They asked us for one thing, and that was certainty around affordable flights for next season, as soon as possible so that they could market them, and that is what we did. So they are getting 13 000. They already got the 2 300, which were sold for this season. They have got the 13 000 affordable seats for next season now, and they will be able to market them right now, so we are assisting them with the thing that they requested of us.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Minister, what is the cost breakdown for Exmouth, Broome and Kununurra?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No, I will not —

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** How much are those football flights to those regional areas?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Do you mean the cost per seat?

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Yes

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Okay; sorry. In the low season for Exmouth it is \$149 one way. All of these are available both ways, so the locals can get them coming the other way, because we would like them to come down and fill our hotels in the city, but also if you are returning, obviously, you can get them, if you can —

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** So what is a low-season seat?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It is \$149 one way from Perth to Exmouth in the low season. We did put it out in a media release. I am sorry, I will get it for the member. The low season may not exist this year, but in their normal low season, they are \$169. Their peak, from memory, is around March or April.

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**The CHAIR:** Do you want to do it as a supplementary?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I do not need to; it is in the public domain. I can give it to the member personally. It is just a media release.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** We would all like it.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It is in the public domain; we put out a media release. Going through a supplementary is kind of just onerous for these guys and not necessary.

The Broome one is for 12 months, and people have to book 21 days in advance. The Exmouth one has to be booked in advance as well with Qantas or a travel agent. Broome is with Virgin and is booked 21 days in advance and is \$199 one way all year round. For Kununurra, it is during their season, which is from 29 March to 30 September, and is \$249 one way, booking 21 days in advance. I actually have those months the member asked for earlier, by the way; sorry. So, the Perth–Exmouth one for \$149 is for 12 months and applies during low season from 4 November 2020 to 27 March next year, and is booked 30 days in advance. The high season is from 28 March to 30 October, and people who book 45 days in advance get that for \$169.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** In terms of other destinations that need assistance as well—for example, Monkey Mia, being Shark Bay, and Carnarvon—why were destinations like Paraburdoo and people going to Karijini as well as Karratha overlooked and a subsidy not provided to reduce the cost of flights, which are in the order of \$750 to \$1 000-plus one way to go to Karratha or Paraburdoo, and even Carnarvon, if people did not book prior to the 24 hours to get a cheap flight?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Esperance, Albany, Monkey Mia and Carnarvon already have a deal with Rex that has been agreed to by Transport—so a different minister and a different funding package. They already have affordable flights to all those destinations. Despite that last observation, it is the same as these other destinations; people have to book in advance to get these deals. But the beauty of the Rex ones to those destinations is that the last 24 hours provide more flexibility than any of the other airline deals that we have got, where for that last 24 hours, any available seats go on it at the affordable price. So if you want certainty about your flight, obviously, you book it in advance and you will get the deal to all those destinations far lower than what you said. I think it is \$169 to most of those places, but, you know, they are unchanged. Minister Saffioti ensured that they were supported. Now, what we have announced as a government, as part of the recovery plan, is a wider regional aviation package, which has additional funding which is not in our portfolio, and work is being done right now by Minister Saffioti to achieve some other destinations getting more affordable flights. Nevertheless, you know there are community fares available to most of those towns you talked about available for those people that reside there.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** But not currently.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes, the community fares are available.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Not currently.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** To which towns are you talking about?

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Paraburdoo and Karratha.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The Qantas community fares, are you saying they are not available?

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** From my understanding, the flights are not there at the moment.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** All right. Are you are talking about the seat sale?

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** So they are still paying up to \$1 000-plus.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Qantas has undertaken that they still provide the community fare availability, whether the aircraft are full. The RPT flights are not my responsibility, but also Minister Saffioti is working on the regional aviation —

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** But from your portfolio, you are not going to provide a subsidy to reduce flights to other destinations?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Well, what we have done is focus very much on some sensitive locations for the greatest demand tourism destinations. The Minister for Transport is doing other regional aviation deals to assist other parts of the state.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Further to that one, if I may? Can you just advise the subsidy that you are providing for those airlines at all and why you have chosen Virgin for Broome and not Qantas, and Qantas for other destinations?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** So, member, it is not right. I would not obviously disclose commercially sensitive information because we are in negotiations with different airlines and you do not telegraph your capacity and your limitations with respect to what you are trying to achieve in doing deals. Tourism WA is very good at negotiating these packages. It is a different environment from what we were in before. The pandemic has meant that we would do things, in

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

terms of underwriting some costs, to get outcomes that we would not have done in the past. That aside, the obvious reason for us doing Virgin in Broome was to leverage that taxpayer investment to encourage Qantas and market forces to come into play and Qantas to match them, which happened with the 8 000 seats, or the part of that that went into Broome where Qantas met the market, by necessity, and so you get a greater return for the taxpayer. Doing it with one airline meant the other one matched it. That is the beauty with Broome; there are two airlines going into there. It is a very attractive market for the airlines in this world, right now. I am fairly certain that the last time we heard, that was the most profitable route anywhere on the planet for Qantas.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Another question. I think I was first.

[10.30 am]

**The CHAIR:** Another question. No, I have got —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Sorry, can I just say that it was one of the most profitable.

**The CHAIR:** Member for Swan Hills, and then you are next.

**Ms J.J. SHAW:** Thank you, Chair. Minister, as the chair of the regional airfares committee inquiry, I found that conversation very interesting, and can I just congratulate the government on its responsiveness to the findings and recommendations of that report and its ongoing efforts to promote regional airfares. However, my question is on —

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** Preamble.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Excellent preamble.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** That is the evidence that was given.

**Ms J.J. SHAW:** It would be allowed.

**The CHAIR:** Let us not descend into anarchy again.

**Ms J.J. SHAW:** I try to avoid being an anarchist whenever possible.

I refer to event tourism in budget paper No 2, volume 1 on page 213 and note 1 under “Explanation of Significant Movements”, which mentions lower events expenditure from cancelled or postponed events as a result of COVID-19. I am aware that the regional events scheme is an important funding source for many regional event holders. Has the scheme been impacted at all?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Thanks, member. Obviously, the COVID pandemic resulted in the cancellation of some pretty significant events, and as a consequence, a lower spend. But with regional events, from the regional events scheme and the regional events program, no, there has not been an impact. In fact, this year, we expanded the regional events scheme to ensure that every applicant received funding—an additional 77 events, I think. So we increased funding to ensure that there were no events that were not funded, and we ended up getting more. We also enabled flexibility around the use of the funds that we had already allocated so that any regional events scheme funded event did not have to return the funding to Tourism WA. We enabled them to use it to either cover costs that they had already incurred or roll it over for another event later in the calendar year, or potentially roll it into the next year's event to make it a bigger one.

**The CHAIR:** Thank you. Further to that question, member for Darling Range.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Further to that question. Just following on from event tourism, in the line item on page 208, under 2019–20, we have got a drop in 2019–20 of \$8.821 million, and then another drop of —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Sorry, which page?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** So page 208.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes, and which part of page 208?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** With events tourism.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** So in the table, it is service summary table 6?

**Ms J.J. SHAW:** In the table—so the sixth dot point—if you compare them to last year's budget, which I note is not on here, but I know the thing, and I am sure your advisers do as well, there is a drop in 2019–20 from \$38.419 million to \$29.598 million. Then in 2020–21 it drops by \$10.965 million. So you have just said you had an increase in event funding. Can you just advise where that money has gone? There is \$8.8 million in 2019–20 and \$10.965 million in 2020–21, which is a difference between last year's budget and this year's.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Sorry, are you talking about the service summary table?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Yes, I am.

**Extract from Hansard**

[ASSEMBLY ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B — Tuesday, 20 October 2020]

p91c-120a

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** And you are talking about event tourism?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** That is correct, and there is a drop.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes, but you are talking about the column 2019–20 actual. Is that what you are talking about?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Yes. The actual is actually less than what was estimated in the last budget and the actual—what your estimated —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** And the budget estimate for this coming —

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** For the budget last year it is \$8.82 million less than what you had allocated for last year in the budget.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** And for 2020–21, it is less by \$10.965 million from what you had allocated.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The 2020–21 forward estimate you are talking about is \$44.488 million.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** I am talking about the 2020–21 budget estimate.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** That is the budget estimate.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Yes.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** What are you actually saying?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** I am asking you about 2019–20.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It is lower because there has been a pandemic and we did not spend money on events.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** In 2019–20 —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** That is why.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** So where did that money go—the \$8.8 million?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** We did not spend it on events, so that is why the spend is lower.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** So where did that money go? There is a saving, obviously.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It is consolidated. Sorry, no. Mostly, it went back into consolidated revenue if it was not spent, obviously, or it was retained in the budget for tourism. There was unspent money that was re-cashflowed—is that what they call it?—for future budgets. You would know that the \$14.4 million for the recovery and business survival grants program came from the unspent or unallocated marketing budget, but I am told there is a little bit of events money in there as well.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** So some of that went to events or marketing?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No, it came from there and went into the recovery grants program. Obviously, some of the international marketing money was not employed because, with COVID, it stopped everything, so any of the international marketing funding that had not yet been allocated is where most of that money came from. I am told also that it is a small amount from unspent events money for that year.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Sorry, just to get clarification, of that \$8.8 million saved in 2019–20, you are saying that a high percentage went back into consolidated revenue and for cash flow, but that there is some that went to marketing?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No. The money that was spent was spent in the budget, but the unspent funds would have either been re-cashflowed in tourism or consolidated, so the drop is explained by the fact that we do not have events that we had planned to have. We had some major events that were in the bag that did not happen because of COVID, so we did not spend the money. You do not spend the money to get them when you cannot get them.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Are you able to provide a breakdown for 2019–20 and 2020–21 the amount of the tourism budget that has actually been repurposed into other areas in your tourism portfolio and what has gone to consolidated revenue?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes. The \$14.4 million represents some of that money. You are talking about a paperwork exercise; it is still there in the budget for next year as part of being re-cashflowed, so there is no element that was —

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** I suppose what I am trying to ask is: out of the 2019–20 budget for tourism, you have indicated that some of that money has been put back into consolidated revenue, and I am trying to get a handle —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Okay, so I am informed that it is redirected—I am assuming that is the grants and the like—so of the \$17 million in the 2019–20 budget \$7 million was re-cashflowed for 2020–21.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Sorry, \$17 million has been redirected from 2019–20?

**Extract from Hansard**

[ASSEMBLY ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B — Tuesday, 20 October 2020]

p91c-120a

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** That is the money that is used for those grants and the like.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** So \$10 million of that has gone back into the other stuff?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** We ran campaigns, but we were not planning to run an intrastate tourism campaign, for instance; things have happened.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** No, I understand. We are just trying to get a handle on what has been done, because it is very difficult to read the budget.

[10.40 am]

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I understand. That \$17 million is redirected and used for other purposes.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Within tourism?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes. The vast majority of that was the \$14.4 million, but the amount re-cashflowed towards next year is \$7 million.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** So \$7 million of unspent money in this financial year has been moved across?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** So the re-cashflow of the \$7 million went back into consolidated revenue or back into Tourism WA?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No, it went back into the forward estimates for Tourism WA.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Okay. I was trying to understand that. So when I go back to the \$14.4 million, that was for the recovery and the survival grants. That was not new funding; that was just money that was not allocated already within the budget?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** New question, minister. Going to page 204, in the line item “International Marketing and Aviation Development”, towards the bottom, there is a negative. Money has been taken out of that line item across this year and the forward estimates. Can you explain where that money has been reallocated?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** We do not need international marketing money when there are no international flights. We have removed that allocation. Essentially, it is acknowledging that there are no international flights and that we do not need to do international marketing. What was the line item—“Marketing and Aviation Development”? What I can say is that we are doing work on anticipating when international aviation returns. We have plans underway to ensure that in the event that international aviation returns and there is a requirement for international aviation funding, it will be provided, but we are not putting it in Tourism WA’s budget to sit around as a notional bucket of money that is not employed until it is required.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Further to that, where has that money been reallocated to? But following on from what you have just said, there is no money now until, really, 2024 in these estimates, because you have taken it all out, so you are not anticipating going out to the international market until 2024?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No, that is not what we are saying. We are saying that we are not allocating money to a budget for a task that we do not yet know whether it will be required, because that would be unnecessary and not really achieve any purpose. In the event that international aviation recommences, we are maintaining our contact with all the airlines. We did a lot of work—more than ever before—to ensure new direct aviation links to key regional markets like the seven-day-a-week ANA flights from Tokyo, the trial from Shanghai and a lot of work that was done on India to try to get flights. We were about to commence one from the Philippines and we were looking at Vietnam. All that work on those connections and relationship developments with aviation is continuing. We have officers representing us in the regions, and our Tourism WA representatives are maintaining those connections. I am doing that as well with the senior executives that we need to ensure that we are still communicating with. In the event that international aviation returns, we will fund the budget then. The requirement will be funded then, but we are not going to give money to Tourism WA in the budget in advance of that requirement because it is not really needed.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Just repeating my first question: where has that money been reallocated?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It has not been reallocated; it has just been removed from Tourism WA’s budget. There is a budget line item that we do not require anymore because we are not doing international aviation right now. This does not mean that we anticipated that we will not; it just means it is a bit of an unpredictable world. No-one knows when international aviation will return, to which places it might return and with what airlines. All those unknowns dictate that there is no point having that line item. We know that we have capacity to re-fund aviation development when it is required.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Just one last one on this one. Does that mean that Tourism WA has had a cut in its budget?

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No. In fact, it is the biggest budget in history for Tourism WA. Over the forward estimates, we are far exceeding our undertaking to give \$85 million a year over five years. I think this year it has been \$113 million or something; in all the forward estimates, it is over \$90 million. Undeniably, this government has contributed more towards funding tourism than any government in history. But, that aside, in the event that international aviation returns, we will put more money into it.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** I refer the minister to the line item “Brand WA Launch and Campaign” under the heading “COVID-19 WA Recovery Plan” on page 204 of budget paper No 2, volume 1. There is \$2 million over 2019–20 and 2020–21. Can you provide an explanation around that?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It is not mine.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** It is not yours?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No. This is not the Tourism WA brand; this is Brand WA, which is under the Premier.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Okay. I will go to another question on the same page, 204, under the line item “Hospitality and Tourism COVID-19 Hygiene Training”. Is that under you?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** You have \$890 000 in 2019–20, and \$890 000 in 2020–21. Are there videos on the hygiene training for businesses to watch?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** We have come so far in such a short period of time that it is almost difficult to comprehend what was happening when this program was developed. Way back when we were in tight restrictions, having no service from hospitality other than takeaway in that time, and at the point where we did not yet know how long it would be before we could start lifting restrictions, the Australian Hotels Association proposed to us that they develop a package to prepare the industry for reopening. So that was done. It is a certification; it is an online course to complete. It was designed to be rapid, to be available to as many people as we could possibly make it available to in the hospitality sector, and was intended to achieve the dual outcomes of both certifying that hospitality venues were preparing and prepared for emerging from restrictions, and also conveying to the workforce that there was reason for hope, and to the public community and the wider market that there was reason for confidence that it would be safe when we did open.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** So there is a video?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No, is it an online course.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** So in that online course, who gave the message? Was it the Premier who featured in that message?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Not that I know of. It was a package delivered by the AHA.

[10.50 am]

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** My understanding is that as part of the funding of \$1.78 million, there was a message from the Premier. Do you think that that was a political ploy, wasting \$1.78 million on advertising to the hospitality sector with a message from the Premier?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** So, actually, what happened in the package was we were a nation-leading, if not world-leading, initiative getting out there, whilst the rest of the world and all of Australia were contemplating the dire circumstances they were confronting in hospitality and handing out the means of sustaining people, we were developing a course to train our workforce and market to the community that it was safe to go back to supporting the hospitality sector. The last time that I looked, or that it was reported to me, over 150 000 Western Australians had conducted that training. That was way in excess of the number contracted, when the intention —

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** My question was: was the Premier featured on that video, on the online—

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I have no idea. I do not think so; I do not know.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** So the minister is not aware of what is on that course?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** When I did the training, I did not see the Premier, and I did it in the early days when the thing was first rolled out, so I do not know what you are looking at and I do not know what your perception of what is currently being provided or was provided. I just know that when I did it at the outset, before anybody else, there was no Premier in the video. It was very focused on delivering to the industry reason for hope, a degree of comfort in the community that their hospitality workforce was prepared, and it hit all of the intended objectives. It delivered to Western Australia the safest hospitality sector in the country, the strongest hospitality sector in the country, and tens of thousands —

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Let me just clarify: did the Premier not feature in any of that \$1.78 million that was spent?

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No, because the AHA was engaged to develop and deliver training. I think we talked about—I am trying to remember—20 000, possibly —

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** The AHA may have delivered it, but you paid for it, so therefore you should know what is on it.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It was a long time ago. The AHA was contracted to develop and deliver within about a week a training package for the hospitality sector in Western Australia. I think the intended market was in the order of—I do not know; I cannot remember—50 000 maybe at the most, but it ended up being over 150 000 people who got it, which far exceeded what the original intended market was.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** I am sure, but I just wanted to clarify whether the Premier was on this video, which is my understanding. I find it amazing that taxpayers' money has gone towards promoting the Premier in training for COVID-19 that has gone to a heap of employees.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Member, I think you are being dishonest. The training that was delivered, I did at the outset. You did not. I know that there was no video of the Premier. If there is a video of the Premier, that may be a decision of the AHA, but it was never contracted to do that; it was contracted to develop and deliver an online training package for the hospitality sector and it did that magnificently. It led the nation, and probably the world.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** That is not the question.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I think it has been emulated probably around the nation, if not the world, as a means of preparing an industry and ensuring that the public garnered some confidence that their sector was ready for business. It was a really important and incredibly valuable contribution to send a message to the tens of thousands of hospitality workers that at that time were wondering about their futures, that there was reason for hope, and they could prepare themselves, and that worked. I have to commend the AHA for doing that. No-one else at the time could have completed that task in the time frame to the extent that it did. It met all of our objectives. There was no requirement and it was not asked to do anything of the nature that you are suggesting, and if it has chosen subsequently, when it has exceeded all its original contracted objectives, to put a video up, that is its decision.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Further to that.

**The CHAIR:** Further to this, member for Darling Range.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Maybe it wants to increase its reach because it knows that the Premier is a pretty popular guy with a lot of social media reach. Maybe it is trying to increase its reach to people in Western Australia. That would not be a bad move.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Further to that question, Chair. I am just wanting to let you know, minister, that I have done the course as well. The Premier does show up in there, right up the front and right at the very beginning, and you cannot get past it until you sit and listen to the whole entire video.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** When did you do it, member?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** I did it not long after it went up online, within the first few days. Anyway, minister, I am asking you a question.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I think you might be stretching the truth a little.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Really? You think I am stretching the truth.

**The CHAIR:** Member for Darling Range, just ask your question.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** So if I could ask my question without being interrupted just once today, that would be great. Minister, I have done the actual training within the first week that it went up online. The Premier was in that video—you cannot click past. I would like you to maybe take on notice and double-check that it was not in the contract, or that it was not asked by government for that to happen. If you can confirm that, great; if not —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Is that your question?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** That is one of my questions.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I can confirm that it was not in the contract, it was never an obligation, and it was not in the original training that I saw or when it was started.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Thank you very much. You have said that 150 000 have taken up this training course. I have been one of them. I do not work in the sector, but I thought it would be interesting to understand it. I have also spoken to quite a few volunteers within my electorate who are serving morning tea at an open day at a heritage school and so forth, and they have undertaken it so that they can do the thing. So it is not just people who are working in

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

hospitality and tourism who have done it; it is actually across the board and everyone has taken it up, so it is great that they have actually done that.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Brilliant outcome. Wonderful.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Of this \$1.78 million, what measures are in place to monitor the success of this program and to see the effectiveness of it at the other end?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** As I indicated earlier, there was a contract for a hygiene training program for six months at a cost of \$1.78 million funded by Tourism WA's existing 2019–20 and 2020–21 budget. The existing contract was focused, at the time it was developed, on preparing the industry for reopening and ensuring that we conveyed to the Western Australian community that they could have confidence in our hospitality sector. It met the objectives with respect to the number of trainees that undertook the training. At the outset, it was not those people from the local cake store that you are referring to; it was the hospitality sector who completed it in vast numbers. In the initial contract—we did put this out; I am pretty certain it was in the public domain—the contracted number that we had of trainees on those courses that we had asked them to provide, they far exceeded that and the training is still available at no cost despite the fact that they far exceeded the number. I can get that original contracted number for you, but they met that within a very short time frame.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Thank you, minister. Do we need to put that down as supplementary information that we will get what measures were in place to monitor the success of this?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No; as I indicated, the training had to prepare —

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** It is \$1.78 million.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It was about educating people about the COVID hygiene requirements. The delivery was about the number of trainees who completed the training and it had time frames around it. It was very time-sensitive because we were trying, in advance of lifting restrictions, to provide the opportunity for the training. I can get the specific number. It just escapes me right now, the original number of people, but it is in the tens of thousands.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** So if we can get that as supplementary.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** If we want to provide that as supplementary, I can do that.

**The CHAIR:** Let's just do this one then I am going to hand over to the next Chair. This is supplementary information. So, minister, can you just clarify again, please.

[11.00 am]

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I undertake to provide as supplementary information the number of trainees—actually, I can do it right now so you do not have to worry about supplementary information. They were required to provide training for 70 000 trainees. As I indicated, they have exceeded by that more than double.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Sorry, just my other part to that question, Chair, was about the effectiveness. Is there a plan —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Member —

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Can I finish my question? You just keep cutting me off.

Is there a way of measuring the effectiveness? Are you going out to make sure that all these venues are employing people who have done the COVID-safe training? My understanding is that this training was to be in place so that no-one went back out into the workforce without that training, to make sure that we could control any spread of COVID-19 within the community. Can you just answer me on how that is being monitored?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Member, we have not had community spread of COVID in Western Australia for more than six months. Our hospitality sector is the most open of any state in the country. We have the two-square-metre rule in play, we have nightclubs open, we have Western Australians enjoying the benefits of the security of a strong and safe environment, thanks to the response by government, and part of the response by government was ensuring that our hospitality sector had training available. More than 150 000 people have completed the training. It was successful and it met the objectives and intent.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** That is the complacency that we do not need in WA.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Every hospitality venue in Western Australia—this is unrelated to this training—must display at their entrance signage to confirm that they have a COVID safety plan. As an element of that, they must confirm that the staff have completed the hospitality hygiene training.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** And how are you making sure that that is happening?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I do not —

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** We have given out \$1.78 million for this training. How are we making sure that is actually —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** As I have said many times, the objective of training was to ensure in advance of the lifting of restrictions that the hospitality sector received appropriate hospitality hygiene training, so that the workforce received hope that there would be an opportunity for them to return to their workplace before too long and that the Western Australian community were reassured that there was appropriate training and it would be a safe environment. Those objectives have undoubtedly, irrefutably been achieved. It is impossible to stand and sit in Western Australia right now and suggest that the objectives of that training were not achieved. We have not had community transmission in Western Australia for more than six months, despite the fact that our hospitality sector is actually open, as opposed to New South Wales and Queensland and Victoria. We are actually open. Until recently—I think it even may still be the case—in South Australia you had to sit down to have a beer. We are irrefutably and undoubtedly achieving the objectives of that training because people are back at work, the businesses are open and we do not have community spread. That was the intent of the training.

[Ms S.E. Winton took the Chair.]

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Just one more, because I did not get the answer to that. Is there a measure in place right now?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** A database is generated of people who have conducted the training.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Are measures in place right now to check those venues to see that they do not have people working there who have not done that training?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It is not a Tourism responsibility to enforce health regulations. That is the Department of Health's responsibility.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** It gives them the money. Is a measure in place for the health department to do that?

**The CHAIR:** Member for Darling Range, can we just have it through the Chair, thank you.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The same measures that have been in place for a long time—decades, if not longer—for health regulations are in place. The COVID responsibilities associated with health regulations are enforced by the health department, in the same way it enforces all the other health obligations.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Minister, is there any funding put aside for implementation of or training in contact tracing should a wave of COVID-19 occur? Is there any funding or future funding to train the hospitality sector to ensure that contact tracing can occur to obviously protect the community?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Contact tracing is the responsibility of the Minister for Health. I suggest the member ask that question of the health minister.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Minister, I refer to page 220 of budget paper No 2, the net appropriation determination table and grants and subsidies. The line item "Aboriginal Tourism Initiatives" does not seem to have any funding. There is \$14 million in 2019–20, but there are no funds into the future. Can the minister explain why there is no funding for initiatives for Aboriginal tourism in the budget moving forward?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes, that was a commonwealth funding initiative. It is the remnants of a program that the commonwealth was funding. We have significant funds in the budget dedicated to Aboriginal cultural tourism, not the least of which is tens of millions dedicated to sealing the Broome–Cape Leveque Road and for the Burrup cultural centre. There are budget allocations across portfolios towards Aboriginal cultural tourism. That particular funding was for an initiative that has ended. We bid to the federal government on a case-by-case basis for additional funding of that nature.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Has the minister done that to try to receive funding into the future?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It has not announced a specifically dedicated Aboriginal cultural tourism package that I am aware of.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Did it work, this funding? Did it achieve its objectives?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I am informed that this particular funding was a part contribution to Camping with Custodians initiatives. The Camping with Custodians sites were developed. To the extent that that question goes to whether they worked, yes, the Camping with Custodians sites were developed. The state government is spending over \$3 million on Cape Leveque towards further Camping with Custodians sites. I do not know whether at this stage we have federal contributions to that; we might try to leverage our investment and seek out further funding from the federal government. But not at the moment.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Further on Aboriginal tourism, the last budget had an allocation for Aboriginal tourism of \$900 000 every year for four years. I note that that is missing in this budget. Are Aboriginal tourism and the Western Australian Indigenous Tourism Operators Council funded somewhere else in the budget?

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I do not know why that does not appear. Is WAITOC funded? Yes, WAITOC is funded.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Can the minister point to where that is and tell us how much?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It is probably in the global tourism figure. I do not know that there is a line item to that effect. I can assure the member that WAITOC is receiving the same funding into the forward estimates. There is a contract.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** If we can just find out —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** What is it the member wants me to find out?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Exactly how much WAITOC is getting.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It is \$900 000.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** It is \$900 000 per year for how long?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I am informed it is just part of the destination development global figure, but its budget is unchanged into the forward estimates; there is a four-year contract.

[11.10 am]

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** I refer to page 206 and the WA recovery plan. The thirteenth paragraph under the heading “WA Recovery Plan” states —

The Western Australian Industry Participation Strategy ... developed under the *Western Australian Jobs Act 2017* ... is designed to ensure that Western Australian businesses get a greater share of contracts to supply goods, services and work to Government.

Minister, under the WA recovery plan, we have been asking businesses to pivot—that is the new word for COVID-19. All businesses and tourism operators and so forth need to pivot, need to adapt, need to change the way they run to survive. Has this government pivoted in the way it allocates its contracts and tenders? As we know, the Wander Out Yonder \$2 million marketing campaign went to New South Wales. We also know that recently \$100 000 for visual brand identity for Tourism WA has gone to New South Wales —

**The CHAIR:** Member, your question is?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** There have been quite a few of these. In relation to this line item that the government is going to develop a Western Australian jobs act, has Tourism WA been directed to readjust the way it puts out contracts so that we do support our WA businesses first?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** That line item does not relate to this portfolio. The member would have to address it to the Premier.

**The CHAIR:** Thank you. Further questions, members?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Yes, absolutely. We will come back to that in a moment.

Minister, in regard to the Wander Out Yonder campaign —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** What page?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** I am trying to locate the page number for the minister. I refer to page 204, new initiatives and the line item “Domestic Marketing”. Under domestic marketing, \$1.1 million is allocated —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Where is that, member?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** It is under the heading “New Initiatives”, halfway down the table on page 204. There is a one-off payment for domestic marketing of \$1.1 million with no future funds. Can the minister explain what that is for?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes, member, that is Australian government funding through Tourism Australia to Tourism WA for national and intrastate marketing activities. It was initially to be provided following the east coast bushfires under an Australian government initiative to boost tourism marketing activities but was deferred due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Excellent. Can the minister tell me exactly what the government did with that \$1.1 million?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** It is unallocated at the moment. Tourism WA continues to work with Tourism Australia about its hopes for that funding and where it might be employed. It is likely that when the opportunity for interstate travel returns, we might employ it for that.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Obviously there were criteria to receive that funding. Can the minister explain what that is for?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** As I indicated, it was initially allocated to the state post the bushfires on the east coast. The whole world has changed subsequently. It has not been employed for the purposes for which it was originally allocated. Work is being done to determine where it might be used.

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** I refer to page 207 of budget paper No 2 and tourism, which falls under the heading “WA Recovery Plan” on page 206.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Sorry, which?

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** On page 207, it has “Tourism”, above paragraph 24.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Then if I go to page 206, I see the heading “WA Recovery Plan”. Is Tourism WA participating in the WA recovery plan?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Is the member referring to the line item “Tourism”? Is that what the member is asking me about?

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** I am asking the minister about the points under the heading “Tourism”, which comes under the heading “WA Recovery Plan” on page 206. I am asking whether Tourism is participating in the recovery plan.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I am not sure what the member is after. As part of the recovery plan, there is significant investment in tourism. There is \$150 million statewide dedicated to tourism infrastructure and \$14.4 million to recovery and business survival grants. We are administering a \$3 million grant program for travel agents.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** So the answer is yes, it is participating in the recovery plan. I can see the minister’s advisers nodding their heads.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The whole government is.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** I just wanted to know that.

**The CHAIR:** Member, if we could just do it through the Chair, rather than the way he just did.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Is the tourism portfolio participating in the Western Australian Jobs Act 2017?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** What does the member’s question relate to—what page and what line item? What specific element of the Tourism WA budget is this question related to?

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** I refer to page 207 and paragraph 24 under the heading “Tourism”. The minister said that Tourism and the whole of government are participating in the recovery plan.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I did not say that; I said that Tourism has committed \$150 million for tourism infrastructure, \$14.4 million for grants planned, and we are administering \$3 million for the travel agent grants.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Paragraph 26 on page 207 reads —

Tourism WA is also delivering a range of recovery initiatives within the WA Recovery Plan to assist the industry ...

Tourism WA is participating in the recovery plan, and in that recovery plan my understanding is that everyone participates in the Western Australian Jobs Act 2017. I am asking the question: is Tourism WA working with that act of 2017—that is, the Western Australian Jobs Act?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I am not the minister responsible for the Western Australian Jobs Act. I suggest that the member pose that question to the appropriate minister.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Is Tourism WA not participating in that act?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** If the member is asking what is Tourism WA’s contribution to the recovery plan, or about elements of the recovery plan that are associated with the Tourism WA budget, they are listed there. They include the Dampier Peninsula Camping with Custodians campground upgrades, delivery of hospitality and tourism hygiene training, the \$14.4 million WA tourism recovery program, support to travel agents and delivery of the regional aviation recovery initiative.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Minister, let me make this quite clear. I refer to the heading “Tourism” on page 207, which comes under the heading “WA Recovery Plan”, and paragraph 26, which talks about Tourism participating in the WA recovery plan. My question is: Is Tourism WA abiding by or playing a part in the Western Australian Jobs Act 2017? Is that act a policy of the Western Australian government to ensure that there are jobs for Western Australians? Is Tourism WA participating in the government’s own act?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Chair, I do not see the WA jobs act in this part of the budget. I answer questions about the budget items for which I am responsible. I know the member is struggling, but if he wants to ask a question about the jobs act, I suggest he ask that of the appropriate minister.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** I think we need some clarification here, because the minister is clearly out of his depth. Page 207 — Several members interjected.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Minister, I refer to page 207, and paragraph 26 under the heading “Tourism”, which states —

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

Tourism WA is also delivering a range of recovery initiatives within the WA Recovery Plan to assist the industry to recover from COVID-19 ...

Tourism comes under the WA recovery plan. Under the WA recovery plan, on page 206, the Western Australian industry participation strategy developed under the Western Australian Jobs Act 2017 is designed to ensure that Western Australian businesses get a greater share of contracts to supply goods and services, and work to government.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** What page is the member talking about?

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** It is page 206. This is what tourism comes under—the WA recovery plan.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No. The WA recovery plan is not referred to in this part of the budget, which is about Tourism WA.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** It is.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The WA jobs act is not referred to in this part of the budget.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** It is.

[11.20 am]

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** No. That is part of the recovery plan. The minister said that Tourism WA is participating. Several members interjected.

**The CHAIR:** Thank you, members. I do not think we are going to make much progress.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The member is asking me about a part of the budget that I am not responsible for.

**The CHAIR:** Minister, thank you.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** So can I have a further question?

**The CHAIR:** No; thank you. Just before the member does that, let us keep it through the Chair. Members can ask specific questions and we will see whether the minister will answer them, rather than getting into this little biff.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Minister, I have a further question on page 207. I refer to the twenty-sixth dot point, which states Tourism WA is participating in the recovery plan for WA.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes, it is recovery in the recovery plan.

**The CHAIR:** Minister, let the member finish.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Is Tourism WA also involved in the Western Australian Jobs Act to ensure that Western Australian businesses get a greater share of contracts to supply goods and services, and work to government?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Chair, there is nothing in this part of the budget that refers to the jobs act. It is not my responsibility. If the member wants to pose a question on the jobs act in the budget, he should refer it to the minister responsible.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Further question, is tourism participating in the government's own policy?

**The CHAIR:** The member for North West Central will ask his supplementary questions through me. I think the member has asked the question repeatedly, and I think the minister has answered repeatedly.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Further to that question and following on from my first question, I refer to page 206 and the heading "WA Recovery Plan".

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Sorry, on page 206?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Yes. The thirteenth to twenty-eighth dot points under the heading "WA Recovery Plan" have different titles for how they fit into that WA recovery plan. The first title is "Western Australian Jobs", which outlines that everyone under government is to work within that jobs act. The points under the heading "WA Recovery" flow over to page 207, where it says "Tourism". It is not a separate item, minister. It states that the tourism industry will follow under the jobs act of this government.

The question that I asked earlier was dismissed, but it is obvious in this budget paper that Tourism WA is working under the Western Australian industry participation strategy, which is the Western Australian Jobs Act, to ensure Western Australian businesses get a greater share of contracts. Now, if the minister is saying that Tourism is not, that is fine. We just want to know yes or no. If it is not, then I can understand why contracts for Wander Out Yonder, and for the visual branding of Tourism WA were sent over east and not to Western Australian businesses. Can the minister please advise whether, as the member for North West Central asked, Tourism WA is working under the Western Australian Jobs Act; and, if so, why have these tenders gone over east instead of to WA businesses first? As I said when I asked my previous question, everyone else has had to pivot. The minister even stated in an earlier answer that these are difficult times and we are doing things differently because of COVID-19. I will go back to my question: has the minister directed his department to follow the jobs act during COVID-19 and to go to WA businesses before looking outside this state when awarding contracts; and, if not, why not?

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** That was a long speech. Can I suggest that we abandon the place members want to ask this question and we go to a more appropriate place. Members are asking about the Western Australian share of the marketing budget, right? So it is nothing to do with—forget about the jobs act. Go to page 208.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** We do not want to forget the jobs act.

**The CHAIR:** The member asked a very long question. I think she should give the minister an opportunity to try to address it.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** My view is that the member is asking under the wrong place. If the member goes to page 208, she will see the service summary table and the fifth item, “Destination Marketing”. That might be a more appropriate place to put her question. I think that the member is making some incorrect claims on where the marketing spend was made. Firstly, can I explain that the creative spend on the Wander Out Yonder campaign was very little. At the start of the year, pre-COVID, in the normal course of events, for the first time for, I think, ever, three out of four marketing contracts were entered into with Western Australian companies. In the past, under the Liberal–National government, it was 100 per cent interstate. The companies that got the marketing contract for creative in Western Australia for Tourism WA were either located in Victoria or New South Wales. At the start of this year, there was an open process run by the agency, not by government—appropriately independent of us—that resulted in three local companies getting contracts for provision of marketing activity. I probably have their names. They escape me right now, but it is public knowledge. The Monkeys was the fourth company, which is a New South Wales–based company.

When COVID happened, there was a requirement as we moved through the restriction phase into the more open opportunity for marketing to intrastate travel, for the already contracted company for creative for intrastate or any marketing, which was the Monkeys, to develop that particular campaign. But the creative component is a small part of the spend. The member would have noticed it is just file vision. All it did was put some graphics together and some ads online and in other media, which were then rolled out. The vast majority of the spend with Wander Out Yonder went to partnerships with organisations like Accor, and RAC, and people in the sector to ensure that there were opportunities for packaging and the like. That includes Accor, Tourism Holdings Ltd, Britz, Luxury Escapes, RACWA, Top Parks, Helloworld and Expedia—members would know there was controversy around online marketing and the consequences of that, but one does not exclude oneself from that part of the market. We have also ensured subsequently that wherever possible we urge people to use travel agents to package things up. But the vast majority of that campaign was about partnerships. The very little creative element to the campaign was not essentially, you know, a contract that went out; the contract was already in place for The Monkeys.

I have the other four agencies that we contracted at the start of the year. They were The Monkeys, The Brand Agency, Marketforce and Sandbox. The last three are all Western Australian.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Further to that, the minister said in an answer to a previous question today that these contracts were awarded prior to COVID-19 and that we need to do things differently in this environment, so I will ask again: has the minister put through a directive to follow the WA jobs act? I know that the minister says that Tourism is not under it, but the WA jobs act is this government’s policy that it is working under and it is meant to go across all portfolios, as outlined in this budget book right here in front of us. Can the minister advise whether he has now directed his department to change the way that it does things, pivot—like everyone in business and tourism has to do—and start giving our contracts to WA businesses first. The minister said that the Wander Out Yonder marketing campaign was only a small amount; it is \$2 million. A \$2 million contract to a WA business could mean its survival. Is Tourism WA going to follow the WA job act and is it going to change the way that it does business during this pandemic and support WA businesses first?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I think the member misunderstood what I said. The \$2 million campaign is not a contract for a marketing campaign. The \$2 million predominantly went to partners. It was partnerships with businesses like Sightseeing Pass Australia, Accor, THL, Britz, Luxury Escapes, RACWA, Top Parks, Helloworld and Expedia. The vast majority of it was partnerships with those players to get people to go into Western Australia’s regions, including Destination Perth, and take the opportunity to not only have a holiday, but also support the Western Australian tourism sector, and that is what has happened. In fact, you know, we would far exceed any objectives of the WA jobs act on share for WA participants, because the vast majority of the money was with partnerships. The tiny amount of that budget that was spent on the creative would be far lower than any threshold requirement for Western Australian participation. With respect to one of the member’s other inaccurate and erroneous and misleading claims made earlier—what was the other marketing campaign the member made claims about? Yes, it was the people who came from the east coast recently. As I indicated —

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Which one is the minister talking about?

[11.30 am]

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The member in her contribution earlier talked about the Wander Out Yonder campaign and recent activity around brand development to replace Just Another Day in WA, which is ongoing in WA. Some

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

totally incorrect and inaccurate claims were made by people in the media about what was being undertaken and where those participants were sourced. As I indicated, there are four companies contracted to Tourism WA, which massively increased the Western Australian participation from when the member was the parliamentary secretary and the Leader of the Opposition was the minister. All that activity was undertaken by people in Victoria and New South Wales. Now, three of the companies associated with our marketing activities are Western Australian companies. The fourth one had five people come from New South Wales to travel the state to participate in this element of the ongoing task, which is not related to COVID, to replace the Tourism WA brand around Just Another Day in WA. Five of the 180 people involved in that activity were from the east coast. They were not Western Australians but had specific skill sets that required us to bring them in. They sought their exemptions, like any other specific skill set individual, they did their isolation, and then they participated in the task with the more than 170 Western Australian creative people and other players who supported that activity. Essentially, three per cent of the activity was non-Western Australians; that is way in excess of any objectives of the WA jobs act.

**The CHAIR:** A further question?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** I have two, because that was a long answer that went across two different sections. With the Wander Out Yonder campaign —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Is it still under marketing?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Yes. The minister listed a number of businesses involved in the Wander Out Yonder campaign. He listed Expedia, Helloworld and a couple of others. Can the minister actually advise how many are WA businesses, because I know Expedia is not?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Seriously, seriously!

**The CHAIR:** Thank you.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** The minister listed the names —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** So it is the Liberal Party of Western Australia's policy that only Western Australian companies can get —

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Chair, I asked a yes-or-no question.

**The CHAIR:** Minister, you read them out. Would you like to read them out again?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes, I will read them out again. It is Sightseeing Pass Australia; Accor, which represents hotels across the regions; Tourism Holdings Ltd, Britz, which provides services across the regions and jobs to Western Australians; Luxury Escapes, which does the same; RACWA, which I think is Western Australian; and Top Parks, which may or may not be owned by Western Australians but employs Western Australians and provides input to the Western Australian economy. Helloworld is not Western Australian, but it is a travel agent that is designed to reach out to the Western Australian public and ensure that they go into Western Australia and create jobs and opportunity for Western Australians. If the member wants to find out about what Helloworld can do, maybe she could talk to the federal treasurer of the Liberal Party, because he owns Helloworld. He is a pretty good bloke and he will tell the member about the important contribution they are able to provide in reaching the market and the importance to the tourism sector of engaging with them. And there is Expedia. For the same reason that we explained at the time, it does not exclude travel agencies or non-Western Australian participants. But it is a big component of marketing, and if we exclude ourselves from that part of the tourism market, if people search using a search engine, the first three responses they will get will be foreign-owned search engines or travel agents that place people with Western Australian hotels. They are still going to end up with the Western Australian product. They are still going to employ Western Australians and generate return to the Western Australian industry. I would also urge people, and I have been at pains ever since we did the launch of this, to go to their local travel agents and seek out packages because there is a lot more opportunity now than there used to be around Western Australian travel agents being able to package stuff. All those players are not necessarily Western Australian, but they contribute to an outcome for Western Australia. Western Australian businesses and employees are participants, and benefit from getting people into the regions and into the tourism sector.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** I thank the minister very much for answering that question on that list. Wander Out Yonder did not go to just one interstate business; we now know it went to multiple businesses. I asked about the visual branding identity for WA that will replace Just Another Day in WA.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Is this a further question?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** No, it is on the minister's comments. I have a further question about the film industry. That has gone to five people outside because we do not have the skill set here in WA. Does the minister stand by his comment that we do not have the skills in the film production industry in WA?

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** For the specific skill sets of these individuals with respect to the campaign that is being developed, no, we do not. We do not have it here. They have world-class and world-leading capability in their skill set.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Thank you, minister. I have a further question to this one. Can the minister tell us what those skill sets are?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No, as I indicated in Parliament, I do not want to do that. I do not want to pre-empt the campaign being launched, because indicating the skill set that they possess would pre-empt the launch of the actual campaign. The member will see it before long. When it is launched, I think people will understand what we are talking about.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** The minister is obviously well aware that the film industry has taken offence to his comments. Has the minister met with people in the industry at all to try to appease them about having the skills? They actually believe they do; they are world-accredited film producers who work with very large international businesses.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** There were some very ill-informed, incorrect and inaccurate comments made by some individuals in the creative industries. For all the tasks with the exception of those five, we have stated publicly the range of people who were involved in this work. There were some claims made, for instance, about producers and directors. I think what happened was there was a report in the media that it imposed or it included vision of the Wander Out Yonder campaign, which I indicated earlier had no creative, really, in it in terms of filming or anything of that nature, that was all old film vision. It included that in the report, which suggested somehow that that is what these people had been engaged in; they were not. That is why people made the ill-informed, incorrect and inaccurate statements about what could and could not be done or the skill sets that were possessed by Western Australians. So I am not going to reveal the specific skill sets of the three per cent of people who were involved in this activity, 97 per cent of whom were Western Australians. I am not going to talk about that three per cent because that is specifically related to the nature of the campaign, which I do not want to disclose until Western Australians are ready, because Western Australia wants to get the maximum benefit from revealing that campaign. We do not want to enable other competitors to know what we are doing or the nature of our campaign and try to diminish the effectiveness of our campaign, because that would not be in the taxpayers' interests.

**The CHAIR:** Member, you have had over five further questions. The member for North West Central is waiting for a question.

[11.40 am]

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** The minister just said "other competitors". We cannot travel outside of WA; Western Australians can travel only within WA. What competition is the minister actually referring to?

**The CHAIR:** Minister.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** The minister is spending taxpayers' money and he thinks it is funny.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes, I think the member is funny!

**The CHAIR:** Member for Darling Range, your comments are not helpful to try to keep things moving along.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** As I indicated at the start of this kind of questioning, the task for which those individuals came to Western Australia commenced before the COVID-19 pandemic. It is about replacing the "Just Another Day in WA" slogan campaign and brand. It is going to be developed for the world, including interstate, intrastate and international markets, so it has nothing to do with focusing solely on Western Australians. In fact, before COVID, Tourism WA's focus was not on Western Australia; it did not engage in intrastate marketing; it left that to the regional tourism organisations. We have stepped into that field now because of the necessity to do so, but normal practices for Tourism WA will continue. One day, I hope, interstate and international travel will return and by then we will have launched our campaign, which will target those markets.

**The CHAIR:** Member for North West Central.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** I refer to page 203 and the total cost of services under "Expenses". Tourism WA's budget is \$113 million —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Sorry, which line?

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** It is the total budget of \$295 million, of which \$113 million is for tourism.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Where is that term? I see it—under "Expenses".

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Yes. At the moment, there is a building bonus for residential land and marketing and so forth. Are there any provisions in that budget for any assistance or encouragement of private developers in the regions to build tourism infrastructure?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** No. Is the member talking about grants or something?

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Grants and any assistance to encourage —

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** There is assistance, yes. We do not have money, but we have a little team within Tourism WA for tourism attractions case management. The member would be aware that under the previous government, Tourism WA was decimated. Thirty per cent or more of the staff were let go and all the destination development activity that had previously been undertaken by public servants was largely removed. We have a little team that is very effective and very helpful. We tell proponents that if they have an idea or a proposal, come to our tourism attractions case management team that provides a concierge service to help them jump through the hoops across government and other agencies to meet their obligations to try to hasten developments.

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** An example is the Tattarang development in Exmouth and the infrastructure that is needed around that development. It is an \$85 million-plus development. It is a great initiative and a great project for Exmouth, but we could imagine that services need to be upgraded, whether it be power, water or roads. Is Tourism WA assisting Tattarang to lobby other departments to play their role in providing that infrastructure to make that development occur?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The tourism attractions case management team is working with Tattarang and were before anyone publicly knew much about it. That team is assisting Tattarang through that concierge service. The proponents come to the team with their proposal. The proponents have to meet obligations around environmental approvals and planning approvals, linking up with other agencies for the requirements they might have to comply with or obligations they might need to meet. The team assists with helping them to know who to go to and who to approach next; it is a concierge service. What the member is talking about is more related to wider across-government support to the region in the event that this project goes ahead. That is more on an across-government responsibility. I know that the ministers' portfolios are addressing or looking at those sorts of requirements. In so much as the case management team is involved, it is about getting the approval for the project. It helps that process.

**The CHAIR:** Member for Darling Range.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** I just note that we were meant to have a break between 10.30 am and 11.30 am. We have been going since nine o'clock and we have not had a break yet. Are we able to adjourn for at least a refreshment and break for five or 10 minutes?

**The CHAIR:** This committee is suspended for 10 minutes.

*Meeting suspended from 11.46 to 11.56 am*

**The CHAIR:** Member for Darling Range.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Minister, I just want to stay on page 207. Paragraph 26 states —

Tourism WA is also delivering a range of recovery initiatives within the WA Recovery Plan ...

I refer to the \$14.4 million tourism recovery program. As the minister and I both know, that money divided up between the tourism recovery fund at \$10.4 million and the survival grants of \$4 million. In an answer that the minister provided to me previously, the \$10.4 million was not all allocated under the tourism recovery fund, with only 884 successful applicants. That left \$4.65 million unspent from that \$10.4 million fund. In the minister's answer, across the floor in Parliament, I think he said it would roll over into the tourism business survival grants. I know that those grants were announced recently, but there were no dollar values and so forth alongside the grants that were handed out. Can the minister first of all confirm that that \$4.65 million rolled over to the survival grant, giving it an \$8.65 million fund? How many applications were received, how many were successful and what is the breakdown, if possible?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes, all the money was rolled over and all of it was allocated—\$8.654 million. There were 574 applicants, of which 266 were successful. With respect to —

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Sorry; can I get those figures again?

[12 noon]

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** There was \$8.654 million that went to the business survival grant program. With respect to those numbers, that 574 initially included travel agents. We told them that they would have their own grant scheme. There were about 30 travel agents in that figure of 574, and 266 applicants received funding. The funding ended because it was an expanded amount. We broadened the grants to include \$15 000 grants at the low end and up to \$100 000 at the top end.

I think we have stated publicly the regional share, which I can provide as supplementary information. It is not really supplementary information because it has been in the public domain. We put out a media release telling people the number in each region. It was skewed ultimately towards the north because of seasonality, and beyond that, the recipients in terms of amounts were skewed towards those most reliant upon international and interstate visitors. I am not going to provide information about individual businesses and amounts because it is commercially sensitive; it is their information and I do not think it is appropriate that we reveal what an individual business got, unless they have publicly stated it themselves.

Chair; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Mr Paul Papalia; Ms Jessica Shaw; Mrs Alyssa Hayden; Mr Matthew Hughes; Mr Vincent Catania; Ms A. Hayden; Ms A Hayden

---

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Can we get that supplementary information?

**The CHAIR:** Minister, do you agree to provide the supplementary information and could you state exactly what information will be provided?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** I undertake to provide the number of business survival grant recipients in each of the regional tourism organisation regions.

*[Supplementary Information No B1.]*

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Further to that, the minister said that there were 574 applicants, but let us take off 30 as travel agents. There were 266 successful applicants, so that leaves around 200 applicants who were not successful. Can the minister elaborate why they were not successful? What part of the criteria did they not meet?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** There was a robust probity process around this. A panel assessed the applications. I had nothing to do with it; it was independent of government. It was based on criteria that focused predominantly on vulnerability to being exposed to international and interstate markets and the costs associated with infrastructure or equipment. The result was that, disproportionately, it was skewed towards the north. Seasonality was an element for consideration as well. But I had nothing to do with determining who got what.

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** I have two further questions. Does the Chair want me to ask them at once to save a bit of time?

**The CHAIR:** Is this a further question to your first question?

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** Yes. Can the minister advise whether anyone who received money from the tourism recovery funds also got the survival grant? The second part to that question is: have all the funds now been allocated and disbursed?

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** Yes to both.

**The CHAIR:** Does the member for Churchlands have a new question?

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** It is not a new question, just a question for you, Chair. I know that we are stopping this session at 1.00 pm today. We have still got to do the Small Business Development Corporation and racing and gaming. Could the committee try to finish SBDC —

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** And there is citizenship and multicultural interests.

**The CHAIR:** I will be guided by you. When there are no further questions, I will put the division. Is there a new question?

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Can we move on to division 18?

**The CHAIR:** Would you like me to call the division?

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** Yes.

**The appropriation was recommended.**