

ROYAL ASSOCIATION OF JUSTICES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

772. Hon SIMON O'BRIEN to the Attorney General:

I am sorry, Madam Deputy President, I was not quite ready.

My question relates to the Royal Association of Justices of Western Australia.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: To whom are you asking the question?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: It is a question without notice of which some notice was given to the Attorney General. I am sorry, I do not get to do this very often, Madam Deputy President, and I was a bit over-excited.

My question to the Attorney General relates to the Royal Association of Justices of Western Australia—RAJWA.

- (1) Does RAJWA receive support from the government for accommodation and facilities?
- (2) What accommodation support is provided and what is the approximate value of that support?
- (3) What other facilities, including postage support, are provided to RAJWA, and what is the approximate value of that support?

Hon MICHAEL MISCHIN replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Yes.
- (2) RAJWA is provided accommodation by the Department of the Attorney General at the Perth Central Law Courts so that RAJWA has an office from which it administers its operations. This accommodation includes office space for three work stations, filing cabinets, furniture and office equipment, including a photocopy machine and printers. Accommodation also includes a conference room, storage area and male/female toilet facilities. The estimated value of this accommodation is \$50 000 per annum.

Furthermore, from time to time RAJWA regional branches request the use of courthouse facilities such as a conference room to, for example, hold a meeting. Where such facilities are available and it is practical to do so, clerks of court generally allow RAJWA regional branches the use of such facilities.
- (3) RAJWA utilises Department of the Attorney General envelopes and the cost of postage is covered by DOTAG. This is estimated to be \$2 000 per annum.

I should add that, as I understand it, quite apart from RAJWA, justices of the peace in regional courts are permitted the use, where those facilities are available, of a room in which they can conduct their signing operations and other functions as well. It is not confined to RAJWA but to justices generally. That is available to members of RAJWA as well as those who are not members of a justice of the peace organisation or members of other organisations.