

DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT — STATE OF THE REGIONS SPONSORSHIP

1204. Hon DARREN WEST to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development:

I refer to the Department of Regional Development's sponsorship of the state of the regions speeches, run by the Committee for Economic Development of Australia.

- (1) How many of these events has the department sponsored?
- (2) What is the financial value of the sponsorship?
- (3) What are the conditions of the sponsorship?
- (4) Do any other state government agencies sponsor this series; and, if so, which agencies and what is the value of their sponsorship?
- (5) Which organisation or agency initiated the sponsorship arrangement?

Hon COL HOLT replied:

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

- (1) State of the Regions: Regional Development in WA is a 10-part event series, over a two-year period.
- (2) It is \$100 000, excluding GST.
- (3) The Committee for Economic Development of Australia agreed to provide the Department of Regional Development with a tax invoice for payment of the sponsorship fee of \$100 000 plus GST, which is \$110 000 in total; provide DRD with a list of the sponsorship features and the time lines for delivery of requirements; refund the entire sponsorship fee in the event that it is necessary to cancel the series; and refund the appropriate portion of the sponsorship fee in the event that it is necessary to cancel one or more events within the series.

The Department of Regional Development agreed to pay CEDA the sponsorship fee of \$100 000 plus GST, and pay the sponsorship fee before the first event in the series takes place in July 2014.

- (4) DRD is the series sponsor and CEDA is able to secure additional sponsorship including from other state government agencies. DRD is aware that other agencies have sponsored the events that have been held to date, but is not aware of the value of the sponsorships.
- (5) CEDA approached each of the regional development commissions in 2012 and proposed the event as individual events. In consultation with the nine regional development commissions, the CEDA event proposal was submitted at a Regional Development Council meeting. DRD progressed the sponsorship proposal with CEDA as the one point of contact for the coordination of the CEDA series.