

PREMIER — AIRLINE CLUBS

2134. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Premier; Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal–State Relations:

I refer to exclusive, invitation only clubs operated by Virgin Australia (The Club) and Qantas (Chairman’s Lounge), and I ask the Minister:

- (a) please identify for each member of your staff, for each member of your immediate family and for each agency under your direction:
 - (i) the names of those offered membership from either Virgin Australia or Qantas and the date on which such an offer was made;
 - (ii) for each person identified in (i), the date on which an offer was accepted or rejected and the relevant decision by the intended recipient of the membership;
 - (iii) for each person identified in (i), when the membership is expected to expire if accepted; and
 - (iv) the benefits offered with respect to each membership offered and the estimated annual value of those benefits;
- (b) with respect to Members of Parliament, has the gift received been disclosed in accordance with the *Members of Parliament (Financial Interests) Act 1992* for each year in which the gift was accepted;
- (c) for gifts received by Minister’s, has the gift been disclosed to the Chief of Protocol, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, and was such notification provided within the 30 days requirement of the Ministerial Code of Conduct;
- (d) has the Minister declared any conflict of interest or abstained from any Government decision arising from the gift received from Virgin Australia or Qantas; and
- (e) for each public service officer identified in (a), please outline what gift disclosure and conflict of interest reporting has occurred with respect to each agency?

Hon Sue Ellery replied:

As the Member would be aware, each of the airlines mentioned offer membership of their respective clubs to State and Federal Government Ministers and in some instances Leaders of the Opposition. As was the process in the previous government, the acceptance of airline lounge memberships by a Minister does not represent a conflict of interest.