

TOURISM — DIRECT FLIGHTS — CARNARVON AND MONKEY MIA

465. Ms J.J. SHAW to the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Can the minister outline to the house how the McGowan Labor government has been able to secure more affordable flights to Carnarvon and Monkey Mia and in doing so provide a tourism boost for these regional destinations?
- (2) Can the minister advise whether this would have been possible had the government followed the advice of the member for North West Central?

Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:

- (1)–(2) I thank the member for this question. Yesterday we announced more seats and cheaper fares to Carnarvon and Monkey Mia. That is a result of a process, the tender, that we implemented, which started in September last year.

Mr D.C. Nalder interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: Are you intimidating?

Mr D.C. Nalder: No.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: It sounds like it. Are you laughing at me?

The SPEAKER: Minister, through the Chair, please.

Several members interjected.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: No, what I have found in this place —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Minister, through the Chair, thank you.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: Mr Speaker, what I have found in this place is that there are two sets of rules—how Labor women are treated in this place and how Liberal and National Party women are treated. In my history in this place —

The SPEAKER: Minister, you will get back to the answer, please.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: The member for North West Central interjected and I am responding to that interjection, Mr Speaker. There are two sets of rules in the way we have been treated in this place. When I had a near miscarriage, there was what the former Premier said in this place and also what he said to the now Premier about me. Those are things I can never, ever forget. When I raised it with the previous Speaker, they told me to suck it up. That is the sort of treatment I got.

Let me get back to this point, Mr Speaker. The member for North West Central said last September that we should abandon that tender process. He said we should not be doing that tender process. That is what he said. He said we should wait for the outcome of the inquiry and abandon that tender process. Now he is out there taking credit for it. It shows us that we cannot believe anything that member says.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: It shows that we cannot believe anything he says. Last September, he said to abandon the tender process. He said, “Why would you have a tender process?” Now what are we delivering? We are delivering cheaper flights and more flights to the people in that area. Only Labor has delivered this outcome. Everyone knows you cannot believe a word that that member says.