

TOURISM — DIRECT FLIGHTS — BROOME — DISCOUNTED FARES TRIAL

4279. Ms L. Mettam to the Minister for Tourism; Racing and Gaming; Small Business; Defence Issues; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests:

I refer to the Government's announcement on 18 May 2018 that discounted fares on flights between Perth and Broome would be offered for a one-year trial, and I ask:

- (a) of the 29400 discounted seats available, how many discounted seats remain;
- (b) is Qantas providing regular reports to Tourism WA and/or the Minister for Tourism on the progress of the trial;
- (c) following conclusion of the trial, will there be a final report to Tourism WA and/or the Minister for Tourism on the outcomes of the trial, and if yes, will the Minister table this report; and
- (d) have visitor numbers to Broome increased since the trial begun and if yes, by how many?

**Mr P. Papalia replied:**

Tourism Western Australia advises:

- (a) On 29 October 2018, Qantas advised that approximately 15,000 discounted return fares are still available.
- (b) Yes.
- (c) Yes.

The Minister will table relevant parts of the report that do not contain information considered commercially sensitive by Qantas.

- (d) Visitor numbers to Broome for the month of August 2018 and onwards (since the trial began) from Tourism WA's key data source for domestic visitation – Tourism Research Australia's National Visitor Survey (NVS) – are not yet available. NVS results for September 2018 are scheduled to be released on 16 January 2019. However, on 29 October 2018 Qantas advised that in September 2018:

Over 10,000 discounted fares had been sold to date;

Qantas saw a 10 per cent increase in leisure bookings year on year during the month, and

Average length of stay for a leisure visitor has increased.

Australia's North West regional tourism organisation will conduct a survey of its members (accommodation operators) seeking feedback on this initiative. Survey results are expected by 30 November 2018.