



## ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

### 2016-17 ANNUAL REPORT HEARING – QUESTIONS PRIOR TO HEARING

#### Department of Transport

#### Hon Colin de Grussa MLC asked:

1) I refer to Establishing the Metronet office on page 21 of the annual report and I ask:

a) What was the total cost associated with establishing the Metronet office;

Answer:

Total expenditure associated with establishing the METRONET office during the 2016-17 financial year was \$27,420, including \$20,916 for METRONET Project Director salary.

b) What is the total FTE and associated number of employees based in the Metronet office; and

Answer:

3.6 FTEs (four employees) are directly employed by the Department of Transport as employees based in the METRONET Office. Further employees from across six agencies are providing assistance to the METRONET office, however no formal secondments are in place.

c) Please provide a breakdown of the FTE based on the Departments they came from and/or belong to?

Answer:

See response to Question 1) part b).

2) I refer to Service four – Driver and Vehicles services, particularly licensing services delivered in remote areas on page 37 of the annual report and I ask:

a) Can the Department provide a region-by-region list of DVS customer facilities including location and breadth of services offered at 30 June 2017;

Answer:

**Kimberley:** Over the counter services/theory and practical testing: Broome and Kununurra; and through mobile services delivered to Ardyaloon, Balgo, Bayulu, Beagle Bay, Bidyadanga, Djarindjin, Imintji, Kalumburu, Kupungarri, Looma, Mindibungu, Mowanjum, Muludja, Noonkanbah, Pandanus Park, Wangkatjungka, Warmun, Yakanarra and Yiyili.

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**Pilbara:** Over the counter services/theory and practical testing: Karratha, Tom Price, Newman and South Hedland; and through mobile services delivered to Bindi Bindi/Onslow, Cotton Creek, Jigalong, Kiwirrkurra, Kunawarritji, Nullagine, Punmu, Roebourne, Wakathuni, Warralong, Yandeyarra and Youngaleena.

**Goldfields-Esperance:** Over the counter services/theory and practical testing: Kalgoorlie and Esperance; and through mobile services delivered to Blackstone, Cosmo Newberry, Jameson, Mulga Queen, Tjuntjuntjara, Wanarn, Warakurna and Wingellina.

**Gascoyne:** Over the counter services/theory and practical testing: Carnarvon and Exmouth; and through mobile services delivered to Burringurrah and Mungullah.

**Midwest:** Over the counter services/theory and practical testing: Geraldton; and through mobile services delivered to Cue, Pia Wadjarri and Yulga Jinna.

**South West:** Over the counter services/theory and practical testing: Bunbury and Busselton.

**Great Southern:** Over the counter services/theory and practical testing: Albany.

- b) Can the Department provide a region-by-region list of DVS customer facilities including location and breadth of services offered presently;

Answer:

**Kimberley:** Over the counter services/theory and practical testing: Broome and Kununurra; and through mobile services delivered to Ardyaloon, Balgo, Bayulu, Beagle Bay, Bidadanga, Djarindjin, Imintji, Kalumburu, Kupungarri, Looma, Mindibungu, Mowanjum, Muludja, Noonkanbah, Pandanus Park, Wangkatjungka, Warmun, Yakanarra, Yiyili.

**Pilbara:** Over the counter services/theory and practical testing: Karratha, Tom Price, Newman and South Hedland; and through mobile services delivered to Bindi Bindi/Onslow, Cotton Creek, Jigalong, Kiwirrkurra, Kunawarritji, Nullagine, Punmu, Roebourne, Wakathuni, Warralong, Yandeyarra and Youngaleena.

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**Gascoyne:** Over the counter services/theory and practical testing: Carnarvon and Exmouth; and through mobile services delivered to Burringurrah and Mungullah.

**Midwest:** Over the counter services/theory and practical testing: Geraldton; and through mobile services delivered to Cue, Pia Wadjarri and Yulga Jinna.

**South West:** Over the counter services/theory and practical testing: Bunbury and Busselton.

**Great Southern:** Over the counter services/theory and practical testing: Albany.

- c) Of those listed in (b), which are operated out of non-Department of Transport managed facilities;

Answer:

Mobile services, Tom Price, Newman, South Hedland, Busselton and Esperance.

- d) Of those listed in (c) please provide a description of the premises DVS are operated from, including the organisation that manages the premises;

Answer:

- Tom Price and Newman – WA Police stations.
  - South Hedland – practical driving assessments delivered from Main Roads office.
  - Busselton and South Hedland – counter services delivered by Australia Post at their premises.
  - Esperance – counter services delivered by the Shire at their premises.
  - Mobile services operate from community facilities or government agency offices.
- e) What is the anticipated visitation level of mobile DoT teams to deliver licensing services to remote communities in 2017-18; and

Answer:

DoT will maintain existing levels of service to communities unless visits are required to be changed due to weather or cultural issues; or unforeseen circumstances, such as staff illness.

- f) Which communities are on the visitation list for 2017-18?

Answer:

**Kimberley:** Ardyaloon, Balgo, Bayulu, Beagle Bay, Bidyadanga, Billiluna, Djarindjin, Imintji, Kupungarri, Looma, Mowanjum, Muludja, Noonkanbah, Pandanus Park, Wangkatjungka, Warmun, Yakanarra and Yiyili

**Pilbara:** Bindi Bindi/Onslow, Cotton Creek, Goodabinya, Jigalong, Kiwirrkurra, Kunawarritji, Ngurawaana, Nullagine, Punmu, Roebourne, Strelley, Wakathuni, Warralong, Yandeyarra and Youngaleena

**Goldfields-Esperance:** Blackstone, Cosmo Newberry, Jameson, Mulga Queen, Tjuntjuntjara, Warakurna and Wingellina

**Mid West/Gascoyne:** Burringurrah, Pia Wadjarri and Yulga Jinna

3) Page 44 of the annual report discusses regional airport infrastructure improved through the Regional Airports Development Scheme. I ask:

- a) Has the Department sent a letter of support and/or a funding request for the extension of the runway and new apron construction at Geraldton Airport to the federal Minister for Infrastructure and Transport; and

Answer:

No

- b) Is the Department aware if the WA Minister for Transport has sent a letter of support and/or a funding request to the federal Minister for Infrastructure and Transport?

Answer:

A letter of support to upgrade the Geraldton Regional Airport has been sent by the Minister to the City of Geraldton to support its submission to Round Two of the Commonwealth's Building Better Regions Fund.

4) I refer to table 46 titled Disclosure of administered expenses and income by service on page 118 of the annual report and ask in relation to the firearm license fee income under driver and vehicle services:

- a) Why is there such a significant gap between 2016 and 2017;

Answer:

DoT ceased processing firearm registration and renewal transactions on behalf of the WA Police at the end of December 2016.

- b) What is the anticipated income/expense for the same item in 2017-18; and

Answer:

Nil

- c) Please explain exactly what the expense/income figures represent and why they appear in the DoT's books?

Answer:

DoT processed firearm registration and renewal transactions on behalf of the WA Police and accounted for the revenue processed as administered revenue in accordance with requirements of the *Financial Management Act 2006* and Treasurer's Instructions. The revenue does not belong to DoT and is only disclosed in DoT's financial Statements as a note.

- 5) With regard to on-demand transport discussed on page 137 of the annual report, I also understand the Department has released a discussion paper on taxi plate compensation. I ask:

- a) What is the expected cost per taxi plate administered in 2017-18;

Answer:

\$2,141.49

- b) Will the proposed taxi plate buyback scheme be equitable across metropolitan and regional plate holders when it comes to pricing;

Answer:

The buy-back will only apply to ownership of Perth metropolitan taxi plates. In the metropolitan area, owned taxi plates were originally purchased from the Government with the current value of owned taxi plates determined by market forces, reflected at the time of transfer of the plate. In contrast, country taxi-car licences were obtained from the State Government at a nominal issue and annual administration fee. The subsequent value of a country taxi-car licence is typically captured as part of the sale of a taxi business, which is reflective of the operator's scale and level of service to the community.

- c) If no to (b) please explain how the buyback scheme will differ; and

Answer:

See response to Question 5) part b).

- d) Can the Department please provide a timeline of how it is planning to implement the State Government's reforms to on-demand transport in WA?

Answer:

It is anticipated that the On-demand Transport Bill will be introduced into Parliament in early 2018. The timeline beyond that is dependent on support from the Legislative Council.

6) Page 142 of the annual report refers to major capital projects including the Exmouth Boat harbour. I ask:

a) Can the Department provide a more specific completion date for the project;

Answer:

The project was completed in August 2017 with the exception of a few minor omissions and defects which are currently being attend to by the Contractor.

b) What is the breakdown of contracted individuals/businesses that have worked on the project, their contribution to works and the amount they were paid;

Answer:

- GHD was engaged to undertake design works and then provide technical advice during construction (\$2.5m);
- Worley Parson undertook design review (\$46,000);
- WBHO Infrastructure completed phase 1 early works service relocation (\$2.8m);
- Ertech Pty Ltd completed phase 2 of the works - marine structures and civil works (\$13.5m);
- Horizon Power & Water Corporation upgrade utility services for the project (\$396,000);
- MG Kailis relocated a fuel farm relocation (\$300,000);
- TFuel constructed fuel unloading slabs (\$13,000); and
- Kapala relocated a Jinker Ramp (DoT contribution of \$900,000)

c) Does the Department have plans for investigating a deep water berth for cruise shipping opportunities at Exmouth; and

Answer:

Yes

d) If yes to (c) please provide an outline of what investigations the Department is proposing?

Answer:

DoT has been asked to report back to the Government in early-2018 regarding a range of potential options and proposed next steps.

7) I refer to the Employment and industrial relations table on page 142 of the annual report and I ask:

a) What was the total number of employees (and FTE equivalent) working in regional Western Australia and a region-by-region breakdown of employee locations as at 30 June 2017;

Answer:

Region	Employee Count	FTE
Albany	18	16.29
Broome	14	13.10
Bunbury	27	23.90
Busselton	2	1.67
Carnarvon	4	4.00
Esperance	2	2.00
Exmouth	5	4.50
Geraldton	27	24.50
Kalgoorlie	15	14.10
Karratha	17	16.50
Kununurra	2	2.00
Mandurah	20	18.53
Newman	1	1.00
South Hedland	2	2.00
Tom Price	1	1.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>145.09</b>

- b) What is the total number of employees (and FTE equivalent) working in regional Western Australia and a region-by-region breakdown of employee locations currently;

Answer:

Region	Employee Count	FTE
Albany	17	14.79
Broome	13	11.90
Bunbury	26	22.77
Busselton	2	1.67
Carnarvon	3	3.00
Esperance	2	2.00
Exmouth	6	5.50
Geraldton	25	23.00
Kalgoorlie	15	14.10
Karratha	17	15.40
Kununurra	1	1.00
Mandurah	17	16.05
Newman	1	1.00
South Hedland	2	2.00
Tom Price	1	1.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>135.18</b>

- c) The total number of positions required to be cut by the Department as part of the State Government's Voluntary Targeted Separation Scheme;

Answer:

The Voluntary Targeted Separation Scheme (VTSS) is a Budget repair tool to assist agencies in meeting Machinery of Government (MoG) savings resulting from the amalgamation of a number of government departments as well as assist in achieving workforce renewal by enabling agencies to retain 20% of the savings. The VTSS is open to all general government employees, though priority is being given to agencies impacted by the MoG changes (which took effect from 1 July 2017).

Agency targets are Cabinet-in-confidence and were provided as a guide to assist agencies and Ministers with implementation of the scheme. While the reductions will vary between agencies depending on factors like MoG changes, the size and role of individual agencies and other impacts, all agencies are expected to contribute in order to meet the overall reduction target of 3,000 employees.

Agencies are currently working with the Public Sector Commission to progress the scheme via individual expression of interest (EOI) processes. The agency EOIs are currently at various stages, with all exits expected to occur by 31 March 2018. Progress will be reported to Cabinet during the 2018-19 Budget process, with the aim of achieving the 3,000 separations and reflecting the actual savings and costs from the VTSS in the 2018-19 Budget

- d) With reference to question (c) please provide the total number of employees (and FTE equivalent) working in regional Western Australia which will be cut by the Department as part of the State Government's Voluntary Targeted Separation Scheme; and

Answer:

See response to question 7) part d)

- e) Please provide an organisational chart for the Transport portfolio within the new Department of Planning, Transport and Heritage?

Answer:

No such department exists.