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**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question Without Notice**

C405

Tuesday, 12 May 2020

Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government

I refer to the article 'Marble Bar Airport the target of \$8.5 million COVID-19 package', published by *The Northwest Times* on 24 April 2020, and I ask:

- (1) Would the Minister agree that the aim of funding was to support small business, and local concerns?
- (2) Can the Minister please table any conditions related to expenditure of the funding, by local governments?
- (3) Given that the airport at Marble Bar is to be used primarily by industry, does the Minister consider this use of community funding to be inequitable?
- (4) Considering a timeline and funding are generally secured before a project commences, could the Minister please explain how this Covid-19 emergency funding was used to fast-track the project?
- (5) Would the Minister give comment on the use of emergency funding to build an airport at Marble Bar?

Answer

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

- (1) The funding package referred to by the Hon Member is an initiative by the Shire of East Pilbara, not the McGowan Government.
- (2) The Minister is not aware of any Government grants or funding for this project.
- (3) The use of Local Government funds for the Marble Bar Airport is a matter for the Shire of East Pilbara.
- (4) See Answer to Question 2
- (5) The use of Local Government funds for the Marble Bar Airport is a matter for the Shire of East Pilbara.

