

**Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Finance and Administration Portfolio**

**Department of Finance and Administration**

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing – October 2006

**Question: F46**

**Outcome 3, Output 3.1**

**Topic: Ministerial Office – the Hon John Cobb MP, Minister for Community Services, Member for Parkes**

**Hansard Page: F&PA 81**

**Senator Faulkner asked:**

Can you take on notice the rent, if you do not have that available, and the cost of fit-out? I would appreciate a disaggregated fit-out cost. What other ongoing costs are you responsible for paying for this grand ministerial office in Dubbo?

Can you take on notice and supply to me, please, those costs for this office that are met by DOFA. Is that a simple way of asking the question, which means that we can make sure that we cover all bases?

**Answer:**

The annual rental for the Ministerial office accommodation for the Hon John Cobb MP at Suite 2, 153 Brisbane Street, Dubbo, is \$22,400.

Fitout works have not been completed so final costs are not available. The Special Minister of State has approved fitout costs not to exceed \$143,900. Mr Cobb's portfolio department - the Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs - will contribute towards the fitout costs.

The Ministerial office accommodation for Mr Cobb will be established in conjunction with Mr Cobb's existing electorate office at Suite 3, 153 Brisbane Street, Dubbo, to form a combined Ministerial and electorate office. In a combined Ministerial and electorate office, Ministerial and Parliamentary Services meets ongoing costs for the lease and outgoings and standard property repairs and maintenance.