

**Question on notice no. 48**

**Portfolio question number: SQ26-000067**

**2025-26 Additional estimates**

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee, Infrastructure,  
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts  
Portfolio**

**Senator the Hon. Matthew Canavan:** asked the WSA Co. Ltd on 9 February 2026—

Senator CANAVAN[...] . I have another question about the \$16 million Aviation Attraction Fund. Have you allocated any funding from that or paid money from it to other airlines?

Mr Hickey: Yes, we have used the Aviation Attraction Fund for WSI with the international airlines, and we continue to use it in discussions with other international airlines. It's been very helpful. Particularly for a new greenfield airport and the marketing funds that come with that, it's essential that they get that message out that this is actually a Sydney based airport and it's open for operations and it's got connectivity et cetera. It's a very important part of bringing the greenfield airport to life, and we have definitely been using it.

Senator CANAVAN: How much has been spent? Have you spent some money from that? Have you paid money from that fund to these international airlines?

Mr Hickey: We have allocated it in the discussions with the airlines. I'd have to take on notice the specific amounts for specific airlines, but generally I would say that we would keep that commercial in confidence, as to the allocation of the \$16 million, because it's wrapped up in the commercial discussions we have with different airlines.

Senator CANAVAN: Well, I think you need a good reason to not tell us how much you've spent so far. It's public funds.

Mr Hickey: As opposed to telling you by airline-

Senator CANAVAN: Yes, fair enough-I can understand that.

Mr Hickey: I would be able to tell you what we have allocated of the total funding.

Senator CANAVAN: Thank you.