

**Question on Notice
No. 149
Asked on 18 February 2020**

Ms A Leahy asked Premier and Minister for Trade (Hon. A Palaszczuk)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Government Air Wing—

Will the Premier advise (a) what has been the cost to obtaining an Air Operators Certificate (AOC) over the last five financial years (reported separately) and (b) what funds have been received by the Government Air Wing from external agencies such as but not limited to Donate for Life for the hire of aircraft?

ANSWER:

Queensland Government Air (QGAir) is a division of the Public Safety Business Agency (PSBA). QGAir was formed on 1 July 2014 through the amalgamation of the former Emergency Management Queensland Helicopter Rescue, Police Air Wing and Queensland Government Air Wing.

QGAir delivers life-saving, community safety and state support aviation services to the people and government of Queensland. QGAir operates two separate fleets: QGAir Rotary Wing with five aircraft and QGAir Fixed Wing with seven aircraft.

After the amalgamation of Police Air Wing and Queensland Government Air Wing into QGAir Fixed Wing in 2014 it became a requirement that fixed wing operations should transition to an AOC on advice from the Civil Aviation Safety Authority. QGAir Rotary Wing has operated under an Air Operators Certificate (AOC) since the mid-1990s and the program to implement an AOC for QGAir Fixed Wing is currently being progressed.

In August 2016, QGAir commenced the process to achieve an AOC for QGAir Fixed Wing. QGAir expects to attain the Fixed Wing AOC in 2021.

The costs to obtain an AOC for QGAir Fixed Wing over the last five financial years is:

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (Budget)	Total
Total AOC Expenditure	NIL	\$958 000	\$700 000	\$768 000	\$874 000	\$3 300 000

In 2018-19, QGAir received total funds of \$2 434 291 from external agencies for aviation services:

External agency	Funds received in 2018-19
Motor Accident Insurance Commission	\$1 276 000
Australian Maritime Safety Authority	\$685 047
DonateLife	\$313 596
Northern New South Wales Local Health District	\$147 582
Northern New South Wales Helicopter Rescue Service	\$12 066
Total	\$2 434 291