

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
Questions on Notice
Supplementary Budget Estimates, 22 and 25 October 2019
Agriculture Portfolio

QoN No	Program. Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard page & hearing date or Written question	Date received
1	ABARES	Senator Sterle	ABARES analysis on the drought	<p>Senator STERLE: That's great. Tremendous. Twelve months ago—I am racing through and I've got an eye on that clock, Chair—ABARES gave a presentation to the Drought Summit and stated that you think it's also useful to locate this drought, in its wider policy, in industry context. They said they should:</p> <p>... acknowledge "the tensions between assisting farmers in times of drought, and promoting the best long-term industry performance" ...</p> <p>"Supporting drought affected farmers has the potential—depending on how it's done—to slow the process of farm consolidation and growth in farm scale, which ...</p> <p>ABARES estimates—</p> <p>accounts for as much as one-half of all productivity gains in broad-acre agriculture over the last three decades ...</p> <p>What I'm leading to is, with the worsening drought, has the minister for drought or agriculture—this is for you, Minister, as well—sought further information about ABARES' analysis, that supporting drought affected farms has the potential, depending on how it's done,</p>	101-102 22/10/2019	

				<p>to slow the process of farm consolidation in the growth of farm scale?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: As the Minister for Agriculture I haven't sought that advice from ABARES. I won't be. I'm very comfortable with the drought settings we have to support our regional communities and our family farmers. I can take it on notice for the minister for drought.</p> <p>Senator STERLE: Thank you, that would be great.</p>		
2	ABARES	Senator Patrick	ABARES data	<p>Senator PATRICK: Can you provide some data, some of that historical data and any new data and any caveats that you think should be associated with that new data?</p> <p>Mr Galeano: I'll make sure that it's possible for us to release that publicly. If it is, yes, absolutely.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Is there some secret associated with it?</p> <p>Mr Galeano: I've just got to make sure that the data that we've been given from the ABS is something we can release.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: It's public data. It's paid for by the public. Why would it be secret?</p> <p>Mr Gooday: Depending on the region, there might not be enough data points in it for the ABS to allow us to release it publicly. If there are fewer than a certain number and the people can be identified, they won't release the data.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Is that a legislative requirement?</p> <p>Mr Gooday: Yes.</p>	104 22/10/2019	

				<p>Senator PATRICK: Luckily, in this forum, in Senate estimates, legislation is subservient to the inquiry powers of the Senate, so you would have to simply advance a public interest immunity claim as to why that data wouldn't be available. So you are released from that obligation, because this question has been asked from a Senate committee.</p> <p>Mr Galeano: I'm pretty sure it's okay, but I'll just check for you.</p>		
3	ABARES	Senator Patrick	Statistics on almond production and dairy farms	<p>Senator PATRICK: A lot of people turn up to estimates and say, 'There's a law that says we can't,' and that is simply not correct at law. In the Senate you can offer a public interest immunity claim. But thank you. Moving on, consistent with that, I'm concerned with the growth in the almond production. On the number of dairy farms past and present, would you be able to provide that information?</p> <p>Mr Gooday: We're happy to provide the most up-to-date information we have on that.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: And some historical data as well—just a series in some convenient form where I can look at things, comparing apples and oranges.</p> <p>Mr Gooday: For that region in particular—not in general, I'm guessing.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Yes, perhaps the Southern Riverina. Rice farms past and present?</p> <p>Mr Gooday: Certainly rice production we can do. Rice farms might be more difficult depending on the way in which the ABS data is organised.</p>	104 22/10/2019	

				<p>Senator PATRICK: Once again, my concern here simply relates to this: if you take all this water to almond farms, it is hurting other sectors. I know there's a philosophy of value, sending water to the most valuable crop, but actually we can't all eat cotton and almonds.</p> <p>Mr Gooday: I'm just flagging that, while the population of dairy farms stays relatively constant from year to year and, if you drop out, you don't come back, the population of rice farms is not the same. It's up and down depending on allocations, basically.</p>		
4	ABARES	Senator Patrick	ABARES statistics	<p>Senator PATRICK: Thank you. The number of cows to slaughter and exported?</p> <p>Mr Gooday: Yes, that data is all publicly available.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: By gender—past and present as well, please.</p> <p>Mr Gooday: Yes.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Do you know which countries the cows go to?</p> <p>Mr Gooday: We've got information on exports by destination, yes.</p>	105 22/10/2019	
5	ABARES	Senator Patrick	Jobs in the dairy and rice industry	<p>Senator PATRICK: That would be appreciated. The number of jobs in the dairy industry and in the rice industry, past and present?</p> <p>Mr Gooday: We'll see what's available, but that's more difficult, especially the rice one.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Okay. I have faith. The number of jobs in the almond industry? It sounds like you haven't got a lot of data in that</p>	105 22/10/19	

				<p>particular sector.</p> <p>Mr Gooday: There are the same caveats there. We'll have a look.</p>		
6	ABARES	Senator Patrick	Value to the economy for the dairy, almond nuts and rice sectors	<p>Senator PATRICK: Do you have any notion of the value to the economy of those sectors of dairy, almond nuts and rice?</p> <p>Mr Gooday: We can provide the value of production from each of those sectors for you.</p>	105 22/10/2019	
7	AgVet Chemicals, Fisheries and Forestry Division	Senator Watt	Meeting between Mr Joyce and CEO of the APVMA	<p>Senator WATT: One of the questions on notice you took from budget estimates—and it looks like Senator Wong was asking questions about this at the time—was question No. 8. It refers to a briefing that was provided to the then Minister, Mr Joyce, on 13 September 2016. It looks like a written brief was provided for a meeting between Mr Joyce and the then CEO of the APVMA on 14 September 2016. It was advising that the department would run a request for information process from 15 September 2016, the next day. Mr Quinlivan, were you or any of your officers present at that meeting on 14 September?</p> <p>Mr Quinlivan: I'm pretty confident I wasn't there personally.</p> <p>Senator WATT: You were not?</p> <p>Mr Quinlivan: No. I don't know if there were others present. We'd have to check the record. I don't recall being asked that question previously.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Could you take on notice whether there were any departmental officers at that meeting?</p>	89 22/10/2019	

				Mr Quinlivan: Yes.		
8	AgVet Chemicals, Fisheries and Forestry Division	Senator Watt	Issues discussed in the meeting	Senator WATT: You've said here in the question on notice that the brief was provided. It was talking about the request for information process. If you could also take on notice whether that was the only topic discussed in that meeting? Mr Quinlivan: I can take on notice and endeavour to find out.	89 22/10/2019	
9	AgVet Chemicals, Fisheries and Forestry Division	Senator Ciccione	Advisory council	Senator CICCONE: Could you provide a list of who's on the advisory council? Ms Lauder: Yes, absolutely. Senator CICCONE: And also the current work program? Ms Lauder: Would you like me to give it to you now? Senator CICCONE: I'm happy for you to take it on notice. Ms Lauder: I've got the members in front of me, if you like. Senator CICCONE: You've got the members? Look, I'll just put it on notice. Ms Lauder: No worries. Senator CICCONE: I don't know if there's a work program for the council, too? Ms Lauder: There's a partial one, and the rest is advice that they provide to the minister, or the minister seeks advice on certain issues and they will provide it. But we'll provide all of that on notice.	114 22/10/2019	
10	AgVet Chemicals,	Senator Sterle	CRIS Review	To the Department – 1. What is the Department's view of	Written	

	Fisheries and Forestry Division			<p>conducting this CRIS review when the government has recently announced a 'first principles' review of the Agvet Code?</p> <p>2. Shouldn't the CRIS review wait until the first principles review is complete as it may well identify areas to improve efficiency?</p>		
11	AgVet Chemicals, Fisheries and Forestry Division	Senator Rice	Australian Forestry – Planning for tomorrow, today	<p>1. In relation to the videos released as part of the <i>Australian Forestry - planning for tomorrow, today</i>, what are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The contract numbers for contracts to prepare these videos and the AusTender reference numbers? The costs associated with preparing the videos? 	Written	
12	AgVet Chemicals, Fisheries and Forestry Division	Senator Rice	Forest Industries Delegation	<p>In relation to the Forest Industries Delegation to Japan led by Minister Duniam:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What advice did the Department provide to any Ministers in relation to the visit? Who was included in the delegation? What meetings occurred as part of the delegation trip? Have any memoranda of understanding or other forms of agreement been progressed as part of the trip? If so, have they been concluded? What requests were received by the delegation from non-Australian stakeholders? What gifts, if any, did Departmental staff (Australia-based or locally engaged) receive 	Written	

				during the delegation's visit?		
13	Agriculture 2030 Taskforce	Chair	Red meat exporters	<p>CHAIR: Senator Hanson raises a good point about the cost to red meat exporters and how, if those costs weren't incurred by the processors and exporters, that is money that could flow back towards the producers.</p> <p>Minister, in order to achieve the \$100 billion of agricultural production by 2030, is this something that we could consider as to how this might be a stimulus to the red meat sector? I'm thinking aloud.</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: I'll take that on notice and have further discussions with you. Senator McDonald, I know how passionate you are about a thriving, profitable beef industry.</p>	126-127 22/10/2019	
14	Agricultural Policy Division	Senator Faruqi	Farm animal welfare issues	<p>Senator FARUQI: This is about a report that was published on the department's website last year. It looked into social attitudes to animal welfare and was titled <i>Australia's shifting mindset on farm animal welfare</i>. Basically, it reported on community attitudes. Nine focus group sessions were held, 1,500 Australians were surveyed, and the report said that the community believes the federal government is highly responsible for ensuring farm animal welfare. It made a number of recommendations for the department, including initiating research into technology to reduce harm to animals, conducting research into community trust in animal welfare certification and labelling schemes, conducting research into barriers to adoption of improved animal welfare practices</p>	115-116 22/10/2019	

				<p>on farms, and a number of others. So my question is: what has the department done to act on these recommendations?</p> <p>Ms Deininger: The work was commissioned by the department to provide information to the department about community views on farm animal welfare issues.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: Yes. That's exactly what I just said. I'm asking more about the recommendations.</p> <p>Ms Deininger: I don't have the recommendations to hand and an outline of how we've taken those forward, so I'm happy to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: You don't know what has been done on the recommendations?</p> <p>Ms Deininger: I don't have that information here.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: How will you take them up with the state governments? What's the process of making sure that they happen?</p> <p>Mr Quinlivan: We have been doing that. As I said, the matters generally are going to be discussed with state ministers.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: Could you be more specific about what you have been doing out of the recommendations? Which ones have you specifically discussed with the states?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: We'll take that part on notice. I think the officer did take on notice the actual specifics of the recommendation rollout.</p>		
15	Agricultural	Senator	Unskilled labour	Senator CICCONE: What consultations have	117	

	Policy Division	Cicccone		<p>occurred? Have there been formal consultations or informal consultations where you provide details?</p> <p>Ms Deininger: In relation to the unskilled labour matter?</p> <p>Senator CICCONE: That's right.</p> <p>Ms Deininger: Most recently there were some discussions in the Mallee region with growers and with other impacted organisations, including the city council and organisations that work in the local community, to understand the needs of the local community and businesses in relation to their labour sources.</p> <p>Senator CICCONE: I'm assuming there have been other consultations throughout the past 12 or 18 months on this issue.</p> <p>Mr Quinlivan: Yes, there have, in relation to the Seasonal Worker Program.</p> <p>Senator CICCONE: If so, I'm happy for you to take it on notice, but it would be great to know what consultation has occurred between the Farmers Federation and other relevant stakeholders with respect to this issue.</p>	22/10/2019	
16	Agricultural Policy Division	Senator Faruqi	Animal welfare guidelines	<p>In reference to the national Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines, being developed by Animal Health Australia for state governments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What Standards is Animal Health Australia currently developing on behalf of state governments? 2. What is the current status of the: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Standards and Guidelines for the Welfare of Poultry; b. Standards and Guidelines for the 	Written	

				<p>Welfare of Animals at Slaughtering Establishments</p> <p>c. Standards and Guidelines for the Welfare of Pigs</p> <p>3. What developments have taken place regarding the draft Poultry Standards since public consultation closed in February this year?</p> <p>4. When will we see the post-public consultation version of the Poultry Standards, and what is the reason for any potential delays?</p>		
17	Agricultural Policy Division	Senator Faruqi	Genetically modified organisms	<p>1. Earlier this year the Legislative and Governance Forum on Gene Technology signed off on amendments to the Gene Technology Regulations based on advice from the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources that the market risks were 'not unmanageable'.</p> <p>a. Was the advice a comprehensive analysis of the trade implications of deregulating SDN1 techniques that significant trading partners have not deregulated?</p> <p>b. If no, why not?</p> <p>c. Who produced this advice?</p> <p>d. What consultation was conducted in preparing this advice?</p> <p>e. Did the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources consult with the following stakeholders in preparing this advice?:</p> <p>i. The Department of Foreign Affairs</p>	Written	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> and Trade? And if not why not?: ii. Food and commodity exporters? And if not why not?: iii. Overseas food and commodity importers? And if not why not?: iv. Key overseas trading partners such as Europe and China? And if not why not?: v. International non-GM certifiers? And if not why not?: vi. The organic industry? And if not why not? f. Has the Department prepared a comprehensive analysis of the likely trade consequences of the deregulation of site directed nucleases 1 (SDN-1) in Australia whilst being regulated in Europe? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. If no, why not? Is the Department anticipating to undertake this work? ii. If yes, what conclusions were reached and recommendations made? Please provide a copy. 		
18	Agricultural Policy Division	Senator Rice	Economic impacts of the proposed amendments to the Gene Technology Regulations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has final advice from the Department regarding the likely economic impacts of the proposed amendments to the Gene Technology Regulations been prepared, following input from the states and territories? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Will the Department table this final advice? b. Did any of the state and territories raise 	Written	

				<p>concerns about potential market access issues if these techniques are deregulated?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. If yes, will the Department table the comments provided by the states? ii. If yes, how has the Department resolved these concerns in its final advice? 		
19	Agricultural Policy Division	Senator Rice	GMO crops	<p>Department officials have previously stated that the industry has successfully segregated crops before and this is no different.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is it correct that there is no notification or reporting requirement for any product made using these techniques? b. Is it correct that currently there are no testing protocols for goods produced using these techniques? c. How does the Department anticipate that Australia will be able to supply markets such as Europe and China with a zero tolerance for the presence of unapproved GMOs if it allows the unregulated presence of GMOs in the food chain? 	Written	
20	Agricultural Policy Division	Senator Rice	Unauthorized GMO	<p>As a result of the recent European Court of Justice ruling, the European Union will require organisms produced using new genetic modification techniques such as CRISPR to be assessed for safety and their products labelled. In Australia, these techniques may now be used in agriculture without restriction – i.e. anyone can produce agricultural products using these</p>	Written	

				<p>techniques.</p> <p>a. Can the Department guarantee that under EU law, any shipment of wheat or other commodity will not be rejected in the absence of a guarantee that it does not contain unauthorized GMOs?</p>		
21	Agricultural Policy Division	Senator Rice	Deregulation of SDN-1	<p>The fastest growing food market globally and in Australia is in organic and non-GM products. The Australian organic industry is currently worth \$2.4 billion and growing at 14 per cent per annum.</p> <p>a. The deregulation of SDN-1 means there will be no requirement for traceability. Has the Department considered how Australia can supply this market if it allows the unregulated presence of GMOs in the food chain?</p> <p>b. If no, why not? Does the Department anticipate undertaking this work. If so, when?</p>	Written	
22	Agricultural Policy Division	Senator Rice	Implication of the deregulation of SDN-1	<p>1. Has the Department considered the likely implication of the deregulation of SDN-1 on global export markets for Australian animal products and the impact on rural jobs in Australia?</p> <p>a. If no, why not? Does the Department anticipate this work being done? If so, when?</p> <p>b. If yes, what conclusions has the Department arrived at and what recommendations has it made? Please provide a copy of the report.</p>	Written	

23	Assurance and Legal Division	Senator Kitching	Freedom of Information	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please list the number of Freedom of Information Act requests ('FOI requests') received by the Department for the following years: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 2013-14; b. 2014-15; c. 2015-16; d. 2016-17; e. 2018-19; and f. 2019-20 to date. 2. For each year above, please provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The number of FOI requests the Department granted in full; b. The number of FOI requests the Department granted in part; c. The number of FOI requests the Department refused in full; and d. The number of FOI requests the Department refused for practical reasons under the Freedom of Information Act. 3. For each year above, please also provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The number of times the Department failed to make any decision on a FOI request within the 30 day statutory period; and b. The number of times a request to the Department resulted in a practical refusal (i.e. no decision was made on the request). 4. For each year above, please also provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The number of times the Department's FOI decisions have been appealed to the 	Written	

				<p>OAIC; and</p> <p>b. The number of times has the OAIC overturned – in whole or in part – the Department’s decision to refuse access to material.</p> <p>5. Please provide the staffing (both ASL and headcount) of staff at the Department who work exclusively on FOI requests, broken down by APS level (e.g. three EL1s, four APS6s, one SES) for each of the following years:</p> <p>a. 2013-14;</p> <p>b. 2014-15;</p> <p>c. 2015-16;</p> <p>d. 2016-17;</p> <p>e. 2018-19; and</p> <p>f. 2019-20 to date.</p> <p>6. For each of the years above, please also list the number of officers who are designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the Department.</p> <p>7. In the past 12 months, has the Department seconded additional resources to processing Freedom of Information requests? If so, please detail those resources by APS level.</p> <p>8. Please provide the number of officers who are currently designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the Minister’s office.</p> <p>9. Please provide the number of FOI requests currently under consideration by the Department. Please also provide the number of these requests that are currently overdue</p>		
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				<p>in response.</p> <p>10. Does the department consult or inform the Minister when it receives Freedom of Information requests? If so:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How many times has this occurred in the past twelve months; and b. Please outline the process by which the Department consults the Minister. <p>11. Has the Department consulted or informed another Department or agency about any FOI request in the past twelve months. If so, please provide the legal basis on which that consultation occurred (e.g. third party consultation, transfer of request).</p>		
24	Assurance and Legal Division	Senator Kitching	Legal costs	1. What are the total legal costs for the Department/agency for FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date.	Written	
25	Assurance and Legal Division	Senator Kitching	CDDA Payments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many claims have been received under the Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration scheme (CDDA) by the Department for FY 2018-19? 2. How many claims were: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Accepted. b. Rejected. c. Under consideration. 3. Of the accepted claims, can the Department provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Details of the claim, subject to relevant privacy considerations b. The date payment was made c. The decision maker. 	Written	

26	Assurance and Legal Division	Senator Kitching	Public Interest Disclosures	1. For FY 2018-19 and FY2019-20 to date, how many public interest disclosures have been received.	Written	
27	Assurance and Legal Division	Senator Rice	Outstanding ANAO audits	In relation to any outstanding recommendations listed in the report <i>Implementation of ANAO and Parliamentary Committee Recommendations</i> , for any recommendations relevant to the Department, please list: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What steps the Department has taken to implement relevant recommendations, and when these were undertaken; 2. Whether the recommendations are now implemented in full, and if not, what steps are remaining, and when these will be undertaken. 	Written	
28	Australian Livestock Export Corporation	Senator McMahon	Welfare indicators	Senator McMAHON: For the welfare indicators do you know what the spend is? Mr Sam Brown: To give you an accurate answer, I'll take that on notice.	77 22/10/2019	
29	Australian Livestock Export Corporation	Senator McMahon	KPI program	Senator McMAHON: I understand that. Milestone reports are good to have so you know where the project is going. But, again, they give no indication of the quality of the research or the outcomes. I would ask: are there any KPIs in this deal with Murdoch for their research that requires them to publish any papers out of it? Mr Enright: Certainly there's KPIs in the program. I'd have to take it on notice as to whether it requires publication. As I said earlier, our objective here is not publishing per se but it is to get the indicators. You've got to go through	78 22/10/2019	

				<p>it. The design of the research project when it was done was to outline a research program that would deliver our indicators or usable indicators.</p> <p>Senator McMAHON: I do understand that. The information that comes out is not worth a cracker if it doesn't stand up to scientific scrutiny. If it's not published, there's nothing to acknowledge that there's any value in the information whatsoever.</p> <p>Mr Enright: We'll take that on notice.</p>		
30	Australian Livestock Export Corporation	Senator Faruqi	2018-19 Annual Report	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regarding LiveCorp's 2018/2019 Annual report, Page 4, specifically two projects on "monitoring, on the spot health and welfare advice and reporting to support an Indonesian government program providing breeding cattle to small holders" <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please provide a description of this project, budget and source of funding. b. Has a report ever been commissioned on the welfare of the breeding cattle sent to Indonesia? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. If yes, what were the results of the report? ii. Please table a copy of the report. 2. Regarding LiveCorp's 2018/2019 Annual report, Page 12, specifically Commonwealth grant funding to monitor 2,675 Australian breeding cattle imported under the Government of Indonesia's smallholder-breeding program" <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is this the same project as described in question 1? 	Written	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. If not, Please provide a description of this project, budget and source of funding. b. If not, has a report ever been commissioned on the welfare of the breeding cattle sent to Indonesia? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. If yes, what were the results of the report? ii. Please table a copy of the report. <p>3. Regarding LiveCorp's 2018/2019 Annual report, Page 20 , ("Support for the 2018 Indonesian breeder import program" and "Extended support for the 2018 Indonesia breeder import program")</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is this the same project as described in question 1? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. If not, Please provide a description of this project, budget and source of funding. b. If not, has a report ever been commissioned on the welfare of the breeding cattle sent to Indonesia? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. If yes, what were the results of the report? ii. Please table a copy of the report. <p>4. Regarding LiveCorp's 2018/2019 Annual report, Page 62 , specifically the Livestock Export Program (LEP) monitoring developments around the Indonesian Government's breeder import policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please provide a description of this project, budget and source of funding. 		
31	Australian	Senator	Breeder cattle to	1. MLA reported in 2018 that the Indonesian	Written	

	Livestock Export Corporation	Faruqi	Indonesia	<p>Government had plans to import 6000 breeder cattle from Australia. How has Livecorp been involved in facilitating and fulfilling that demand?</p> <p>a. How have the welfare outcomes of the cows and their calves been managed and monitored?</p> <p>b. Given only 2,675 breeder cattle have been exported out of a planned 6,000 breeders, are further shipments confirmed?</p>		
32	Australian Livestock Export Corporation	Senator Faruqi	Breeder cattle to Indonesia statement	<p>1. At the Senate Estimates Committee hearing on 22/10/2019, Senator Faruqi asked Livecorp about breeder cattle:</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: I just want to move on to Meat and Livestock Australia, which in 2018 reported that Indonesia had plans to import 6,000 breeder cattle from Australia. Is there any LiveCorp program to fulfil that demand? Is LiveCorp involved at all?</p> <p>Mr Enright: We don't export cattle, no.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: So, you're not involved in that?</p> <p>Mr Enright: We're not involved in exporting cattle to Indonesia, no. Some of our members could be, but not LiveCorp</p> <p>a. Does LiveCorp stand by this statement?</p> <p>b. If not, why did Livecorp mislead Senator Faruqi</p>	Written	
33	Australian Pesticides and Veterinary	Senator Sterle	APVMA Cost Recovery Impact Statement	<p>To Dr Chris Parker –</p> <p>1. On 9 April you told the committee, “We've improved our budget position,</p>	Written	

	Medicines Authority			<p>and as we look to the future we continue to work on the cost recovery implementation statement...Work is progressing well on the CRIS, and we'll be consulting with industry and stakeholders over the coming months.”</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. By how much has the APVMA improved its budget position? b. Can you please provide an update on this process and your consultation with industry and stakeholders to date? c. Does this process fully reflect the costs associated with operating in a new environment? d. What specific cost containment and efficiency dividend measures have you put in place, or expect to put in place to improve the APVMA's future financial position? 		
34	Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	Senator Sterle	APVMA relocation	<p>To Dr Chris Parker –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the total cost, to date, of the relocation of the agency? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the original estimate of the cost? b. What costs are still to be incurred? 2. Can you confirm to the committee – considering the government gave a commitment to meet the costs of this pork barrelling exercise – that all relocation costs have been met and have not, in fact, been borne by the farming sector? 	Written	

35	Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	Senator Sterle	APVMA Quarterly reports	<p>To Dr Chris Parker –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The most recent performance stats for the APVMA show that timeframes remain steady. However, timeframe performance for major assessment applications is at just 66 per cent. Of those applications not meeting timeframe, how many days – on average – are they overdue? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What does the APVMA need to increase these timeframe approvals? 	Written	
36	Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	Senator Sterle	APVMA media	<p>To Dr Chris Parker –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why did you choose not to be interviewed for a recent 60 Minutes story regarding glyphosate? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Do you not think Australia’s regulator should make itself available to explain its role to the Australian public? b. How many staff are employed by the APVMA in the media / communications team? 	Written	
37	Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	Senator Rice	Travel costs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide costs for any contracts with or payments to QBT for provision of travel facilitation or other services in each of the following financial years: 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18. 2. What proportion of the travel facilitation costs for QBT in the 2018-19 financial year 	Written	

				are associated with flights between Canberra and Armidale? Or Armidale and other locations?		
38	Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	Senator Rice	Glyphosate	<p>The APVMA response to the 60 Minutes story on glyphosate notes that the APVMA “only registers chemical products where the risks can be mitigated through specific application and safety instructions on the product label. It is then the responsibility of state and territory governments to control the use of these products.”</p> <p>a. Does the APVMA maintain the view that the risks can mitigated, given recent legal outcomes in the United States, the Victorian Government review, and decisions by Australian councils to trial alternatives to glyphosate based weed control products?</p>	Written	
39	Australian Pork Limited	Senator McMahon	Wild boar exports	<p>Senator McMAHON: This is a question for APL. Do you see any scope for expanding or developing a wild boar export industry? I know quite some years ago we had a thriving one going. Is there any scope for developing that as an incentive for people to go out and reduce pig numbers?</p> <p>Ms Andrae: APL represents domestic pig producers. Our levy payers are from that domestic environment. I would probably need to come back to you on that one. For us, I guess the key message is wild pigs are causing concern. We'd like to be taking activity. I believe that's exploring all options on those wild pigs. If that is an opportunity for APL to show</p>	72 22/10/2019	

				<p>leadership in the future, that's something we could work with the government on.</p> <p>Senator McMAHON: Would you be happy to take that on notice?</p> <p>Ms Andrae: We will take that on notice.</p>		
40	Biosecurity Animal Division	Senator Faruqi	Research on primates	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many primates are currently being used in research in each State? 2. How many primates were imported into Australia last year, and from which countries? 3. How often are the three primate breeding facilities in Australia being inspected to ensure that their standard of care and management of the animals is of the appropriate standard? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. When did the last inspection take place for each facility and were the facilities found to be ensuring the appropriate standard of care? 4. Please provide details of all research and tests that have been carried out in Australian facilities on live primates. 5. Is there a requirement that a veterinarian be on site permanently where research on primates is being conducted? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If yes, please provide details. b. If not, why not? 6. Please provide copies of all reports made in the last by inspectors and veterinarians related to all facilities in Australia that conduct research on non-human primates. 7. How is the Department ensuring that non-human primates are not being treated in 	Written	

				<p>conditions similar to what recently emerged in Germany? Details here: https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/oct/15/barbaric-tests-on-monkeys-lead-to-calls-for-closure-of-german-lab</p>		
41	Biosecurity Animal Division	Senator Rice	African Swine Flu	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the Department aware of any instances of African swine fever (ASF) in Australia? 2. Does the Department have any estimates of the economic impact if ASF were to enter Australia? 3. What specific activities, including in either northern Australia or other areas, has the Department undertaken in order to address the heightened risk of ASF? 4. Please provide monthly figures for the number of ASF tests completed by the CSIRO Australian Animal Health Laboratory in 2018 and to date in 2019. Which of these tests detected fragments of ASF viruses? 5. Has the Department undertaken any risk assessment in relation to ASF in feral pigs, particularly in northern Australia? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What risks were identified? How does the Department intend to manage them? b. How does the Department monitor the feral pig population in terms of ASF risks? 6. Has the Department analysed risks or undertaken any restrictions in relation to transport of pigs between piggeries? 7. Is the Department aware of any updated risk analysis since the 2004 final Import Risk 	Written	

				Analysis report for pigmeat? Has the Department undertaken any more recent analysis?		
42	Biosecurity Operations Division	Senator Hanson	Meat inspectors	<p>Senator HANSON: You employ about 200 meat inspectors?</p> <p>Ms Freeman: I would have to get you the numbers. There is a range of them. I would have to take that on notice, but there would be a range of several hundred meat inspectors and also people performing various different roles that are on meat establishments, but also some of the people we would have in biosecurity operations and, here in Canberra, running the program.</p>	125 22/10/2019	
43	Biosecurity Operations Division	Senator Rice	Norfolk Island Biosecurity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What biosecurity risks are present for Norfolk Island? 2. What procedures are in place to protect Norfolk Island from biosecurity risks? 3. Do Norfolk Island biosecurity inspections take place on board or on shore? 	Written	
44	Biosecurity Policy and Implementation Division	Senator Sterle	Biosecurity Levy	<p>Senator STERLE: Can the department provide information about who has been consulted post election on the levy? Can you do that for me, Minister or Mr Quinlivan?</p> <p>Mr Quinlivan: We'll take that on notice now with the expectation that we will provide that information later on when the relevant officers are here.</p>	42 22/10/2019	
45	Biosecurity Policy and Implementation	Senator Sterle	Biosecurity imports levy	<p>Senator STERLE: Can you tell me why the department's website, Mr Quinlivan, hasn't been updated as to what is happening with the</p>	42 22/10/2019	

	Division			<p>biosecurity imports levy?</p> <p>Mr Quinlivan: Have you got a date you could help me out with there?</p> <p>Senator STERLE: On 5 April 2019.</p> <p>Mr Quinlivan: Well, I think we would have to check that.</p>		
46	Biosecurity Policy and Implementation Division	Senator Roberts	Fire ant eradication program	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How effective has the fire ant eradication program, as managed by Biosecurity Queensland, been in eliminating this pest? 2. How widespread is the problem and has it crossed borders into New South Wales yet? 3. What is being done to prevent further infestations from overseas imports? 	Written	
47	Biosecurity Policy and Implementation Division	Senator Roberts	Spend on eradication program since 2001	How much has been spent to date since 2001 on the eradication program?	Written	
48	Biosecurity Policy and Implementation Division	Senator Roberts	Fire Ant program	Given that the program has been run by the Queensland Government to date, and has failed to achieve its goal, would it be better for the Commonwealth to take charge of this program as the State resources and strategies have so far not been adequate and the threat is a national one?	Written	
49	Biosecurity Policy and Implementation Division	Senator Roberts	Baits	Given that baits become ineffective when wet and the Queensland wet season is about to start, what is the next step in taking control of the problem before it is too late to fix?	Written	
50	Biosecurity Policy and Implementation Division	Senator Rice	Biosecurity Levy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Department undertaken any work on the biosecurity levy since the report by the Biosecurity Imports Levy Industry Steering Committee? 2. What is the current expected start date of 	Written	

				<p>the biosecurity levy?</p> <p>3. How much revenue is the levy expected to raise? Please provide a breakdown by financial year.</p> <p>4. How will ships carrying cement materials be treated under the current proposal?</p> <p>5. What steps are expected to occur between now and the start of the biosecurity levy?</p>		
51	Biosecurity Policy and Implementation Division	Senator Rice	Invasive Ants Biosecurity Plan	<p>1. What is the status of the National Invasive Ant Biosecurity Plan 2018-2028?</p> <p>2. What funding has been allocated to implement the plan? Please provide a breakdown by region and species targeted.</p> <p>3. What steps has the Department taken to implement the plan?</p> <p>4. When did the National Environment and Invasives Committee last consider the plan? At what meetings has it considered it in the last year?</p>	Written	
52	Compliance Division	Senator Ciccone	Timber infringement	<p>Senator CICCONE: As I was saying about the illegal logging, my question really went to this: a Queensland based importer was fined under Australia's Illegal Logging Prohibition Act for failing to provide information relating to the sourcing of its timber, receiving an infringement of \$12,600. Have there been any infringements since this incident to do with this Queensland company? If so, how many and for what?</p> <p>Ms Lane: There's only been one infringement issued to date.</p> <p>Senator CICCONE: When was that?</p> <p>Ms Lane: That was around May this year, for</p>	116-117 22/10/2019	

				<p>failing to comply with the due diligence requirements.</p> <p>Senator CICCONE: Are you able to provide any other details, like which states?</p> <p>Ms Lane: No, I don't have any other detail with me in relation to that. I'm happy to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator CICCONE: You don't have a specific date?</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: I'll just leave that on notice then to get some specific answers.</p> <p>Ms Lane: I know it was paid around May, so the infringement would have been issued shortly before that. I'm happy to provide the exact date on notice.</p>		
53	Compliance Division	Senator Brockman	Deck hands/stock handlers on live export vessels	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many individual deck-hands/stock-handlers who worked on live export vessels have had direct communication with the Department in relation to the vessels under investigation for potential breaches of animal welfare practices? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. For each individual above outline: number of contacts, type of contact (phone, e-message, email, written, etc.) and date of contact? 2. How many formal written statements by deck-hands/stock-handlers working on live export vessels has the Department received? 3. How many statements included records of email/e-message correspondence between deck-hands/stock-handlers and Animals Australia, individuals linked to Animals Australia, or associated entities? 	Written	

				<p>4. Do these records match the record of communication supplied by Animals Australia?</p> <p>5. Did Animals Australia or related entities provide full and comprehensive material as part of the confidentiality agreement entered into with the Department?</p> <p>6. When was the confidentiality agreement entered into and what are its terms?</p> <p>7. Did Animals Australia or related entities have any obligations of disclosure under the terms of the confidentiality agreement?</p> <p>8. How does the Department treat evidence obtained through a cash inducement?</p> <p>9. Does the Department support cash payments in return for evidence?</p>		
54	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Watt	Number of farms minister has visited	<p>Senator WATT: Minister, how many farms have you visited since the election?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: I'd have to take it on notice.</p>	20-21 22/10/2019	
55	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Watt	Visits to Queensland	<p>Senator WATT: And what about regional Queensland particularly? How many times have you been there since the election?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: I went to Mackay. I would have to take that on notice, but I can give you the detail. That was one of the most interesting visits that I did in that first period before the winter break.</p>	21 22/10/2019	
56	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Watt	Informing members of federal members visits	<p>Senator WATT: I will pick up where we were before the break. I was asking about the comments from the New South Wales agriculture minister Mr Marshall. He's had quite</p>	25 22/10/2019	

				<p>a lot to say. There's another article which I have here. He went on 2GB radio launching what they describe as a scathing attack on his federal counterpart. Mr Marshall made the comment that Mr Littleproud's comments are offensive and infuriating. He said:</p> <p>"He flies in on his big aeroplane out to regions like Inverell in my electorate, offers nothing, blames everyone, hops back on the plane and flies somewhere else.</p> <p>"It's my own electorate that he decided to do this in. Didn't even bother picking up the phone, even though I was only an hour away, to let me know that he was coming."</p> <p>Is that any way to treat your interstate counterparts, Minister?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: I think all ministers do their very best to inform particularly their federal colleagues of either party when they are arriving in their jurisdiction. I'm sure that best attempts were made to ensure that both state and federal colleagues were informed of any visit. But I'll have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator WATT: You said that people try to inform their federal colleagues. But wouldn't you think that a National Party federal drought minister would tell a National Party New South Wales agriculture minister, who is the local member, that he is planning to come and have a chat?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: I'll have to take that on notice, Senator Watt.</p>		
57	Corporate	Senator	Contacting electorate	Senator WATT: Minister Marshall hardly thinks	26	

	Strategy and Governance Division	Watt	members	<p>there's been collaboration if he's saying that Minister Littleproud doesn't even bother picking up the phone, even though he was only an hour away, to let him know he was coming. That's not exactly collaboration, is it?</p> <p>CHAIR: Senator Watt, I draw your attention to expenditure questions, please. If you could be a bit more specific, that would be terrific.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Why didn't Minister Littleproud want to incur the expenditure involved in making a phone call?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: I'll have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator WATT: That's how you do it.</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: That's a big tick. I'll take that on notice, Senator Watt, and find out.</p> <p>Senator WATT: I've lost track. I know telecommunications costs have increased under this government. Was it was a poor service that Minister Littleproud had? Was he in a black spot?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: With the rate we're rolling out mobile black spot towers under this government—over 1,000 funded prior to the election and rounds 5 and 6 announced and going to tender at the moment—I doubt it. But if he was, I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator WATT: He wouldn't have been in a black spot. He doesn't even have that excuse.</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: I'll take that on notice.</p>	22/10/2019	
58	Corporate Strategy and Governance	Senator Watt	Press release from the minister on 27 September	Senator WATT: Did the department draft this press release from the minister on 27 September?	39 22/10/2019	

	Division			Mr Quinlivan: I would have to take that on notice. I imagine we would have provided some content for it. But I don't know whether we provided that.		
59	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Executive Management	<p>1. In relation to executive management for the Department and its agencies, can the following be provided for FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 to date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The total number of executive management positions b. The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions. c. The change in the number of executive manager positions. d. The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions. 	Written	
60	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Ministerial functions	<p>1. In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio since 1 July 2018, can the following be provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. List of functions. b. List of all attendees. c. Function venue. d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). e. Details of any food served. f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage. g. Any available photographs of the function. h. Details of any entertainment provided. 	Written	

61	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Briefings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Department/agency or the Minister's office provided briefings to independents/minor parties in the Senate or House of Representatives. If so, can the following be provided: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The subject matter of the briefing. b. The location and date of the briefing. c. Who proposed the briefing. d. Attendees of the briefing by level/position 	Written	
62	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Acting Minister arrangements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the Department provide all leave periods of the portfolio Minister from 24 August 2018 to date. 2. Can the Department further provide acting Minister arrangements for each leave period. 	Written	
63	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Market research	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the Department/agency undertake any polling or market research in relation to government policies or proposed policies. 2. If so, can the Department provide an itemised list of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Subject matter b. Company c. Costs d. Contract date period 3. Can the Department/agency advise what, if any, research was shared with the Minister or their office and the date and format in which this occurred. 	Written	
64	Corporate Strategy and Governance	Senator Kitching	Advertising and information campaigns	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for FY 2018-19 and for the 	Written	

	Division			<p>current financial year to date.</p> <p>2. What advertising and information campaigns did the Department/agency run in each relevant period. For each campaign, please provide:</p> <p>a. When approval was first sought.</p> <p>b. The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process.</p> <p>c. the timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline.</p> <p>3. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided.</p>		
65	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Promotional merchandise	<p>1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on promotional merchandise for FY 2018-19.</p> <p>2. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided.</p> <p>3. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided.</p>	Written	
66	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Social media influencers	<p>1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on social media influencers for FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 to date.</p> <p>2. What advertising or information campaigns did the Department/agency use social media</p>	Written	

				<p>influencers to promote.</p> <p>3. Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided.</p> <p>4. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided.</p>		
67	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Commissioned reports and reviews	<p>1. Since 24 August 2018, how many Reports or Reviews have been commissioned. Please provide details of each report including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Date commissioned. Date report handed to Government. Date of public release. Terms of Reference. Committee members and/or Reviewers. <p>2. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost.</p> <p>3. The background and credentials of the Review personnel.</p> <p>4. The remuneration arrangements applicable to the Review personnel, including fees, disbursements and travel</p> <p>5. The cost of any travel attached to the conduct of the Review.</p> <p>6. How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level.</p> <p>7. What is the current status of each report. When is the Government intending to respond to each report if it has not already done so.</p>	Written	
68	Corporate Strategy and Governance	Senator Kitching	Board appointments	<p>1. Provide an update of portfolio boards, including board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members.</p>	Written	

	Division			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio 3. Please detail any board appointments made from 1 July 2018 to date. 4. What has been the total value of all Board Director fees and disbursements paid. 5. What is the value of all domestic travel by Board Directors. 6. What is the value of all international travel by Board Directors. 		
69	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Appointments – briefs prepared	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many times has the Department prepared a brief for statutory authorities, executive agencies, advisory boards, government business enterprises or any other Commonwealth body which includes a reference to a former Liberal or National member of parliament at a state, territory or federal level. 2. For each brief prepared, can the Department advise: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The former member. b. The board or entity. c. Whether the request originated from the Minister's office. d. Whether the appointment was made. 	Written	
70	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Stationery	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much has been spent on ministerial stationery requirements in FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date. 	Written	
71	Corporate Strategy and Governance	Senator Kitching	Media Monitoring	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the 	Written	

	Division			<p>each Minister's office for FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Which agency or agencies provided these services. b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2019-20. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Which agency or agencies provided these services. b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract Notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2019-20. 		
72	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Communications staff	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following: 2. By Department or agency: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location. b. How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they 	Written	

				<p>undertake and their location.</p> <p>c. How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location.</p> <p>d. How many are graphic designers.</p> <p>e. How many are media managers.</p> <p>f. How many organise events.</p> <p>3. Do any departments/agencies have independent media studios.</p> <p>a. If yes, why.</p> <p>b. When was it established.</p> <p>c. What is the set up cost.</p> <p>d. What is the ongoing cost.</p> <p>e. How many staff work there and what are their classifications.</p>		
73	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Departmental staff in the Minister's office	<p>1. Can the Department provide an update on the total number of departmental staff seconded to ministerial offices, including:</p> <p>a. Duration of secondment.</p> <p>b. APS level.</p> <p>2. Can the Department provide an update on the total number of DLOs/CLOs for ministerial offices including APS level.</p>	Written	
74	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Congestion busting	<p>1. Can the Department/agency advise how it is "congestion busting" in relation to bureaucratic bottlenecks and regulatory bottlenecks.</p> <p>2. Have any additional resources been allocated within the Department to achieve "congestion busting" within the department.</p>	Written	
75	Corporate	Senator	Recruitment	1. What amount has been expended by the	Written	

	Strategy and Governance Division	Kitching		<p>department/agency on external recruitment or executive search services in FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date.</p> <p>2. Which services were utilised. Can an itemised list be provided.</p>		
76	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Staffing	<p>1. How many full-time equivalent staff are engaged at 21 October 2019. How does this differ from the figures presented in Budget Paper 4 in the 2019-20 Budget.</p> <p>2. How many of these positions are (a) on-going and (b) non-ongoing.</p> <p>3. How many redundancies have occurred in FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date. How many were:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a. voluntary</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b. involuntary.</p> <p>4. How many of those redundancies occurred as a result of departmental restructuring. What is the total cost of those redundancies.</p> <p>5. What was the total value in dollar terms of all termination payments paid to exiting staff.</p> <p>6. How much overtime or equivalent has been paid to staff in FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date.</p> <p>7. How many section 37 notices under the Public Service Act 1999 have been offered in FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date.</p>	Written	
77	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Comcare	<p>1. For FY 2018-19 and FY2019-20 to date, can the Department advise whether it has been the subject of any investigations involving Comcare. If yes, please provide details of the</p>	Written	

				<p>circumstances and the status.</p> <p>2. Can the Department advise the number of sanctions it has received from Comcare in the FY2019-20 to date.</p>		
78	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Fair Work Commission	<p>1. For FY 2018-19 and FY2019-20 to date, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Commission within the Department or agency.</p>	Written	
79	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Fair Work Ombudsman	<p>1. For FY 2018-19 and FY2019-20 to date, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Ombudsman within the Department or agency.</p>	Written	
80	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner	<p>1. For FY 2018-19 and FY2019-20 to date, how many references have been made to the Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner within the Department or agency.</p>	Written	
81	Corporate Strategy and Governance Division	Senator Kitching	Departmental staff allowances	<p>1. Can a list of Departmental/agency allowances and reimbursements available to employees be provided.</p>	Written	
82	Corporate Strategy	Senator Sterle	Staffing profile	<p>1. How many APS staff were employed in DAWR at 30 June 2019?</p> <p>2. What is the current ASL cap for DAWR?</p> <p>3. As at 30 June 2019, how many people were engaged through non APS employment arrangements?</p> <p>a. Labour Hire</p> <p>b. Contractors</p> <p>c. Outsourced staff</p> <p>4. How do you decide if work is going to be</p>	Written	

				<p>done by an APS employee or someone employed under contract, labour hire arrangements or some other third party arrangement?</p> <p>5. What are the guidelines or practices that apply in these circumstances?</p> <p>6. What is the staffing budget is for directly employed staff versus staff engaged through contracting and labour hire arrangements for 30 June 2019?</p> <p>7. How much is the department spending on consultants and contractors?</p>		
83	Cotton Research and Development Corporation	Senator Patrick	Cotton map	<p>With reference to the joint collaboration for the CottonMap:</p> <p>https://cottonaustralia.com.au/latest-campaigns/cottonmap</p> <p>1. Why is the CottonMap no longer publicly available?</p> <p>2. What has been the annual Commonwealth contribution to the CottonMap service over the past 3 financial years?</p>	Written	
84	Dairy Australia Limited	Senator Roberts	Moon Lake	<p>Senator ROBERTS: I'd like to continue on something that Senator Hanson raised, and that is Moon Lake, Australia's largest dairy producer. Most of my questions will be relevant, but some I'll leave out because I think they are better dealt with by the Foreign Investment Review Board. If they are not relevant, tell me. Are the large Chinese owners of Moon Lake, Van Diemen's Land Dairy, members of Dairy</p>	63 22/10/2019	

				Australia? Are they contributors? Mr Odgers: We would have to take that question on notice.		
85	Dairy Australia Limited	Senator Roberts	Foreign Investment Review Board	<p>Senator ROBERTS: Did the Foreign Investment Review Board consult Dairy Australia about the sale?</p> <p>Dr Nation: I have been in my role 12 months. I would have to go back to previous records to be able to answer that question.</p> <p>Senator ROBERTS: I know the Foreign Investment Review Board is pretty heavily worked. Perhaps someone could go back to the records, please, and let me know. What benefits flowed to the Tasmanian economy or the Australian economy and the Australian dairy industry from the Chinese purchase?</p>	63 22/10/2019	
86	Export Division	Senator Faruqi	Meramist Animal Cruelty Report	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Senator McKenzie indicated that a federal Government vet stationed at Meramist Abattoir in Queensland made 9 animal welfare reports this year. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please table copies of the 9 reports. 2. Has the vet position at Meramist Abattoir been vacant at any time over the last two years? If yes, please provide the dates it was vacant. 3. What has the turnover of staff for the position of the federal government vet at Meramist Abattoir been? 4. Can the Government confirm that the vet observes operations at Meramist both inside and outside the abattoir? 5. Will the Government investigate why the Government vet didn't raise any animal 	Written	

				welfare concerns from inside the abattoir, given what we have seen from the footage released by ABC?		
87	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Watt	Investigations	<p>Senator WATT: Do Mr Brown or Mr Mason know whether that is correct; that the initial investigation happened, finished and was then reopened? Is that correct?</p> <p>Mr Scott Brown: We'd probably need to double-check that, but that is my understanding.</p> <p>Senator STERLE: I will help you out. Yes. Just say yes, you lot. For crying out loud. We have gone over this for years and years. Yes, it has reopened.</p>	87 22/10/2019	
88	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Watt	APVMA investigations in ministers incoming briefs	<p>Senator WATT: Do you know whether there was anything in the minister's incoming briefs when she was first appointed?</p> <p>Mr Quinlivan: I can't recall, and it's entirely possible we didn't include any briefing in the incoming minister's brief because the issue had received a lot of attention and I think at that time we probably would have had the view that it had been tested exhaustively and didn't look to be something the minister really needed to know any more about. I can see we might have thought at the time that it was not something she needed to know any more about. But I'd have to check that.</p>	89 22/10/2019	
89	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Watt	JLL warrants	<p>Senator WATT: Mr Quinlivan, do you know whether Minister Littleproud's office was ever advised about the police warrants that had been issued on JLL?</p> <p>Senator WATT: I would need to check.</p> <p>Mr Brown: We will double-check, but I'm fairly</p>	90 22/10/2019	

				certain that we wouldn't have advised the minister's office that those warrants had been issued.		
90	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Watt	Meeting with Ms Richards	<p>Senator WATT: You don't remember having responded to Ms Richards?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: No, I don't, but I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Basically she's pleading with you to meet with you. What she says in this email may or may not be true. She says that 'in the last few weeks'—so May-June—'Barnaby Joyce has made several alarming comments on an active New South Wales police investigation on a firebombing case, one which now involves his tender process. The mind boggles as to how an ex-Deputy PM thinks that it's appropriate to comment.' Then she says, 'Bridget, could we meet?' Could you take on notice that request?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: Yes, I will definitely take that on notice.</p>	92 22/10/2019	
91	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Gallagher	External Consultants	<p>1. In relation to the use of all external consultants in the Department or agencies within the portfolio, can the following be provided.</p> <p>a. For each of the last six financial years from 2013-14 to 2018-19, the total amount spent on external consultants, including:</p> <p>i. contracts tagged as a "consultancy".</p> <p>ii. contracts not defined as a "consultancy", but tagged as "business intelligence consulting</p>	Written	

				<p>services”, “information technology consultation services”, “management advisory services”, “management support services”, “organisational structure consultation”, “risk management consultation services” or “strategic planning consultation services”</p> <p>b. The total amount of full time equivalent hours (FTE’s) provided by external consultants in 2018-19.</p> <p>c. The total amount of variances granted to external consultant contracts (including those specified in 1(a)(i) above) in 2018-19.</p> <p>d. A breakdown by consultant, specifications and project completion for 2018-19.</p>		
92	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Gallagher	Information technology consultant spend	<p>1. In relation to expenditure on information technology in the Department or agencies within the portfolio, can the following be provided.</p> <p>a. For each of the last six financial years from 2013-14 to 2018-19, the total amount spent on information technology consultation services</p> <p>b. The total amount of full time equivalent hours (FTE’s) provided by information technology consultation services in 2018-19.</p> <p>c. The total amount contracted to information technology consultation</p>	Written	

				<p>services in 2018-19.</p> <p>d. The total amount of variances granted to information technology consultation services contracts in 2018-19.</p> <p>e. A breakdown by consultant, specifications and project completion for 2018-19.</p>		
93	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Gallagher	External contractors	<p>1. In relation to the use of all external contractors in the Department or agencies within the portfolio, can the following be provided:</p> <p>a. The total amount spent on all contracts for Management and Business Professionals and Administrative Services for each of the last six financial years from 2013-14 to 2018-19.</p> <p>b. The total amount spent on all contracts tagged as "Temporary Personnel Services" for each of the last six financial years from 2013-14 to 2018-19.</p> <p>c. The total number of external contractors employed in 2018-19.</p> <p>d. The aggregate total remuneration payable for all external contractors employed in 2018-19.</p> <p>e. The total number of FTE hours provided by external contractors in 2018-19.</p>	Written	
94	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Gallagher	Information technology contractors	<p>1. In relation to the use of external information technology contractors in the Department or agencies within the portfolio, can the following be provided:</p> <p>a. The total amount spent on external contractors for each of the last six</p>	Written	

				<p>financial years from 2013-14 to 2018-19.</p> <p>b. The total number of external contractors employed in 2018-19.</p> <p>c. The aggregate total remuneration payable for all external contractors employed in 2018-19.</p> <p>d. The total number of FTE hours provided by external contractors in 2018-19.</p>		
95	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Gallagher	Grants	<p>1. Please provide, for all administered and discretionary grant programs administered by each department and agency within the portfolio:</p> <p>a. Name of the administered or discretionary grant program.</p> <p>b. The recipient of the grant.</p> <p>c. The ABN or ACN of the grant recipient.</p> <p>d. The charitable status of the grant recipient.</p> <p>e. Who authorised the grant payment.</p> <p>f. For each year of the budget and forward estimates:</p> <p>i. What is the total funding budgeted for the program;</p> <p>ii. How much funding has been contracted and allocated;</p> <p>iii. How much funding has been contracted but not allocated;</p> <p>iv. How much funding has been committed but not contracted;</p> <p>v. How much funding is uncommitted, uncontracted and unallocated.</p>	Written	
96	Finance and	Senator	Cost of APS Staff	The total cost of all staff employed under the	Written	

	Business Support Division	Gallagher		Public Service Act for each of the last six financial years from 2013/14 to 2018/19.		
97	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Kitching	Departmental functions	<p>1. In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies within the portfolio since 1 July 2018, can the following be provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> List of functions. List of all attendees. Function venue. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive). Details of any food served. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage. Any available photographs of the function. Details of any entertainment provided. 	Written	
98	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Kitching	Executive office upgrades	Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries been upgraded since 1 July 2018. If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive).	Written	
99	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Kitching	Facilities upgrades	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Were there any upgrades to facility premises at any of the Departments or agencies since 1 July 2018. This includes but is not limited to: staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment. If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrades be provided 	Written	

				<p>together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive).</p> <p>3. If so, can any photographs of the upgraded facilities be provided.</p>		
100	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Kitching	Staff travel	1. What is the total cost of staff travel for departmental/agency employees for FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to date.	Written	
101	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Kitching	Secretarial travel	<p>1. Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Secretary of the Department since 1 July 2018 be provided including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Flights for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel. b. Ground transport for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. c. Accommodation for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed. d. Meals and other incidentals for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided. e. Any available photographs documenting the Secretary's travel should also be provided. 	Written	

102	Fisheries Research and Development Corporation	Senator Whish-Wilson	Fishery papers	<p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: Although I'm not a scientist, I have done a fishery modelling course. I have read the other two papers, and they're very specifically addressing that issue, which, as you know, is a fundamental issue—</p> <p>Dr Hone: There was a problem with the Dan Gaughan paper, as you probably recall. It's actually behind a pay window. I think they were, from what we gathered, going to make it a non-pay window. We will only put papers up that are publicly available. We'll have a look into that and find out if they've released it.</p>	96 22/10/2019	
103	Fisheries Research and Development Corporation	Senator Patrick	Carp	<p>Senator PATRICK: Just as a measure, if you've got carp dying, that tells you there is something more wrong than what we saw last year, as horrific as that was. Things are clearly getting worse if carp are dying.</p> <p>Dr Hone: I don't think you can draw that conclusion. One thing we do know about native fish is that they have evolved for our drought conditions better than carp. We know that they have the ability to find the deeper holes to reside in. Their metabolic conditions are such that they can go into almost a no-feeding component, while carp are much more metabolically active. So I don't think you can draw the conclusion that, if you see dead carp, the system is worse. But I can get you some scientific evidence for that if you want.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: I'd be interested in a short description of the carp kills that have occurred and whether that is a useful indicator of anything.</p>	99-100 22/10/2019	

104	Information Services Division	Senator Gallagher	Protected Security Policy Framework and Essential 8 Compliance	<p>PSPF and Essential 8 Compliance to be asked to all non-corporate Commonwealth entities</p> <p>The Australian Government set a target date for government entities to achieve compliance with the Australian Signals Directorate's Top Four mitigation strategies as detailed in the Protected Security Policy Framework (PSPF), INFOSEC 10 core requirements¹ by 30 June 2014². Non-corporate Commonwealth entities are required to apply the Mandatory 4 whereas it is only considered best practice for corporate Commonwealth entities and wholly-owned Commonwealth companies. ASD had stated that implementing the top 4 mitigation strategies will be able to prevent over 85% of unauthorised intrusions.</p> <p>Overall compliance and reporting</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the Department compliant with the core requirements in the Protected Security Policy Framework, <i>INFOSEC 10: Safeguarding information from cyber threats</i> policy? 2. Under the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013, all non-corporate Commonwealth entities are required to report annually to the Attorney-General on the implementation of the Protected Security Policy Framework (PSPF). Has the Department provided an annual report to the Attorney general in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 on compliance with the INFOSEC 10 core requirements? 	Written	
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				<p>Mandatory 4 implementation</p> <p>3. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, requirement 1: application whitelisting?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model³ what is the maturity of application whitelisting implementation?</p> <p>4. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, requirement 2: patching applications?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model, what is the maturity of patching applications implementation?</p> <p>5. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, requirement 3: restriction of administrative privileges?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model, what is the maturity of 'restrict administrative privileges' implementation?</p> <p>6. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework INFOSEC 10, requirement 4: patching operating systems?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model, what is the maturity of 'Patching operating systems' implementation?</p> <p>Essential 8 implementation</p> <p>7. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework <i>INFOSEC 10, C.4, 27 (a)</i>: configuring Microsoft Office macro settings?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity</p>		
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				<p>Model what is the maturity of 'configuring Microsoft Office macro settings' implementation?</p> <p>8. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework <i>INFOSEC 10, C.4, 27 (b)</i>: user application hardening?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model what is the maturity of 'configuring Microsoft Office macro settings' implementation?</p> <p>9. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework <i>INFOSEC 10, C.4, 27 (c)</i>: multi-factor authentication?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model what is the maturity of 'multi-factor authentication' implementation?</p> <p>10. Has the Department implemented Protected Security Policy Framework <i>INFOSEC 10, C.4, 27 (d)</i>: daily backups?</p> <p>a. According to the Essential Eight Maturity Model what is the maturity of 'daily backups' implementation?</p> <p><i>Accountability and funding</i></p> <p>11. How many times has the Department conducted a self assessment of its compliance with the Protected Security Policy Framework Essential Eight mitigation strategies and cyber resilience since 1 July 2013?</p> <p>12. How many independent assessments of its cyber resilience has the Department conducted since 1 July 2013?</p> <p>13. Has the Minister responsible been briefed on cyber security vulnerabilities in the</p>		
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				<p>Department networks since 1 July 2013?</p> <p>14. Has an Australian Signals Directorate cyber security sprint team been deployed to the Department since 1 July 2013?</p> <p>15. How much funding has the Department allocated to cyber security each year during 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019?</p> <p>16. How many times has there been a physical or cyber intrusion attempt made on the Department's networks that were considered serious enough to warrant an operational response in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019?</p> <p>¹</p> <p>https://www.protectivesecurity.gov.au/information/safeguarding-information-from-cyber-threats/Documents/pspf-infosec-10-safeguarding-information-cyber-threats.pdf</p> <p>². ANAO, Audit Report No. 42 (2016–17), p. 7.</p> <p>³. https://www.cyber.gov.au/publications/essential-eight-maturity-model</p>		
105	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Faruqi	Live Export reports	<p>Senator FARUQI: Could you tell us when that was given to the cabinet?</p> <p>Mr M Thompson: It was post the <i>Awassi</i> incident in April 2018 and there was government consideration of the response to the <i>Awassi</i> incident, including the McCarthy report and those sorts of things.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: Minister, do you expect to make that public?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: I'll have to take it on notice. That was before my time.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: Thank you.</p>	103 22/10/2019	

106	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Faruqi	LAE footage	<p>Senator FARUQI: That is even though there were no problems with that footage and there was no animal cruelty on that voyage. What feasibly could happen if there was nothing in that video which shows any animals in distress or anything? How could be done?</p> <p>Mr M Thompson: We are not saying there were no problems. I don't know the particular footage in detail. If there are problems identified, then we act on them as the regulator. That's the point I was making before.</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: Have you acted on this one?</p> <p>Mr M Thompson: Have we acted on that particular voyage?</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: Yes.</p> <p>Mr M Thompson: I don't know. We'd have to take it on notice.</p>	128 22/10/2019	
107	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Sterle	Approved for unstunned	<p>Senator STERLE: Great—620 abattoirs. And, of them, do you have the number for how many are approved for unstunned—</p> <p>Ms Hutchison: I do not, I would have to take that on notice.</p>	130 22/10/2019	
108	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Faruqi	Implementation of Moss Review recommendations	<p>1. What progress has been made by the Department in implementing the recommendations of the Moss Review, with specific reference to the following recommendations:</p> <p>a. Recommendation 7: That the department strengthen the approved arrangements model for live animal exports by introducing full inspections of</p>	Written	

				<p>consignments on a random unannounced basis.</p> <p>b. Recommendation 16: That full cost recovery be accepted by the live animal export industry as underpinning the model of regulation and that the department ensure that the model operates effectively.</p>		
109	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Faruqi	Australia's breeder cattle sent to Indonesia	<p>1. At the Senate Estimates Committee hearing on 22/10/2019, Senator Faruqi asked the Department about breeder cattle:</p> <p>Senator FARUQI: That's good to know. Moving onto another topic, has the minister or the department received any animal welfare concerns about Australia's breeder cattle sent to Indonesia?</p> <p>Mr M Thompson: The department is aware of some issues of an animal welfare nature in relation to breeders into Indonesia. As you probably know, there is a breeder trade into Indonesia that complements the live cattle trade. Some of that is a requirement of Indonesian government policy. The breeder cattle, for the most part—in fact, almost exclusively, I think—are purchased by the Indonesian government. They become the property of the Indonesian government, and the Indonesian government is then responsible for management arrangements there either at a high level or at a local level.</p> <p>a. What are the issues of an animal welfare nature that the Department is aware of.</p> <p>b. What evidence does that department have</p>	Written	

				<p>or have received regarding animal welfare of breeder cattle in Indonesia?</p> <p>c. Is the Department funding any programs to monitor the welfare of breeder cattle in Indonesia, if yes, what are these?</p> <p>i. If yes, why is the Department saying that they do not</p>		
110	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Faruqi	Departments involvement in Indonesian Governments import of 6000 breeder cattle from Australia	<p>1. MLA reported in 2018 that the Indonesian Government had plans to import 6000 breeder cattle from Australia. How has the Department been involved in facilitating and fulfilling that demand?</p> <p>a. How have the welfare outcomes of the cows and their calves been managed and monitored?</p> <p>b. Given only 2,675 breeder cattle have been exported out of a planned 6,000 breeders, are further shipments confirmed?</p>	Written	
111	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Faruqi	Number of breeder cattle to Indonesia since 2018	<p>1. Specifically, how many breeder cattle have been exported to Indonesia since 2018 as part of the Indonesian Government's small holder program and what experience did the exporters involved have in shipping large numbers of breeder cattle by sea to Indonesia?</p> <p>2. Which licenced exporters were involved?</p>	Written	
112	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Faruqi	Advice regarding programs where thousands of cattle are dispersed across	Has the livestock export industry provided advice to the Dept of Agriculture or to the relevant Minister about animal welfare concerns relating to these programs where	Written	

			remote villages	thousands of cattle are dispersed across hundreds of small scale farmers in remote villages?		
113	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Faruqi	Previous Government-backed breeder programs	Have previous Government-backed breeder programs encountered welfare issues which would undermine the ethical and practical viability of these Government-backed breeder programs continuing?	Written	
114	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Faruqi	Australian dairy cattle deaths	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How are any lessons learned in Indonesia or even in Sri Lanka where hundreds of Australian dairy cattle have died being absorbed by the livestock export industry? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. With no ESCAS-type in-market traceability system, what assurances are in place that once these breeder/dairy cattle cease being 'productive' that they are slaughtered humanely and in line with ESCAS or OIE standards? 	Written	
115	Meat Livestock Australia	Senator Sterle	Cattle herd size	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does MLA obtain information about Australia's current cattle herd size? 2. In MLA's 2019 State of the Industry Report on pg 13 it states that the Australian herd size was 26.4 million head at 30 June 2018, up 0.8% year on year (<i>ABS 2017-18 Agricultural Commodities</i>). However, the report does note that in 2015-16 the ABS survey structure changed which removed small farm businesses (estimated value of agricultural operations <\$40,000) from livestock productions. This change has meant some livestock previously included in the survey are 	Written	

				<p>now excluded. For the purpose of this report, official ABS data has been used. This figure differs from MLA's cattle Industry Projections which seeks to estimate herd numbers from all farm business.</p> <p>Dairy Australia claim in their Dairy Situation and Outlook June 2019 Report on pg 9 that the overall national beef herd size is expected to decline 7.7 per cent to 25.2 million head this financial year. Severe flooding in northern Queensland early in 2019 reduced the herd dramatically, with 500,000 to 700,000 cattle estimated to be lost. This combined with ongoing drought conditions and increasing production costs, is projected to result in the largest drop in the national herd in decades. Multiple reports suggest that culling rates are expected to slow later in 2019 as the country aims to rebuild its herd. If a cattle farmer, radio presenter or Senator wanted to know what is Australia's herd size which data set or report should they go with?</p> <p>3. Does MLA have update cattle herd size figures?</p> <p>4. How does MLA communicate with producers? Is there a comprehensive database?</p> <p>5. Does MLA have information about how many farmers are currently selling their breeding stock in face of the worst drought on record?</p>		
116	Murray-Darling Basin Authority	Senator Patrick	\$750 Million	Senator PATRICK: of the \$750 million claim against the Commonwealth. How is that being	23-24 25/10/2019	

				<p>handled in terms of contingency as a budget item?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: We're still at the very early stages of dealing with the claim and having the litigants come forward. This is going to go on for quite some time, and I would prefer not to—</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: I'm trying to understand. This is a budget question. Please don't for a moment think you are immune from oversight with respect to budget measures just because there is a court case on. There'll be various arguments and questions put before the court, but I want to know in terms of contingency how the Commonwealth, as part of its normal process, handles a claim, whether it be \$800 million or \$200 million. If you're concerned about the amount, that's fine. I'm trying to get an understanding of how this is handled in the books.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Perhaps it would be easier for us if we were to provide to you on notice the arrangements under which we operate the River Murray on behalf of the states under the Murray-Darling agreement. If you think about Hume Dam or Dartmouth Dam, if there was a failure or something went wrong with one of them, there are arrangements in place. It would be easier for us to describe in general terms what those arrangements are rather than in the context of this, and that will go to your question.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: All right. I'll put that on notice.</p>		
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117	Murray-Darling Basin Authority	Senator Davey	Delivery of water	<p>Senator DAVEY: You mentioned compliance. My understanding as well is that, in South Australia, they will actually deliver water to farmers who may not have water in their current account balance but who then have to return the water before the end of the water year, because they actually do their water years in arrears, whereas in New South Wales and Victoria and, I believe, Queensland, if you don't have water in your account, you can't make a water order. Do you think that that sort of arrears accounting is in line with the intent of good and transparent accountability?</p> <p>Mr Reynolds: I'm not sure of the specifics of how South Australia do that, in terms of their accounting.</p> <p>Senator DAVEY: I have a report here I think!</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: The New South Wales government does it. You can owe a debt to the river—or, sorry, the debt owes a river to you, if you're a New South Wales farmer—</p> <p>Senator DAVEY: You cannot put a water order in unless you've got water in your account, in New South Wales—</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: I'm sorry, that's not correct.</p> <p>Senator DAVEY: nor in Victoria.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: That is not correct.</p> <p>Senator DAVEY: I've got a <i>Weekly Times</i> article—because, you know, press is great!—if people want to see the allegations that have been aired publicly.</p> <p>Mr Reynolds: I'll have to take any further information on notice.</p>	65 25/10/2019	
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118	Murray-Darling Basin Authority	Senator Patrick	Dams	<p>Senator PATRICK: As a result of these dams being built, have you examined data and are you now satisfied that, presuming there was some modelling done, the model still stands and there is no change as a result of the building of these dams in respect of supplementary flows?</p> <p>Mr Reynolds: I'd have to take that on notice. I can say that management of supplementary flows in the Murrumbidgee is a New South Wales issue, so they're still obliged to maintain end-of-system flows into the Murray. There's nothing that's been put in place that changes their obligation in that regard. Detailed in the modelling—</p>	72 25/10/2019	
119	Murray-Darling Basin Authority	Senator Patrick	Supplementary flow	<p>Senator PATRICK: How much supplementary flow that goes from the Murrumbidgee to the Murray would be attributed to supplementary flows? I presume that's been modelled.</p> <p>Mr Reynolds: I'm afraid I can't answer that question off the top of my head. I'd have to take that one on notice, I'm afraid.</p>	72 25/10/2019	
120	Murray-Darling Basin Authority	Senator Patrick	Annual flows data	<p>Senator PATRICK: Can you provide the annual flows data to the committee on notice?</p> <p>Mr Reynolds: Yes, I can do that.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Can you provide annual inflows data to the Murrumbidgee as well?</p> <p>Mr Reynolds: Annual inflows to the Murrumbidgee system—that would be data we'd have to get from New South Wales. It might take us a bit of time to assemble exactly the right data, but we can do that.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: I'm sure we'll be patient if you don't meet the question on notice deadline.</p>	73 25/10/2019	

121	Murray-Darling Basin Authority	Senator McMahon	Water availability for irrigators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stakeholders are looking at what measures can be taken to improve the current situation with water availability for irrigators. Would it be possible to change the rules so only irrigators can purchase temporary water allocations? 2. How would it be possible? What changes would need to be made to allow temporary water to be only available to irrigators? 3. Similarly, what measures would need to be taken so only irrigators that hold a permanent entitlement with existing carry over ability can carry forward unused water from one season to the next? 4. How would it be possible? What changes would need to be made to allow this? 	Written	
122	Murray-Darling Basin Authority	Senator McMahon	Lock Zero	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At a recent water ministers council in Mildura, the concept of building Lock Zero at Wellington above the lower lakes was proposed. What impacts would Lock Zero have in the system and would it change the availability of water in the system? 2. Would the building of lock Zero reduce evaporation in the lower lakes? By how much? 3. Would the building of Lock Zero secure water for South Australian irrigators and provide more water in the system with the lesser amount of evaporation from the lower lakes? 4. If Lock Zero was to be built, what would be the processes required for it to commence? 	Written	

123	Murray-Darling Basin Authority	Senator Farrell	Water monitoring	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many metres are currently in place in the Murray Darling Basin and where are they located. 2. How often does the department inspect metres. 3. How many times has data collected on water by the Bureau of Meteorology been provided to the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, the Murray Darling Basin Authority or the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder. Please provide a figure for the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. In the past month; b. In the past two months; c. In the past six months; and d. In the past year. 4. Please provide the volume of water across the entire Murray Darling Basin for the following years: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 2013 b. 2014 c. 2015 d. 2016 e. 2017 f. 2018 g. 2019 5. Please provide the total volume of water allocated to licensee holders on average in the Murray Darling Basin for the following years: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 2013 b. 2014 c. 2015 	Written	Please note this has been of MDBA, Water and CEWH

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. 2016 e. 2017 f. 2018 g. 2019 		
124	Murray-Darling Basin Authority	Senator Patrick	Menindee Lakes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did NSW direct, instruct, or request the Murray-Darling Basin Authority to make any releases from Menindee Lakes under s95 of the Murray-Darling Agreement in 2016 or 2017? If so, what was the basis provided for the direction/instruction request? 2. Did the Basin Officials Committee direct, instruct, or request the Murray-Darling Basin Authority to make any releases from Menindee Lakes in 2016 or 2017? If so, what was the basis provided for the direction/instruction request? 3. Was the Basin Official Committee asked to consider (including approve, agree, direct or note): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Releases from, the Menindee Lakes in 2016-17; b. Inundation of the Barmah-Millewa forest in 2018-18. 	Written	
125	Murray-Darling Basin Authority	Senator Patrick	Mulwala Canal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much water has been delivered through Mulwala canal in 2018/19 and this year to date? 2. What has the MDBA paid Murray Irrigation to use Mulwala canal over the last five financial years? 3. What were the estimated conveyances losses in the Mulwala canal in 2018/19 and this year to date? 	Written	

126	Murray-Darling Basin Authority	Senator Patrick	Barmah Choke trade account	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do transfers through Mulwala canal effect the Barmah Choke trade account? If not, why not? 2. Do transfers from Snowy Hydro effect the Barmah Choke trade account? 	Written	
127	Murray-Darling Basin Authority	Senator Patrick	Water licences acquired through an efficiency program	Please provide a list of water licences acquired through an efficiency program that are in a different valley to the location of the efficiency project. Please name the project that is attached to the acquired water licenses.	Written	
128	Murray-Darling Basin Authority	Senator Patrick	Total amount paid	<p>With reference to an open letter from scientists on Murray-Darling Basin Plan</p> <p>https://ingenium.eng.unimelb.edu.au/2019/07/19/an-open-letter-from-scientists-on-the-murray-darling-basin/</p> <p>How much has been paid in total to each of the following persons or entities since 2012 by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, MDBA or CEWH (including their predecessors):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rob Vertessy - Michael Stewardson, The University of Melbourne - QJ Wang, The University of Melbourne - Angus Webb, The University of Melbourne - Andrew Western, The University of Melbourne - Rory Nathan, The University of Melbourne - John Langford, The University of Melbourne - Marcia Langton, The University of Melbourne - Neil Byron, University of Canberra - Ian Prosser, University of Canberra 	Written	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Glen Walker, Grounded in Water - Ross Thompson, University of Canberra - Mike Grace, Monash University - Ian Rutherford, The University of Melbourne - Shane Brooks, Consulting Ecologist - Stuart Bunn, Griffith University - Fran Sheldon, Griffith University - Robyn Watts, Charles Sturt University - Justin Brookes, The University of Adelaide - Alison King, La Trobe University / Charles Darwin University - Skye Wassens, Charles Sturt University - Samantha Capon, Griffith University - Jennifer Hale, - CSIRO Land and Water - Australian Rivers Institute at Griffith University, - Melbourne School of Engineering at the University of Melbourne, - Institute of Applied Ecology at University of Canberra, - School of Environmental Sciences, Charles Sturt University, - School of Life Sciences, La Trobe University - the Centre for Freshwater Ecosystems, La Trobe University. - Grounded in Water, - Natural Capital Economics, - Global Change Advisory - UOM Commercial Ltd. - Alluvium - Barry Hart - Garry Smith - DG Consulting 		
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129	Murray-Darling Basin Authority	Senator Patrick	Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area	Which government agency regulates delivery entitlements in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area? How are delivery entitlements in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area regulated?	Written	
130	Regional Investment Corporation	Senator Sterle	Previous chair tenure	Senator STERLE: Welcome, gentlemen. I want to flow through as fluently as we can, please. I note that David Foster, the previous chair, resigned on 3 October. How long was that tenure? Mr King: I am not sure of his actual starting date. Mr Roberts: I don't have that, but I know he was the chair from inception, essentially. Senator STERLE: He was there from inception? Mr Roberts: Yes. Mr King: Yes. I can confirm the actual date on notice.	106 22/10/2019	
131	Regional Investment Corporation	Senator Sterle	Full time figures	Senator STERLE: You've got 19, which equates to 11.8, there now. You've got 11 positions, I think, that you're seeking to fill, and you said they're a mixture of full-time and part-time. What would the full-time equivalent be, that figure, for the 11 people? Mr Roberts: The full-time equivalent—I don't have that detail in front of me. I'm trying to do the maths in my head, but I might take that on notice.	108 22/10/2019	
132	Regional Investment Corporation	Senator Sterle	Financial year data	Senator STERLE: Is there a reason why it's not done by financial year? Mr King: I can provide you that. We had thought	109 22/10/2019	

				the committee would be most interested in what we'd done to date since inception, given the relatively young nature of our business.		
133	Regional Investment Corporation	Senator Sterle	Unsuccessful loans	Senator STERLE: Do we know how many have been unsuccessful? Mr King: I don't have that number here. I'm happy to take that on notice.	109 22/10/2019	
134	Rural Policy and Farm Performance Division	Senator Watt	Farm Household Allowance	Senator WATT: But if this is the most important priority for the government, wouldn't you think that the agriculture minister would make it a priority to go and not leave it to two other ministers? Senator McKenzie: Senator, I was very comfortable, as agriculture minister, fulfilling the obligations I have to primary producers in the west. I was absolutely confident that Minister Littleproud and Treasurer Josh Frydenberg would be handling the east coast regional issues fine. Senator WATT: On that visit, did the ministers meet with any farmers currently receiving farm household allowance or any farmers who have been taken off farm household allowance? Senator McKenzie: I'd have to take that on notice because I was on the west coast.	22-23 22/10/2019	
135	Rural Policy and Farm Performance Division	Senator Watt	\$7 billion in assistance and loans	Senator WATT: I asked you before whether the department fact checks announcements made by ministers in the portfolio. Did the department supply that wording that the government is already providing more than \$7 billion in assistance and loans?	39 22/10/2019	

				Mr Quinlivan: I would have to check that. I will take the question on notice.		
136	Rural Policy and Farm Performance Division	Senator Watt	Future Drought Fund	<p>Senator WATT: Is any of that nearly \$2 billion spend, like the Future Drought Fund, not available right now?</p> <p>Ms Standen: You would understand that a number of these programs that the minister referred to earlier are not part of this portfolio. A range of other portfolios also have programs that do assist farmers and farming communities in drought. So I would have to take on notice to get a detailed answer about each and every one of those programs and when the money is being spent. But to say that it's available in the here and now is true in the sense that the programs are up and running and money is going out the door. But it's not true to say that it's all available this year, because there is a program of work that is planned over the forwards in many of those programs. They may be four-year programs or longer.</p> <p>Senator WATT: If you could take that on notice, that would be great.</p> <p>Ms Standen: Okay.</p>	49 22/10/2019	
137	Rural Policy and Farm Performance Division	Senator Watt	Report from the special envoy	Senator WATT: I can get a copy of this if you need it, but I'm looking at a letter you wrote to the Senate President. It's not dated, but I'm guessing it is late September/early October this year—after the election. It states: 'Dear Mr President, this letter relates to the motion of 16 September 2019 to the Prime Minister, Mr Morrison, moved by Senator Sterle ordering the	85 22/10/2019	

				<p>production of documents relating to reports on droughts. Minister Littleproud has responded as he is the minister responsible for drought.' So let us not worry about PM&C. You have responded to this letter, flicking it to Mr Littleproud. He's answered and written the letter saying that there is no report from the special envoy. That's just a statement of fact, isn't it, that something has gone to the Senate?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: I'm happy to take it on notice, I'm just letting you know, as a former minister with responsibilities in this area, the advice at an individual level that the former drought envoy gave me and I'm confident he gave a raft of ministers dealing with the drought</p>		
138	Rural Policy and Farm Performance Division	Senator Watt	Drought reports	<p>Senator WATT: By my office. If you feel they have got it wrong, once you have had a look at it, feel free to let me know. I don't think a transcript is publicly available yet. If you had funded the ABC a bit better maybe they could get these things up and running a bit more quickly. They are doing the best they can. Sorry. I'll give you a moment. As you can see, Mr Joyce is quite clear that he produced reports about the drought, which is different to what Mr Littleproud is saying. Who is telling the truth here?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: I'm happy to have a discussion with the Prime Minister and Minister Littleproud and take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator WATT: But it's clearly contradictory, isn't it? We have got Mr Littleproud as the minister telling the Senate that the special</p>	85 22/10/2019	

				<p>envoy didn't produce a report and that that is why we can't see one. We have this transcript now from Mr Joyce from this afternoon.</p> <p>Senator BROCKMAN: We have got a transcript from your office.</p> <p>Senator WATT: A transcript typed up by my office.</p> <p>ACTING CHAIR: The minister has said she'll take that on notice.</p>		
139	Rural Policy and Farm Performance Division	Senator Watt	Drought reports	<p>Senator WATT: Mr Joyce goes on to say: 'I have sent reports to the Prime Minister over and over again, Patricia. That is the actual truth.' Can we get copies of these reports?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: I've taken it on notice. Obviously I'll have to speak to other ministers about this.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Senator WATT: Are there eight paper reports or nine paper reports?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: I've taken it on notice.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Senator WATT: I'm being reminded that Mr Joyce spent \$675,000 in expenses while he was the drought envoy, and we can't see any reports that he's produced. So the public doesn't have a right to see these reports that he says he's produced?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: I've taken it on notice.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Senator WATT: Why is Minister Littleproud saying he didn't produce a report?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: I've taken that on notice.</p>	86 22/10/2019	

140	Rural Policy and Farm Performance Division	Senator Sterle	Water infrastructure loan funding	<p>Senator STERLE: In respect of the government's commitment, the RIC will amend the operating mandate to allow local governments and the private sector to access water infrastructure loan funding. Has the mandate been amended?</p> <p>Mr Quinlivan: The mandate has not yet been amended. We are waiting for those changes to be effective.</p> <p>Senator STERLE: That is within the machinery of government, or—</p> <p>Mr Quinlivan: Working with the government and the department.</p> <p>Senator STERLE: Do we know when the loans will be available?</p> <p>Senator McKenzie: I can take that on notice for the minister for drought.</p>	110 22/10/2019	
141	Rural Policy and Farm Performance Division	Senator Sterle	Farm Household Allowance	<p>Senator STERLE: Thank you for that. It doesn't make me feel any better. How many have exhausted their four-year term, or would have exhausted their four-year terms, by December?</p> <p>Ms Crosthwaite: I don't have that number to December at hand. I can take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator STERLE: Sure.</p> <p>Ms Crosthwaite: However, I do have the number who we expect to exhaust their four-years by the end of June 2020, if that would assist?</p> <p>Senator STERLE: Yes, that would assist, thanks, and then the other part on notice, yes.</p> <p>Ms Crosthwaite: We anticipate that around 1,800 individuals—so farmers and their partners who are currently on FHA—would have exhausted their four-year entitlement by 30</p>	119 22/10/2019	

				<p>June next year.</p> <p>Senator STERLE: Is that state-by-state?</p> <p>Ms Crosthwaite: I don't have state-by-state with me. That's something I can take on notice.</p>		
142	Rural Policy and Farm Performance Division	Senator McMahon	NT government assistance	<p>Senator McMAHON: Did the Northern Territory government provide any form of assistance to producers at all?</p> <p>Ms Standen: I'm quite sure that we would be aware one way or the other, but I don't have that information with me. I'll have to take it on notice.</p>	120 22/10/2019	
143	Rural Policy and Farm Performance Division	Senator Roberts	Drought allowance	<p>It has been reported in the Courier Mail that more than 200 Queensland farmers cut off from drought allowances will be given cash payments of up to \$13,000 to help them put food on the table.</p> <p>Is this the end of the road for them, what is the Government doing to support our struggling farmers and rural communities end-to-end?</p>	Written	
144	Rural Policy and Farm Performance Division	Senator Roberts	Drought solutions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Farmers need a solution that will last until the drought is at an end and the pain does not end then, they need support as they rebuild too. What is planned for this stage? 2. Is the suggestion that they should use this last \$13,000 in Government support and then fire sale their farms to Chinese or other businesses? 3. Where is the Big Picture, an end to end solution for farmers? 	Written	
145	Rural Policy and Farm Performance	Senator Rice	Climate risks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture participate in the Secretaries Group on Climate Risk, or the Project Climate 	Written	

	Division			<p>Ready exercises?</p> <p>2. Have any Deputy Secretaries from the Department of Agriculture participated in the Disaster and Climate Resilience Reference Group?</p> <p>3. Was a drought scenario considered in any of the exercises or activities?</p> <p>4. What activity has been undertaken by the Department of Agriculture using the Climate Compass risk management framework?</p>		
146	Rural Policy and Farm Performance Division	Senator Rice	ANAO audit of the Farm Management Deposits Scheme	<p>In relation to each recommendation for the Department of Agriculture in the report <i>Farm Management Deposits Scheme</i> by the ANAO, please identify:</p> <p>1. The steps undertaken by the Department, and the dates on which these steps were undertaken;</p> <p>2. Whether the recommendation is now implemented in full, or if not, whether further steps remain.</p>	Written	
147	Rural Policy and Farm Performance Division	Senator Rice	Agricultural Stewardship Package	<p>1. How is the development of this pilot program progressing? Who has responsibility for designing and implementing the pilot?</p> <p>2. Can the Minister for Agriculture outline the steps that will be taken to ensure that the pilot program</p> <p>a. delivers genuine and measurable outcomes for native plants and wildlife, as well as for landholders, and</p> <p>b. builds on lessons learnt from programs previously delivered by the Department of Environment and the National Landcare</p>	Written	

				Program?		
148	Rural Policy and Farm Performance Division	Senator Sterle	Drought Envoy's report	Drought Envoy's report(s) – Provide the Drought Envoy's report(s).	Written	
149	Rural Policy and Farm Performance Division	Senator Sterle	Drought Coordinator's report	Drought Coordinator's report – Provide the Drought Coordinator's report.	Written	
150	Trade and Market Access Division	Senator Kitching	Ministerial Overseas travel	<p>1. Can an itemised list of the costs met by the department or agency for all international travel undertaken by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio since 1 July 2018 please be provided including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Flights for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, together with the airline and class of travel. b. Ground transport for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials. c. Accommodation for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed. d. Meals and other incidentals for the 	Written	

				<p>Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided.</p> <p>e. Any available photographs documenting the Minister's travel should also be provided.</p>		
151	Water Division	Senator Gallacher	Program figures	<p>Senator GALLACHER: Mr Robertson, is the 1.162 figure the combined total of all of those programs? What is the combined figure?</p> <p>Mr Robertson: No, the 1.162 was the original budget figure for the Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure Program.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: What is the combined figure? I haven't used a calculator. Can you give me the combined total of what we just spoke about?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: Just bear with me for a moment—</p> <p>Mr Robertson: We might have to that on notice and come back to you</p>	9 25/10/2019	
152	Water Division	Senator Watt	Sub programs	<p>Senator WATT: So all of those subprograms that Senator Gallacher has gone through are administered by the Department of Agriculture?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: That's right.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Let's just stick with those for the moment, then.</p> <p>Mr Robertson: In relation to those, they are the ones on which there was expenditure last financial year. There have been other water</p>	9 25/10/2019	

				<p>programs in the past or water activities which have basically concluded. We mentioned the SARMS program in South Australia, which is the one that that's now concluded. That won't have expenditure in this current financial year because the program has concluded. So that list does change from time to time as the government brings in new measures.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: If we get that total for this department, it would give us a useful baseline anyway to look—</p> <p>Mr Thompson: To clarify, the number that we gave in relation to the On-Farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme was for this financial year. It covered last financial year as well, but—</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Perhaps if you could supply that on notice, we've got it in evidence here—</p> <p>Mr Thompson: We can. We've got a table here which has that.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: If you give us a document that sets out clearly what is what—</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: Yes.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: I'm happy to do that.</p>		
153	Water Division	Senator Gallacher	Water purchases	<p>Senator GALLACHER: I have read some commentary that people are actually investing in water and, whilst we asked ASIC whether that was a thing that they were regulating, they said, 'If they hold it in their own name, it's not something we would regulate.' If the allegation is that people are investing in water and taking advantage of particularly dry periods—and the spike in water has gone to 750 million, the</p>	10 25/10/2019	

				<p>media was reporting the other day—it brings into focus, what do you actually do in your planning if this activity is going on? I understand that's part of the market, but how do you look through? Do you have a hedging philosophy or do you just not buy when it's high if you haven't got the money? That could be one of the outcomes.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: I should say at the outset that the government took a decision quite a number of years ago to move away from direct water purchases in the market to using a mix of strategic water purchases—so, working with very large water entitlement holders—but, more importantly, to invest in water use efficiency, both in the system and also on farm to recover water. The sort of description around how we value water that Ms Colreavy gave holds for both of those programs because we have to value water when we make investments in water infrastructure as well because we're seeking to take back a portion of the water to address the overallocation issue. We very much take the advice of the commercial valuers and commercial operators in terms of what the water market price is. We are driven, in terms of our water recovery goals by the Basin Plan rather than by what price the water might be at a particular time.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Mr Thompson, it may assist the committee if you take on notice that question: how do you address water purchases in your budgeting processes?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: Sure, I'm happy to do that.</p>		
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154	Water Division	Senator Gallacher	Impairment of water assets	<p>Senator GALLACHER: Are you saying you've depreciated or written stuff off? So it's out of kilter, if you just look along the line. It's out of kilter because you've taken a whole heap of depreciated assets?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: It looks like it.</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: It would be mainly impairment—</p> <p>Mr Thompson: It's mainly impairment, I think, of water assets.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Sorry, what was that?</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: I think that would be mainly made up of impairment of water assets, but—</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: What does that mean?</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: we could clarify that if we take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: What does 'impairment of water assets' mean?</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: That is the writedown in the price of water due to the change of water value in the water market.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: So that feeds back into the earlier question: how do you budget for this stuff if it's going to come back in one year as a writedown? Is that essentially what's happened there?</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: The impairment of assets is in relation to the book value, if you like, of the water that's already held.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: I think there's a difference between budgeting for it and—we have our budget, if you like, to spend on water recovery through programs and strategic water purchases. This goes to an accounting treatment, and the accounting treatment is</p>	11 25/10/2019	
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				<p>reasonably well worn and the ANAO—</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: So the explanation will be on notice. When you look across that line, why does it go like that?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: That's right.</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: Yes.</p>		
155	Water Division	Senator Hanson-Young	Water recovered	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: How much water has been recovered thus far to the target?</p> <p>Mr Robertson: It's in the order of 2,082 gigalitres. It is, I think, the most recent published figure: 2,082 gigalitres in long-term average annual yield terms. I think Senator Davey made the comment before that because that figure is long-term average annual yield terms it's actually made up of a lot of different types of entitlements across the basin with different so called cap factors, so the face value of the entitlements is higher than that. I'm sorry, I don't have that figure with me, just because of the nature of the fact that there are so many different types.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: We've recovered 2,082 gigalitres towards the 21,000 gigalitre target.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Yes. Do you want to take on notice the figures you're not able to give us today?</p> <p>Mr Robertson: We can do that, but it will be quite misleading in a sense, because some of the low security entitlements don't contribute much in long-term annual yield terms and obviously the high security ones do more so. You could look at a superficial figure and think, 'That's a lot,' but it's actually—</p>	12 25/10/2019	

				<p>Mr Thompson: We'll take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: I'm happy for you to make that clear in the documentation.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: Of course.</p>		
156	Water Division	Senator Hanson-Young	Entitlements	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Out of the 2,082 gigalitres, how much of those entitlements are actually in the bank now, as opposed to waiting to see how those efficiency programs or other returns eventuate in 2025-2026?</p> <p>Mr Robertson: I think at the moment virtually all of them would be in the bank, because they were the target towards our averaging water recovery target. As projects have been completed, that water has been transferred, so we had a few significant projects finish last year where the water transfer parts were completed, including the GMW Connections Project in Victoria. Those figure had been accounted for when they were contracted, because we were confident that the Victorian government would deliver those.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: We can take that on notice and come back in this hearing, if you want, with that number.</p>	12 25/10/19	
157	Water Division	Senator Hanson-Young	\$4.8 Billion	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Can I clarify, Mr Thompson: does that come out of the remaining \$4.8 billion, or is it in addition to that?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: It's part of that envelope.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Thanks for that.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: One of the recommendations of the Productivity Commission was to have governments consider splitting the functions of</p>	13 25/10/2019	

				<p>the Murray-Darling Basin Authority between its compliance and its river management functions. Ministers considered that and kicked it around quite a bit. In the end they decided that they wouldn't do that at this time and that they would give it some further consideration. In the meantime, they agreed to the initiative of Minister Littleproud to appoint an Inspector-General of Murray-Darling Basin Water Resources.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: For the sake of being able to move on, perhaps, Mr Glyde, you could take on notice those elements in the response. I'd like a status report on where the implementation is up to.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: I'm more than happy to do that.</p>		
158	Water Division	Senator Watt	Purchase date	<p>Senator WATT: Thank you. I'll come to the environmental benefits issue a little bit later. Have you got the exact date of the purchase?</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: It was August 2017. I don't have the date.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Could you take that on notice. My understanding is that this was the either the second highest or the highest dollar figure paid under this buyback program at \$80 million. Is that correct?</p>	18 25/10/2019	
159	Water Division	Senator Watt	Water vendors	<p>Senator WATT: So, if we're looking at the vendors who you bought water from, is this the highest or the second highest or another amount of money made by a single seller?</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: I think I need to take it on notice. There were some large negotiated purchases</p>	18-19 25/10/2019	

				<p>several years ago that pre-date my involvement that I can't quite remember the size of. I can take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator Canavan: I will just point out that this program has been in existence for probably well over a decade now. A buyback program has been in place for over a decade. I do recall some fairly large purchases in the time of the previous Labor government. That's going back a number of years now, so we'll take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Maybe you can take that on notice. I take the point from Senator Canavan, but can I get a figure back to 2013 as well, as to where that ranks?</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: Certainly.</p>		
160	Water Division	Senator Watt	Independent valuations	<p>Senator WATT: Could we get you to table those independent valuations?</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: Most of the information in relation to this purchase was tabled in the Senate some time ago under an order to produce documents. I can find you the number of that order.</p> <p>Senator WATT: I don't know exactly what has been tabled in response to that order, but could you take that on notice? If it has been tabled already, you can refer back to that. If there are additional documents that weren't, perhaps you could table those.</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: Certainly.</p>	19 25/10/2019	
161	Water Division	Senator Hanson-Young	Efficiency program in South Australia	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: If you don't have the figures now, can you take on notice how much water was given back? How much taxpayer money overall was spent to foot the bill for this?</p>	25-26 25/10/2019	

				<p>How much water was given back? Whose idea was this? Did this come from the South Australian government; did this come from a federal department? Where did this idea originate?</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: As I said, Senator, it came from feedback through surveys of past program participants in the planning and design of the pilot program.</p>		
162	Water Division	Senator Watt	Program expenditure	<p>Senator WATT: And do we have a figure for how much was actually expended?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: We would have to take that on notice, I think.</p>	28 25/10/2019	
163	Water Division	Senator Watt	Water purchase briefs	<p>Senator WATT: Okay. Previously a number of briefs that were provided to the minister about this were tabled. I understand there were seven briefs that the department sent to ministers and/or their offices regarding these water allocations that were purchased. There is one brief which has not been tabled and that's number PEMS 15-900034, titled Water Purchase Opportunity in the Condamine-Balonne.</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: Could I have the number again?</p> <p>Senator WATT: Sure. PE and then MS 15-900034.</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: Thank you.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Is there any reason that hasn't been tabled previously?</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: It looks like it was a brief from 2015. It perhaps was outside of the scope of the earlier requests.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Okay. Could we get you to table</p>	28 25/10/2019	

				that one, please? Mr Thompson: We'll take that on notice.		
164	Water Division	Senator Watt	Water purchase involving EAA	Senator WATT: Since this government's been elected, there's been one other water purchase of the dollar value, roughly, of this one that we're talking about here involving EAA. Is that correct? Mr Thompson: I would have to take that on notice. The only projects I've got in front of me date from May 2016.	31-32 25/10/2019	
165	Water Division	Senator Gallacher	Tender process	Senator GALLACHER: So, there's a departmental official who's signed off in accordance with this. On notice, can we have that document? Ms Stacpoole: I don't think it has been released. It's just an internal document, because there's a lot of due process that happens. Ms Colreavy: We can provide it. Mr Thompson: We'll take it on notice. Senator GALLACHER: So, on notice we'd like those transactions done by limited tender, in accordance with the Commonwealth Procurement Rules, supplied to the committee. Ms Stacpoole: They're like any kind of other procurement as well. We handle them within the department. Senator GALLACHER: Well, we just want that document. Mr Thompson: Sure. We'll take that on notice.	32-33 25/10/2019	
166	Water Division	Senator Davey	Purchase from EAA	Senator DAVEY: So there has been no purchase from EAA in 2008 or 2013? Ms Colreavy: I would have to take it on notice.	34 25/10/2019	

				Senator DAVEY: If you could.		
167	Water Division	Senator Davey	Purchases through other previous programs	Senator DAVEY: When you take it on notice, can you also check that there have been no purchases through any previous programs such as the Living Murray or Water for Rivers? Mr Thompson: Yes.	35 25/10/2019	
168	Water Division	Senator Watt	Briefing the ministers office on water purchases	Senator WATT: Okay. How many times did you brief the minister or his office about this opportunity? Ms Colreavy: I would have to take that on notice. Mr Thompson: We'll take that on notice.	41 25/10/2019	
169	Water Division	Senator Hanson-Young	Water licences	Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Firstly, I want to touch briefly on the issue of water licences attached to land that are held by people who don't own land. I know that the ACCC is looking into some of this in terms of baselines, and I heard that from you, Mr Thompson. What is the percentage of high-security water licences owned by people not attached to land? Mr Thompson: I don't think we have that number. I'm looking at colleagues from the Murray-Darling Basin Authority. They draw on information from the states and from the Bureau of Meteorology, who collect some of that data, but I'm pretty sure we don't have that number to hand. Mr Glyde: I'll just wait to hear what Mr Glyde says. Mr Thompson: We don't have that number. Mr Glyde: As we best understand it, each of the	45 25/10/2019	

				<p>states holds the individual registers for entitlement holders. We're checking to find out to what extent they collectively or individually list the ownership.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: So who advised Minister Littleproud that it was 12 per cent? He's quoted in various articles as saying, 'At the moment, 12 per cent of high-security water licences are owned by people who don't own land.' If that advice didn't come from the department, where did it come from?</p> <p>Senator Canavan: We might have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: There were some estimates done in the Victorian context, so he may have been drawing on those.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: He may be just using some figures from Victoria, not—</p> <p>Mr Thompson: I don't know. I'm saying that there were estimates taken.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: The statement doesn't make sense to me, because I didn't think we knew nationally what it was, but is the percentage he refers to, 12 per cent of water licences, 12 per cent of total licences or 12 per cent of the water within all of the licences? It's not clear what he's actually saying.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Percentage of total water versus percentage of total number of water licences?</p>		
170	Water Division	Senator Hanson-Young	High security water licences	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: So who advised Minister Littleproud that it was 12 per cent? He's quoted in various articles as saying, 'At the moment, 12 per cent of high-security water licences are owned by people who don't own</p>	45 25/10/2019	

				land.' If that advice didn't come from the department, where did it come from? Senator Canavan: We might have to take that on notice.		
171	Water Division	Senator Watt	Project funding	Senator WATT: Regarding the figures we were just talking about, whether to do with the water division projects or the funds out of infrastructure and other departments, could you table the projects that have been funded from each of those programs, please? Senator Canavan: We might have to take that on notice. Maybe at the same time I will clarify some figures that you were asking about regarding the National Water Infrastructure Development Fund. The figure for expenditure in the department of infrastructure for that program, the administered funding there, was described as \$1.5 million this year, in the budget year 2019-20—under that program in the department of infrastructure—and there are also the amounts provided to states and territories under that program, which are in the Treasury portfolio estimates. In 2019-20, in the same year, there was \$128.209 billion allocated for capital spending under that program and \$15.2 million for feasibility studies under the National Water Infrastructure Development Fund. Senator WATT: Thanks.	47 25/10/2019	
172	Water Division	Senator Patrick	Advice regarding strategic water purchasing	Senator PATRICK: Could you provide that advice to the committee, please? Ms Colreavy: It's a published report. Senator PATRICK: Is it?	60 25/10/2019	

				<p>Ms Colreavy: Yes. I can provide you with that.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: On notice. Perhaps you could direct me to where I can find it.</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: Yes, we do have a published report.</p>		
173	Water Division	Senator Gallacher	Breakdown of 1,525 total	<p>Senator GALLACHER: So can we get on notice how many of these private dams and water storage projects are in that 1,525 total? Is there any way of finding that out?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: All we can do on notice is provide an estimate and a better articulation of why it's difficult for us to nail that.</p>	69 25/10/2019	
174	Water Division	Senator Gallacher	Jam Land	<p>Senator GALLACHER: Has Jam Land received any funding?</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: I don't believe so, but I'd have to take—</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Take it on notice.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: We'll take it on notice.</p>	71 25/10/2019	
175	Water Division	Senator Patrick	Proposal for dams	<p>Senator PATRICK: Could you please table the proposal for those dams—the submission that gives the basis of the efficiency measure—and the outgoing report, from the independent expert on the ground, that satisfied you that the work has been done and does achieve the measures that were proposed.</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: We'll have to take that on notice, but I'll look at that.</p>	71 25/10/2019	
176	Water Division	Senator Patrick	Date the study was returned	<p>Senator PATRICK: Okay. When you funded the state government, presumably with a formal purchase order of some sort, what was the date</p>	72 25/10/2019	

				<p>of return for the study? You would have placed a requirement on the state to provide you with a study by a particular time.</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: Yes. We have extended that already. We signed the agreement with them late. The agreement was signed in March, and we extended the time frame. We have received a preliminary draft report which we've provided comment on, and we're expecting to get a further report from them shortly. I'm not sure of the exact date; I'm sorry.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Will you table that report on notice, or do I have to FOI it?</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: In the first instance, we need to look at it and see what it is.</p>		
177	Water Division	Senator Patrick	Cost of running desal plant	<p>Senator PATRICK: ... What's the rough order cost of running the desal plant? How much water were they looking to contribute to the efficiency program, and at approximately what cost?</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: I might take that on notice, because I think there are a range of scenarios being explored. It's not a single clear-cut—</p>	72 25/10/2019	
178	Water Division	Senator Patrick	Four Corners Report Rebuttal	<p>Mr Glyde: I think there is a general misunderstanding in the media and more broadly about the role of dams and that, when someone sees a dam pop up, therefore, there must be new water or more water in the system. The amount of water in the system's fixed. In particular, that <i>Four Corners</i> report was saying that, because they saw some expansion in a particular irrigation district, that was somehow tampering with the limit. The limit's</p>	73 25/10/2019	

				<p>the limit, and people are, through markets and other mechanisms, using the water more efficiently.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Well, that's to be tested, and with the evidence that's provided.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: I guess, in the cage wrestling match between Glyde and Slattery—</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: I reckon I could sell a few tickets on that and it could donate to charity!</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Unfortunately, I'm a bear of very little brain, and I would bring with me the combined might of the Murray-Darling Basin Authority—</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: It might not be enough!</p> <p>Mr Glyde: and the expertise that sits within there. There are 288 FTEs that sit behind our opinions. And I think that's a pretty critical difference.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: If you want to put something on notice that challenges what is in that report, that's actually really helpful. I think it's helpful for you and it's helpful for us.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Yes, we're considering that</p>		
179	Water Division	Senator Hanson-Young	Water efficiency program	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms Colreavy explained that water acquired under the efficiency program was leased back to the vendor in South Australia. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the total amount of water leased, sold or gifted to water holders annually, by valley? b. Who approved these arrangements? 2. What offers to purchase water has DAWR received to purchase water licences since 2015, by valley and volume? 	Written	

180	Water Division	Senator Hanson-Young	Lowbidgee supplementary water	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the DAWR received any offers to buy Lowbidgee Supplementary water that haven't taken up? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If not, why not 	Written	
181	Water Division	Senator Hanson-Young	Lower Darling	<p>DAWR made bought 21GL from Tandou in the Lower Darling in 2017 for \$38m & paid \$40m in compensation. Remaining water holders in the Lower Darling have offered their water to DAWR for sale.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Will DAWR buy any of the remaining water in the Lower Darling? b. Will Lower Darling water holders receive compensation, similar to the Tandou deal? 	Written	
182	Water Division	Senator Hanson-Young	Sefton's socio-economic study	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the cost of the Sefton's socio-economic study? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. When will it be finalised? b. Is there any Aboriginal representation on the socio-economic panel? 	Written	
183	Water Division	Senator McMahon	Upwater	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The 450 GL of Upwater in the southern basin is a millstone around the neck of Victorian irrigators. How would it be possible to take it off the table? 2. Is there any direct correlation between the 450 GL of Upwater and the 650 GL of down water as part of the SDL's? 	Written	

184	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Overland flow water licences	<p>With reference to the 2017 purchase of “Overland flow” water licenses from Eastern Australia Agriculture Pty Ltd worth approximately \$80 million.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much physical water has the Commonwealth acquired for the environment as a result of this purchase to date. 2. How much water does an overland flow license typically yield for the environment 3. Please provide details of all overland flow licenses currently in existence, including the name of the vendor that owns them and the date the license was created. 4. How does the department calculate the value for money when it comes to water buybacks. 5. How does the department calculate value for money on overland flow licenses. 6. Please provide the valuation methodology used for this purchase. 7. How many water licenses are currently in existence within the Murray Darling Basin. Please provide this figure against each type of license. 8. Did a departmental official visit the Kia Ora or Clyde properties prior to the water purchase. 9. Please provide a list of all overland flow licenses purchased since 2013, including the price paid per megalitre, vendor name and date the purchase was made. 10. How many water metres are located within the Kia Ora and Clyde properties. 	Written	
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				<p>11. How is water acquired through overland flow licenses typically used.</p> <p>12. Can water acquired via overland flow licenses be used by vendors without first capturing it.</p> <p>13. How was the water acquired used prior to the department's purchase of this water.</p>		
185	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Eastern Australia Agriculture	<p>With reference to answer provided in Senate Question No 340, in which it states that the “ the department's approach to the negotiation [with Eastern Australia Agriculture] and the maximum price for the proposed purchase was discussed internally within the Water Division and with the department's Water Project Board.</p> <p>1. Please provide details about these internal discussions, including the dates they took place, who participated in them, and any related written correspondence.</p>	Written	
186	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Eastern Australia Agriculture water purchase	<p>With reference to the department's claim that the purchase of overland flow licenses from Eastern Australia Agriculture Pty Ltd in 2017 represented a unique opportunity to secure a significant volume of water in a catchment of particular strategic importance to achieving the triple-bottom line outcomes of the Murray Darling Basin Plan.</p> <p>1. What does the department consider to be a “significant volume” of water.</p> <p>2. What is the volume of water secured directly as a result of the purchase in</p>	Written	

				question.		
187	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Water licences purchased since September 2013	Can a list be provided of all water licenses purchased by the Australian Government since 18 September 2013; including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Date of purchase; b. Volume of license; c. Type of license; d. Price per unit; e. Area of purchase; f. Name of vendor; and g. Name of organisation contracted to undertake independent market valuation. 	Written	
188	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Department facilitate discussion between Eastern Australia Agriculture Pty Ltd and Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder	Has the Department facilitated discussions between Eastern Australia Agriculture Pty Ltd and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder regarding the capture, storage and release of Commonwealth water, since the department purchase water licenses from EAA in 2017?	Written	
189	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Senate Question No. 344	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With reference to Senate Question No 344, in which it states that “In subsequent discussions, the Department determined that the option was for the use of the storage and not its acquisition, as recorded in correspondence from the department to the company dated 7 June 2019.” 2. Please provide details about the “subsequent discussions” referred to, including dates the discussions took place, who participated in the discussions, nature of discussion, and 	Written	

				<p>related file notes.</p> <p>3. Please provide all written correspondence (including but not limited to emails, whatsapp or text messages and call notes) relating to these conversations.</p>		
190	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Communication from Eastern Australia Agriculture Pty Ltd	Did Eastern Australia Agriculture Pty Ltd provide any written communication to the department to correct their original offer. Please provide this correspondence.	Written	
191	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Water markets	<p>With reference to the operation of water markets in the Murray Darling Basin.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How are the water trades reported and how does the department keep track of what water is traded. 2. What approvals process is in place when it comes to water trading. 3. What is the volume of water that has been traded within both the northern and southern basins. 4. How many sites are there in the MDB for water trading. 5. How many sites are in the northern Basin for water trading. How many sites are in the Southern Basin for water trading. 6. How much water has been traded out of the northern basin. 7. How much water has been traded out of the southern basin. 8. How does the MDBA or the Department keep track of water trading between communities. 	Written	

192	Water Division	Senator Farrell	100GL	<p>I refer to the Commonwealth's announcement on 7 November 2019 involving a deal struck between Federal and South Australian Governments over 100 gigalitres of water for farmers to grow fodder, silage and pasture at a discounted rate.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Was the MDBA consulted prior to the announcement. 2. What research was undertaken by the department in relation to this announcement. 3. Where is the 100 gl of water coming from. 4. Where was this 100 gl of water previously held. 5. How much water did the South Australian Government hold under the Murray Darling Basin Plan prior to the announcement. Will there be any changes to this in light of the announcement. 6. When was this proposal first communicated to the department. 7. Please provide a list of dates the department provided the minister briefs in relation to the water component of this announcement. 8. How extensive were the negotiations between the federal and south Australian state government in relation to this deal and in what form did these negotiations take place. 9. What formal document exists that secures this deal. Please table it. 10. What are the timing and flows plans for the reintroduction of water from the desalination plant? 	Written	
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				<p>11. When will the Commonwealth release the feasibility study that was undertaken by the South Australian government into how the Adelaide Desalination Plant could be operated to reduce the existing River Murray water for metropolitan Adelaide.</p> <p>12. What is the department's evaluation of the expense of desalinating 100 gl of water.</p> <p>13. Can you table a copy of the feasibility study into the Adelaide desalination Plant?</p>		
193	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Southern Coorong	<p>With reference to funding announced in December 2018 as part of the Healthy Basin action plan to support the long term health of the Coorong, jointly agreed by the Commonwealth and South Australian southern Coorong.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much has the Commonwealth allocated to this program and which line in the budget do these funds relate to. 2. Of the funds provided by the commonwealth, how much has been expended. 3. What activities are being undertaken as part of the program. 4. What oversight does the Commonwealth have over these activities. 5. How advanced are plans to provide alternative wetland habitats to support birds disadvantaged by the deterioration of the southern Coorong. 6. What threatened species are located in the southern Coorong. How many of these species require recovery plans. How many of 	Written	

				<p>these species have recovery plans. How many species are on track to restore healthy population sizes.</p> <p>7. How does the department monitor nutrients in the southern Coorong.</p> <p>8. What assessments have been undertaken by the department in relation to the proposal to release freshwater into the southern Coorong. Please table these documents.</p> <p>9. How has the department satisfied itself that the release of freshwater into the southern Coorong will not cause harm to the environment.</p>		
194	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Water efficiency program	<p>With reference to the Water Efficiency Program designed to deliver funding to upgrade water infrastructure in the Murray Darling Basin.</p> <p>1. How many projects have commenced under this program and of these how many have been completed.</p> <p>2. How many proposals failed the socio-economic criteria? Will this criteria change, once the Independent assessment of social and economic conditions in the basin change?</p> <p>3. What kinds of infrastructure projects have commenced?</p> <p>4. What is the function of a Delivery Partner? Does the Delivery Partner receive funding? What is their role in the proposal? Can you please provide a list of all Delivery Partners?</p>	Written	
195	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Media release regarding Water	With reference to the Minister's media release from 26 July 2019, "The Water Efficiency	Written	

			<p>efficiency program</p> <p>Program is working with the independent panel assessing social and economic conditions in the Basin to decide on how best to monitor the outcomes”.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which area or division of the Department is working with the independent panel. 2. Has the independent panel been consulted on any Water Efficiency Projects as yet. If so, please provide details of the projects. 3. How will the independent panel be consulted on projects proposed by the department within the water efficiency program. 4. Have any projects been approved under this program prior to the release of the Independent assessment of social and economic conditions in the basin. 5. How many projects have been proposed within this program. 6. How does the department calculate the value of the water associated with proposed projects. 7. How does the department satisfy itself that projects have been completed in accordance with the original proposal. 8. What site visits are undertaken to ensure the project will save water. 9. Is this a continuation of a previous program. If so, please provide details of the previous program and why it ceased and recommenced in this form. 10. Is the funding allocated to this program separate from the National Water Infrastructure Fund and the National Water 		
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				Infrastructure Loan Facility.		
196	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Market value of water	<p>With reference to statements made on Department's website in relation to this program, which state that "successful applicants will receive funding up to 1.75 times the market value of the water they save".</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How did the department determine the appropriateness of this figure. 2. How does the department calculate the water saved. Does the department seek an independent evaluation to calculate the water saved. 	Written	
197	Water Division	Senator Farrell	On farm irrigation efficiency scheme	<p>With reference to the on farm irrigation efficiency program.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Of the 1,525 projects funded under this program, how many involved water storages. 2. Please provide a list of all site visits undertaken as part of this project since 2013, including dates, department officials, project inspected and location of project. 3. What criteria is used when monitoring a project funded through this program. 4. Please provide a list of all projects approved under this program since 2016, including title of project, date approved, and name of recipient. 5. How many projects funded through this program are located in both the northern and southern basin. 6. How many applications have been rejected by the department under this program. 	Written	

				<p>7. What does the department identify as a “professional person” to provide advice on water saved from each proposed project.</p> <p>8. What independent professional firms have been contracted to undertake reviews of applications made under this program.</p> <p>9. How does the department verify the amount of water saved after the project has been completed and on an ongoing basis when measured against what would have otherwise been the case?</p> <p>10. Please provide details of all projects including the volume of water saved to date, compared with what would have otherwise been the case in the absence of the project? Please provide details of any projects where the volume of water saved after completion has not aligned with the proposed volume of water saved prior to the project commencing.</p>		
198	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Great Artesian Basin	<p>1. What research has the department undertaken in relation to the volume of water in the Great Artesian Basin (GAB).</p> <p>2. Does the Government have long-run contingency plans for over-extraction of the GAB?</p> <p>3. Has the Minister for Water Resources discussed extractions from the GAB with the NSW Water Minister.</p> <p>4. Does the Commonwealth have a long-run contingency plan for over-extraction from the GAB.</p>	Written	
199	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Queensland Healthy Headwater Water Use	With reference to the Queensland Healthy Headwater Water Use Efficiency Projects,	Written	

			Efficiency Projects	<p>agreed to by the Australian and Queensland governments.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can a list be provided of all successful applicants under this program since 18 September 2013, including the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Funding recipient; b. Name of project; c. Brief description of project; d. Location of project; e. Amount of funding provided; f. Date the project commenced; and g. Date the project was complete. 2. How much funding is allocated to this program, and of this amount how much has been expended. 3. Of the \$16.7 million spent in 2018-19 as part of the Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure Program, how much was spent on Healthy Headwater projects? 4. Do these projects also have an associated water saving? If yes, please table that information. If no, how does the department know that these projects are doing what they were intended to do, which is save water? 5. How are water savings measured for each proposal. How are the proposed water savings verified by the department for each project. 		
200	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Inspector General of Murray Darling Basin Water Resources	With reference to the Commonwealth's announcement on 2 August 2019 of an Inspector-General of Murray Darling Basin Water Resources.	Written	

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many cases of water theft were investigated by the Northern Basin Commissioner. Of these how many were resolved. 2. How many cases of water theft are anticipated to be investigated by the Inspector-General of Murray Darling Basin Water Resources. Of these, how many cases are expected to be resolved. 3. Please provide an update on the status of the associated legislation, including details about when the legislation will be introduced to the parliament. 4. What powers will the Inspector General have. Please outline what additional powers are provided to the Inspector General role, that were not provided to the Northern Basin Commissioner role. 5. Once granted, will the powers of the Inspector General enacted through legislation apply retrospectively to cases dealt with by the interim Inspector General. 6. What sanctions for water officials will be provided under the legislations. 		
201	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Independent panel for assessment of social and economic conditions in the Basin	<p>With reference to the Commonwealth's request for an independent panel to undertake an assessment of social and economic communities across the basin.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How was the independence of individual panel members determined. 2. Have any of the panellists been employed by the Commonwealth previously as a consultant. 	Written	

202	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Independent Review of WESA	<p>With reference to the first independent review of the Water for the Environment Special Account (WESA) announced on 21 August 2019.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Of the \$1.775 billion allocated to WESA over ten years, how much has been expended. 2. How many projects have been funded under this program. 3. How many project proposals have been rejects on the basis they will not provide neutral or improved social and economic outcomes. 4. When will the review be complete, provided to the Minister and released to the public. <p>Please provide a list of stakeholders that are expected to be consulted as part of this review, including stakeholders that have already been consulted. Please include details of what form this consultation has taken or is likely to take (e.g. roundtable, phone interview), location and date.</p>	Written	
203	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Fish kill strategy	<p>With reference to the Commonwealth's fish kill strategy announced 14 October 2019.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide a list of all departmental briefs provided to the Minister for Water regarding prospective fish kills in the Murray Darling Basin since September 2013. 2. When did the department commence work on a strategy to prevent fish kills in the Murray Darling Basin. 	Written	
204	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Water infrastructure projects	<p>With reference to water infrastructure projects or funds.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How long does it take on average between the announcement of water infrastructure project or fund and the commencement of 	Written	

				the funded water infrastructure project.		
205	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Murray Darling Basin Water Resources Taskforce	<p>With reference to the Murray Darling Basin Water Resources Taskforce.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When did this taskforce first come into existence. 2. How many members are on the taskforce and what are their names. 3. What is the role of the taskforce. 	Written	
206	Water Division	Senator Farrell	Water monitoring	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many metres are currently in place in the Murray Darling Basin and where are they located. 2. How often does the department inspect metres. 3. How many times has data collected on water by the Bureau of Meteorology been provided to the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, the Murray Darling Basin Authority or the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder. Please provide a figure for the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. In the past month; b. In the past two months; c. In the past six months; and d. In the past year. 4. Please provide the volume of water across the entire Murray Darling Basin for the following years: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 2013 b. 2014 c. 2015 d. 2016 e. 2017 	Written	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> f. 2018 g. 2019 <p>5. Please provide the total volume of water allocated to licensee holders on average in the Murray Darling Basin for the following years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 2013 b. 2014 c. 2015 d. 2016 e. 2017 f. 2018 g. 2019 		
207	Water Division	Senator Patrick	Water Resource Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources accredit a Water Resource Plan where there is insufficient evidence to determine whether the plan may compromise matters of national significance? 2. Has this occurred and, if so, which plans has this occurred for? 	Written	
208	Water Division	Senator Patrick	Eastern Australia Agriculture selling water	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Excluding any offer accepted by the Commonwealth, what other offers (volumes, price and water licence type) were made by Eastern Australia Agriculture to sell water to the Commonwealth and when were these offers made? 2. Why were these offers rejected? 	Written	
209	Water Division	Senator Patrick	List of water licences acquired through an efficiency program	Please provide a list of water licences acquired through an efficiency program that are in a different valley to the location of the efficiency project. Please name the project that is	Written	

				attached to the acquired water licenses.		
210	Water Division	Senator Patrick	Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which government agency regulates delivery entitlements in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area? 2. How are delivery entitlements in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area regulated? 	Written	
211	Water Division	Senator Patrick	Total amount paid	<p>With reference to an open letter from scientists on Murray-Darling Basin Plan</p> <p>https://ingenium.eng.unimelb.edu.au/2019/07/19/an-open-letter-from-scientists-on-the-murray-darling-basin/</p> <p>How much has been paid in total to each of the following persons or entities since 2012 by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, MDBA or CEWH (including their predecessors):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rob Vertessy - Michael Stewardson, The University of Melbourne - QJ Wang, The University of Melbourne - Angus Webb, The University of Melbourne - Andrew Western, The University of Melbourne - Rory Nathan, The University of Melbourne - John Langford, The University of Melbourne - Marcia Langton, The University of Melbourne - Neil Byron, University of Canberra - Ian Prosser, University of Canberra 	Written	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Glen Walker, Grounded in Water - Ross Thompson, University of Canberra - Mike Grace, Monash University - Ian Rutherford, The University of Melbourne - Shane Brooks, Consulting Ecologist - Stuart Bunn, Griffith University - Fran Sheldon, Griffith University - Robyn Watts, Charles Sturt University - Justin Brookes, The University of Adelaide - Alison King, La Trobe University / Charles Darwin University - Skye Wassens, Charles Sturt University - Samantha Capon, Griffith University - Jennifer Hale, - CSIRO Land and Water - Australian Rivers Institute at Griffith University, - Melbourne School of Engineering at the University of Melbourne, - Institute of Applied Ecology at University of Canberra, - School of Environmental Sciences, Charles Sturt University, - School of Life Sciences, La Trobe University - the Centre for Freshwater Ecosystems, La Trobe University. - Grounded in Water, - Natural Capital Economics, - Global Change Advisory - UOM Commercial Ltd. - Alluvium - Barry Hart - Garry Smith 		
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As at 21 November 2019

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