

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Department of Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 46

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** Biosecurity duties – labour hire arrangements

**Proof Hansard Page:** 38 25.5.17

**Senator STERLE asked:**

**Senator STERLE:** Are any of the people under these labour hire arrangements undertaking biosecurity duties?

**Mr Power:** The labour hire roles are in a variety of different positions across the organisation. Most of them are concentrated in the corporate functions, but there are certainly some who work in different parts of the biosecurity system. I could not tell you exactly—

**Senator STERLE:** Perhaps you can take it on notice to provide a breakdown for the committee.

**Mr Power:** I am happy to do so.

**Answer:**

As at the end of March 2017, the department did not have any labour hire staff undertaking operational biosecurity duties. About 50 labour hire staff were working in biosecurity related functions. These range from business systems development to biosecurity policy and more general roles such as kennel hands.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Department of Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 47

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** White paper funding – Farm Insurance advice and risk assessment grants

**Proof Hansard Page:** 78 (25.05.2017)

**Senator STERLE asked:**

**Senator STERLE:** I will throw them at you anyway, because I am a firm believer if we can get it out now it saves your department hours and hours and then having to come back to us. Twenty-nine point nine million for farm insurance advice and risk assessment grants?

**Mr Quinlivan:** We have had a pretty strong go at that program. The objective of it was to try and stimulate a private market in multiperil insurance, but I think we are getting towards the point where we think that we are not able to stimulate the development of that market in Australia for various reasons. I think we are regarding that as a policy experiment.

**Senator STERLE:** So, there is still a bucket of money there?

**Mr Quinlivan:** There are unspent funds in that program.

**Senator STERLE:** Take it on notice to let us know how much is unspent, unless you know now?

**Mr Quinlivan:** No, I do not know.

**Answer:**

Please refer to response from question on notice 56 from Budget Estimates, May 2017.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Department of Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 48

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** White paper funding – local infrastructure projects

**Proof Hansard Page:** 78 (25.05.2017)

**Senator STERLE asked:**

**Senator STERLE:** Thirty-five million for local infrastructure projects to help communities suffering due to drought?

**Mr Quinlivan:** That was a program that I think was implemented quite quickly after the white paper and to the best of my knowledge it has been fully implemented.

**Mr D Williamson:** That is our drought communities program?

**Senator STERLE:** Yes, the infrastructure projects.

**Mr D Williamson:** Yes. That is actually being administered by the Infrastructure and Regional Development program, but I think Mr Quinlivan is right. There might be one round of funding left, but we will take that on notice and let you know.

**Answer:**

The Drought Communities Programme is administered by the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development.

Over the four years, \$35 million has been allocated to this programme. 23 drought affected councils have been invited to submit projects up to a value of \$1.5 million each.

As at 29 May 2017, 91 projects have been approved at a value of \$24.17 million.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Department of Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 49

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** White paper funding – pest, animals and weeds

**Proof Hansard Page:** 78 (25.05.2017)

**Senator STERLE asked:**

**Senator STERLE** There is \$25.8 million over four years to manage pest, animals and weeds in drought affected areas. It is amazing how the weeds always still grow.

**Mr D Williamson:** That is over a number of years. That is being implemented.

**Senator STERLE:** Four years?

**Mr D Williamson:** Yes. I think we are two years into it. I will give you on notice an update of the program, but it is proceeding well.

**Answer:**

Please refer to response to question on notice 52 from Budget Estimates, May 2017.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Department of Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 50

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** White paper funding – tea tree oil industry

**Proof Hansard Page:** 78 (25.05.2017)

**Senator STERLE asked:**

**Senator STERLE:** So, that is \$100 million all up for tackling that sort of stuff. I know it is two different ones. One point four million to match industry levies and contributions in the export fodder and tea tree oil industries. How is that going?

**Mr D Williamson:** Yes, that has been implemented. I think the tea tree levy was signed off and went to ExCo last week, but it has been implemented.

**Senator STERLE:** I am bearing in mind that if there are any questions you have got it in hand.

**Mr D Williamson:** Yes, I will come back to you.

**Answer:**

Please refer to response from question on notice 56 from Budget Estimates, May 2017.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Department of Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 51

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** White paper funding – Australia's food export traceability systems

**Proof Hansard Page:** 79 (25.05.2017)

**Senator STERLE asked:**

**Senator STERLE:** Twelve point four million to modernise Australia's food export traceability systems to further enhance our food safety credentials. How is that going?

**Mr Quinlivan:** We will take that one on notice.

**Answer:**

Please refer to responses to question on notice 56 from Budget Estimates, May 2017.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Department of Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 52

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** White paper update

**Proof Hansard Page:** 79-80 (25.05.2017)

**Senator RUSTON asked:**

**Senator RUSTON:** No, that is done. Chair, can I just say to Senator Sterle that the department has offered to give you a full breakdown on the agricultural white paper initiatives implementation. That will be provided to you.

**Senator STERLE:** Thank you very much.

**Answer:**

Please refer to response to question on notice 56 from Budget Estimates May 2017.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Department of Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 53

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** Remuneration – Mr Parker

**Proof Hansard Page:** 28 (26.05.2017)

**Senator ROBERTS asked:**

**Senator ROBERTS:** Thank you all for coming today. I have recently learned that the whole idea of Senate estimates is accountability and transparency, so that is what I will be focused on. With that in mind, Mr Parker, could you tell me your annual remuneration, please?

**Senator Ruston:** You might have to take that on notice.

**Mr Parker:** Yes, I think I should take that on notice. There is also certain publicly available information on that—

**CHAIR:** I can manage this. People's gradings and pay scales are well published and available for any sort of research. I would be reluctant to let us go into this space case by case with individuals, Senator Roberts.

**Senator ROBERTS:** I do not intend to go into it case by case. I have asked this question in every estimates session I have attended and they have freely given that information.

**Senator IAN MACDONALD:** All I can tell you, Senator Roberts, is that it is more than you get.

**CHAIR:** Yes. Mr Parker, you might start by talking about where you sit in the Public Service scale of things and give a generalisation.

**Senator XENOPHON:** Chair, can I raise an issue of relevance?

**CHAIR:** Yes.

**Senator XENOPHON:** We are here to discuss the implementation of the plan.

**CHAIR:** We are in estimates and it is government expenditure. I am sending you a message, Senator Roberts, to see if we can proceed without getting into personal circumstances. I understand why you are doing it, but it is the personal circumstances of officers. Is there a chance we can give a generalisation and see if Senator Roberts is satisfied with that? If he pursues the question, you will have to answer it.

**Senator ROBERTS:** I would like to know the amount. We can put it on notice. It is not embarrassing, as far as I can see, that you do not know it, because there are lots of technicalities. There have been times when I did not know my remuneration.



**Question Number:** 53 (continued)

**CHAIR:** Taking it on notice might be the solution.

**Senator ROBERTS:** I would like all the entitlements, allowances and everything, please.

**Mr Parker:** Certainly.

**Answer:**

The total remuneration for Mr David Parker as Deputy Secretary of the department is \$426,722. This amount includes employer superannuation and provision of a car park.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Department of Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 54

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** Number of positions over \$250,000 or more

**Proof Hansard Page:** 28-29 (26.05.2017)

**Senator ROBERTS asked:**

**Senator ROBERTS:** Could I also have details of the positions of all those who earn \$250,000 or more, please.

**Mr Parker:** For the department as a whole?

**Senator ROBERTS:** The department, yes.

**Mr Parker:** Some of that falls outside of my area of responsibility, so I would have to refer the question to the secretary.

**CHAIR:** Sorry, what was the question? You want the names of all officers who are on—

**Senator ROBERTS:** No, I do not want the names; I want the titles of—

**CHAIR:** The titles?

**Senator ROBERTS:** Yes.

**Senator Ruston:** It should not be hard to work out who they are if you have the title, though, should it?

**CHAIR:** No, that is right.

**Senator ROBERTS:** Or you can tell me the number. That will do if you are worried about confidentiality.

**Senator Ruston:** As Mr Parker has pointed out, he is the deputy secretary responsible for water, so these questions are probably best put on notice to the main Agriculture estimates.

**Answer:**

The department has 51 employees, including the Secretary, who received a total remuneration greater than \$250,000 per annum over the past 12 months. This was calculating the remuneration as per the Executive Remuneration Guidelines issued by Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. Total remuneration included all allowances including those paid to employees on overseas postings. While the guidelines also require reportable fringe benefits to be included this was not used in calculating this number as the department's FBT return has not yet been finalised. It is envisaged that including FBT will only have a small effect on this number if any.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 55

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** Market Research

**Proof Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator FARRELL asked:**

For the 2016-17 financial year, what was the total amount spent by the Department on market research (either as a whole contract or as part of a contract)?

For each contract for market research in 2016/2017, can you please provide:

- i. The subject of the market research;
- ii. The supplier;
- iii. Whether the supplier has been engaged previously and if so, for which contracts;
- iv. The total value of the contract;
- v. The term of the contract (time);
- vi. The date that the decision was taken to seek market research on the topic;
- vii. The date the contract was opened to tender or selection process;
- viii. The date the supplier was engaged;
- ix. Whether the contract was subject to a tender process, including whether there was a full, partial or closed tender process;
- x. Does the supplier exist on a pre-approved supplier list, if so, when were they added to that list;
- xi. Whether the Minister, or the Minister's Office, requested that the research be conducted;
- xii. Whether the Minister approved the decision to conduct market research;
- xiii. Whether the Minister approved the contract with the supplier;
- xiv. Whether the Minister or the Minister's office was consulted on questions asked;
- xv. Whether the Minister or the Minister's office received a copy of the market research;

**Question Number:** 55 (continued)

- xvi. If the decision to conduct research was initiated by the department or agency, was the Minister or their office consulted before the decision was taken to conduct research, if so – in what form did that consultation take (written, verbal other);
- xvii. If the decision to conduct research was initiated by the department or agency, did Minister or their office make any amendments or changes to the Department’s proposal for market research to be conducted, if so, what changes and to what aspects were they made;
- xviii. At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research were other departments or agencies consulted?
- xix. At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research were other Ministers, or the Prime Minister consulted?
- xx. At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research did the expected cost change, if so how?
- xxi. At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research did the scope, questions or supplier of the research change?
- xxii. Have any topics or questions of market research been conducted and subsequently conducted again by the same or different supplier?

**Answer:**

1. The department entered market research contracts to the value of \$214,936.00 inclusive of GST during the 2016-17 financial year.
2. Details of all spending on market research undertaken by external consultants/service providers above \$10,000 in calendar year 2016 are available on the Austender website at [www.tenders.gov.au](http://www.tenders.gov.au). The provision of itemised costs on external consultants/service would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Department of Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 56

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper Initiatives

**Proof Hansard page:** Written

**Senator STERLE asked:**

1. Provide a breakdown of funding for each Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper Initiative, including:
  - a. Original funding allocated to each initiative
  - b. Amount spent for each initiative for each financial year; 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17
  - c. Amount of unspent money for each initiative for each financial year; 2013-14, 2014-15, 2016-17
  - d. What has happened with unspent funds for each financial year; 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17
  - e. Provide a breakdown of administrative costs for each initiative for each financial year; 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17
  - f. Provide a breakdown of any advertising costs associated with each initiative for each financial year; 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17
  - g. Provide detail of reviews that have been undertaken for each of the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper Initiatives

**Answer:**

1.

a-f. A summary of initiatives announced in the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper including the implementation status, as at 31 May 2017, is at Attachment A. The breakdown of funding for each of the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper initiatives, as at 31 May 2017, is at Attachment B.

g. Reviews specific to individual measures are identified at Attachment B.

Measure	Status	Update
<b>Building the Infrastructure of the 21<sup>st</sup> century</b>		
National Water Infrastructure Development Fund	Ongoing	A total of \$59.5 million for 39 feasibility studies has been committed. Project agreements have been agreed covering all feasibility studies.
Freight modelling for agriculture—expand CSIRO's TransIT	Implemented	A final report is scheduled to be submitted to the Department Agriculture and Water Resources in June 2017.
<b>A fairer go for farm businesses</b>		
PC inquiry into regulations affecting agriculture	Implemented	The Commission's final report was tabled in Parliament on 28 March 2017.
PC inquiry into regulations affecting fisheries	Implemented	The Commission's final report was tabled in Parliament on 24 May 2017.
Reforms to country of origin labelling	Ongoing	In-store demonstrations are currently being held in selected supermarkets around Australia. These will continue until the end of June 2017 and will provide consumers with information on what the new labels look like, and what they mean.
Streamlining the regulation of Agvet chemicals	Ongoing	Legislation is being developed for introduction to Parliament in 2017.
Cooperatives and innovative business model knowledge	Implemented	On 14 April 2016, the Deputy Prime Minister announced in Lismore that Southern Cross University (SCU) will deliver the Farm Co-operatives and Collaboration Pilot Program. SCU has a multi-phase program design that enables support and advice to be tailored to the individual needs of farmers and farmer groups. The pilot program has reached an important milestone, with over \$4.5 million in grant funding being allocated to 40 successful applicants in June 2017.
ACCC engagement in agricultural sector	Implemented	Through the establishment of an Agriculture Unit and the appointment of Commissioner Mick Keogh, the ACCC has substantially increased its engagement with the sector. The ACCC released its Cattle and beef market study on 7 March 2017.
Changes to income tax averaging for farmers—allowing opt-in	Implemented	Enacting this measure required amendments to the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997. The Bill making these amendments was given Royal Assent on 28 February 2017.
Farm Management Deposits (FMD) —Increasing the deposit limit to \$800 000	Implemented	From 1 July 2016, eligible farmers can hold up to \$800 000 in FMDs, doubling the amount they could hold prior to the change.
Farm Management Deposits (FMD) —Allowing loan offset	Implemented	From 1 July 2016, banks have been able to offer FMD accounts that allow farmers to use them to offset the costs of their farm business borrowings.
Simplified accelerated depreciation—fencing	Implemented	The government as part of the 2015–16 Budget, announced improved accelerated depreciation arrangements for fencing, fodder storage infrastructure and water facilities.
<b>Strengthening our approach to drought and risk management</b>		
Better Seasonal Forecasting	Implemented	Initial assessment of the new model by BoM scientists demonstrates that it is improved in terms of accuracy and effectiveness, compared to the previous model. Funding has been provided to the Bureau of Meteorology for delivery of the initiative, with the first operational release of forecast products from the new model (ACCESS-S) scheduled in early 2018.
Tax arrangements for water facilities and fodder storage	Implemented	The government as part of the 2015–16 Budget, announced farmers were able to depreciate new fodder storage assets over three years.
Managing Farm Risk Programme	Implemented	On 29 March 2016, the Deputy Prime Minister announced the commencement of the Managing Farm Risk programme and applications opened. The programme terminates in 2018-19.
Transitional drought and drought recovery concessional loans	Implemented	The Drought Concessional Loans Scheme was available in all states and the Northern Territory (except the Australian Capital Territory) in 2015–16. The Drought Recovery Concessional Loans Scheme was open for applications in New South Wales, Queensland, Tasmania and South Australia in 2015–16.
Drought Concessional Loans Scheme—Ongoing arrangements	Ongoing	It is intended that farm businesses will be able to continue to apply for concessional loans under the existing Farm Business Concessional Loans Scheme until the Regional Investment Corporation is operational from July 2018. The Australian Government has announced that it will extend eligibility for the Farm Business Concessional Loans Scheme, to farmers who have, or will have, exhausted their full 1095 day entitlement to the Farm Household Allowance (FHA) by 30 June 2018.
Farm Management Deposits—early access provisions in drought	Implemented	The enhancements to the Farm Management Deposit Scheme commenced on 1 July 2016.
Increased case management—Farm Household Allowance	Implemented	The measure came into effect on 1 July 2016. The additional \$1 000 activity supplement will be used for activities that will demonstrably improve a recipient's self-reliance and assist them to transition off their Farm Household Allowance entitlement.
Advice and assistance from the Australian Taxation Office to taxpayers in drought	Implemented	A hotline for drought-affected taxpayers was implemented in January 2016.
Additional resources to Rural Financial Counselling Service	Implemented	The measure delivered \$1.8 million additional funding to the Rural Financial Counselling Service to provide extra resources to deal with increased client demand due to drought.
Enhanced social and community support	Implemented	This program was funded in 2015-16 as committed. This measure has successfully enabled agencies to identify and assist farmers and farm families in need of support.
Drought Communities Programme	Implemented	The Drought Communities Programme is providing support in 23 local government areas through shire councils located in Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria.
Pest animal and weed management in drought-affected areas	Implemented	In 2015–16, \$15 million in government funding was provided to Queensland, NSW, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia for state-based programmes to reduce the impact of pest animals and weeds in drought affected areas. A further \$4 million has been committed in 2016–17 for Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia to continue programmes.
<b>Farming Smarter</b>		

Measure	Status	Update
Clearer research, development and extension (RD&E) priorities	Implemented	The 15 rural Research and Development Corporations have adopted the new rural RD&E priorities, which target on-farm technologies and practices that deliver farm gate returns.
Extend Rural Research and development (R&D) for Profit programme	Implemented	Funding of almost \$79 million (GST exclusive) has been provided for 29 projects under rounds one and two of the Rural Research and Development for Profit programme.
Improve efficiency of Research and Development Corporations—governance	Implemented	The government works with Research and Development Corporations to improve governance so that farmers and the community receive maximum value for their investment in research, development and extension.
Funding to the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) for research, development and extension for small industries	Implemented	The government will provide an extra \$1.2 million to RIRDC over three years (2016-17 to 2018-19) for RD&E for plant and animal small industries.
Levies—tea tree oil	Implemented	The levies will commence on 1 July 2017.
Levies—export fodder	Implemented	The levy will commence on 1 July 2017.
Boost emergency pest and disease eradication	Implemented	The department will use \$10.5 million to provide emergency pest and disease response funding over four years (2015-16 to 2018-19). The department will use \$39.5 million for exotic pest and disease eradication programmes from 2015–16 to 2018–19.
Manage established pest animals and weeds	Ongoing	23 projects announced under the competitive grants process on 2 May 2017. New project proposals under the Project Agreement with states and territories are being put forward for 2017–18 and 2018–19.
<b>Accessing Premium Markets</b>		
Technical barriers to trade (new agricultural counsellors)	Implemented	The department's overseas agriculture counsellor network has been expanded and strengthened to promote Australian agriculture and deliver better market access for industry.
Strengthening Australia's Biosecurity—Surveillance	Ongoing	Project agreements are in place with a number of industry, academic and government partners to improve national surveillance capability and plant pest surveys in Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste have been completed with planning progressing for a survey in the Indian Ocean Territories in 2018.
Strengthening Australia's Biosecurity—Community-based action	Ongoing	28 additional ranger groups agreed to undertake biosecurity activities on a regular basis. The total number of ranger groups undertaking biosecurity activities is now 68; exceeding the 2016–17 target of 63.
Strengthening Australia's Biosecurity—Scientific capability	Ongoing	Export certification requirements for certain fish and animal exports to some countries have been improved allowing trade to commence and technical reviews of 15 fresh produce and 2 dried product import cases have been finalised.
Strengthening Australia's Biosecurity—Information and analysis	Ongoing	The technical proof of concept has been completed for existing software with other technology options being explored to further enhance information and analytics capability.
Enhanced traceability systems	Ongoing	Detailed business requirements for the redevelopment of the Export Establishment Register have been completed.

Measure	White Paper Funding (budgeted)	Expenses (includes actual administered, departmental and capital expenditure)		Unspent funds <sup>1,2</sup>	Administrative costs (actual)		Advertising costs (actual)	
		2015-16	May YTD 2016-17		2015-16	2016-17	2015-16	2016-17
<b>Building the Infrastructure of the 21st Century</b>								
National Water Infrastructure Development Fund	500,000,000	5,079,000	16,413,000	-	1,079,000	1,041,000	-	-
Freight modelling for agriculture—expand CSIRO's TransIT	1,000,000	675,544	273,119	-	675,544	273,000		
<b>A fairer go for farm businesses</b>								
PC inquiry into regulations affecting agriculture								
PC inquiry into regulations affecting fisheries								
Reforms to country of origin labelling	-	6,625,000	6,086,000	-	436,000	300,615	6,200,000	5,565,000
Streamlining the regulation of Agvet chemicals	20,400,000	-	3,326,000	-	-	4,139,000	-	-
Cooperatives and innovative business model knowledge	13,800,000	720,000	6,888,000	-	20,000	-	-	-
ACCC engagement in agricultural sector	11,400,000	2,200,000	2,980,000	395,000	262,000	214,000	-	6,876
Changes to income tax averaging for farmers—allowing opt-in <sup>3</sup>								
FMDs—Increasing the deposit limit to \$800 000								19,658 <sup>4</sup>
FMDs—Allowing loan offset								See footnote <sup>4</sup>
Simplified accelerated depreciation—fencing <sup>3</sup>	56,000,000							
<b>Strengthening our approach to drought and risk management</b>								
Better Seasonal Forecasting	3,300,000	974,546	888,285	2,454	-	-	-	-
Tax arrangements for water facilities, fodder storage and depreciation	86,000,000							
Managing Farm Risk Programme	29,945,000	204,000	164,000	3,653,000	195,000	72,000	23,000	16,000
Transitional drought and drought recovery concessional loans	250,000,000	226,145,000	307,000	25,000,000	463,000	261,000	59,000	-
Drought Concessional Loans Scheme—Ongoing arrangements	2,500,000,000	998,000	166,185,000	-	998,000	861,000	-	4,000
FMDs—early access provisions in drought								See footnote <sup>4</sup>
Increased case management—Farm Household Allowance (FHA) <sup>5</sup>	22,800,000	258,000	6,167,000	-	-	-	-	-
Advice and assistance from ATO to taxpayers in drought								
Additional resources to Rural Financial Counselling Service <sup>6</sup>	1,800,000	1,800,000	1,725,000	-	-	-	-	-
Enhanced social and community support	20,000,000	19,300,000	-	700,000	-	-	-	-
Drought Communities Programme	35,000,000	3,662,000	4,079,000	-	335,000	152,000	-	-
Pest animal and weed management in drought-affected areas	25,800,000	15,335,000	3,652,000	-	335,000	166,000	-	-
<b>Farming Smarter</b>								
Clearer RD&E priorities								
Extend Rural R&D for Profit programme <sup>7</sup>	100,000,000							
Improve efficiency of RDCs—governance								
Funding to RIRDC for RD&E for small industries	1,200,000	-	400,000	-	-	-	-	-
Levies—tea tree oil <sup>8</sup>	248,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



Measure	White Paper Funding (budgeted)	Expenses (includes actual administered, departmental and capital expenditure)		Unspent funds <sup>1,2</sup>	Administrative costs (actual)		Advertising costs (actual)	
		2015-16	May YTD 2016-17		2015-16	2016-17	2015-16	2016-17
Levies—export fodder <sup>8</sup>	1,200,000	-	367,000	-	-	-	-	-
Boost emergency pest and disease eradication (Immediate Assistance)	50,000,000	1,841,000	320,000	11,000	352,000	349,000	-	-
Manage established pest animals and weeds	50,000,000	8,919,000	4,302,000	-	499,000	397,000	-	-
<b>Accessing Premium Markets</b>								
Technical barriers to trade (new agricultural counsellors)	30,800,000	5,597,000	6,952,000	50,000	5,597,000	7,156,000	-	-
Strengthening Australia's Biosecurity—Surveillance	200,000,000	7,276,000	20,052,000	-	4,921,000	17,109,000	-	-
Strengthening Australia's Biosecurity—Community-based action		1,468,000	3,009,000	1,321,000	182,000	1,644,000	-	-
Strengthening Australia's Biosecurity—Scientific capability		5,258,000	10,629,000	-	5,011,000	11,460,000	-	-
Strengthening Australia's Biosecurity—Information and analysis		-	3,299,000	-	-	3,599,000	-	-
Enhanced traceability systems		12,400,000	915,000	2,577,000	3,024,000	516,000	966,000	-

**Notes**

\*In 2015–16, the department conducted a review of its readiness to deliver its responsibilities under the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper. Individual reviews for initiatives are undertaken periodically as part of the implementation process. No formal reviews have been undertaken as the White Paper has been in effect for under two years.

\*Greyed out measures have policy, legislative and delivery/compliance costs were managed through other departments or have no specific appropriation.

1. The full year position for unspent money for FY 2016-17 will not be known until post 30 June.
2. Unspent funds are returned to consolidated revenue, consistent with Budget Process Operational Rules, unless funds are reprioritised by Government.
3. Policy, legislative and delivery/compliance costs were managed through the Treasury and the Australian Taxation Office.
4. The three FMD measures were advertised in the same campaign, which totalled \$19 658 and was absorbed within existing departmental costs.
5. DAWR funding is drawn down by DHS for use for the program.
6. The original White Paper measure was extended by Government. \$7.07 million was allocated from 2016-17 until 2019-20.
7. The funding for this measure starts 2018-19.
8. These levies commence 1 July 2017. The Commonwealth matches 50% of eligible R&D spend by corporations up to the amount of levy collected, limited to 0.5% of the industry's Gross Value of Production which is calculated on an annual basis.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 57

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** Ministerial functions

**Proof Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator STERLE asked:**

In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio since 1 October 2016, can the following please be provided:

- List of functions;
- List of attendees including departmental officials and members of the Minister's family or personal staff;
- Function venue;
- Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive);
- Details of any food served;
- Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; and
- Details of any entertainment provided.

**Answer:**

Please see details at Attachments A, B and C.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Purpose of Function</b>	<b>Function venue</b>	<b>List of attendees including departmental officials and staff/family of the Minister or Assistant Ministers</b>	<b>Details of food served</b>	<b>Details of wines/champagne s served including brand and vintage)</b>	<b>Details of any entertainment provided</b>	<b>Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive)</b>
6 October 2016	Agricultural Industry Advisory Council networking function	Stamford Grand Glenelg, South Australia	Attachment B	One hour canape package.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bay of Stones Sauvignon Blanc</li> <li>• Bay of Stones Shiraz</li> <li>• Bay of Stones Sparking</li> <li>• draught beer</li> <li>• light beer</li> <li>• soft drinks</li> </ul>	Nil	Food - \$1250.00 Beverages - \$800.00
6 October 2016	AIAC members dinner	Esca Restaurant Glenelg, South Australia	Attachment B		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sparkling white – The Lane Lois blanc de blanc</li> <li>• White wine Hewitson Lulu Sauvignon Blanc</li> <li>• Red wine Mitolo 'Jester' Shiraz</li> <li>• Selection of local beers, including beer on tap</li> <li>• Soft drink and juices</li> </ul>	Nil	Food - \$1027.50 Beverages - \$735.00
7 October 2016	AIAC meeting	Stamford Grand Glenelg, South Australia	Attachment B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morning tea</li> <li>• Lunch</li> </ul>	Nil	Nil	Food - \$308.00 Beverages - \$225.00 AV - \$725.53
12 November 2016	Industry dinner – industry familiarisation in	Lost Heaven Restaurant, Beijing	The Hon Luke Hartsuyker MP Jennifer Cahill, Advisor	3 course set menu.	Wine - Pikes Riesling	Nil	Meals - \$526.00 Alcohol - \$176.00

	the margins of the China Food Security and Food Safety Summit		Paul McNamara, Minister Counsellor Agriculture Benjamin Mitchell, Counsellor Agriculture Adam Balcerak, Counsellor Agriculture Matt Brent, Trade Commissioner Nick Coyle, Chamber of Commerce Nick Hunt, Harvest Road Group Michael Boddington, Asian Agribusiness Tony Qui, JD.com				Other drinks - \$150.00
19 January 2017	Welcome reception for delegates attending the 5 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Commission of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation.	Adelaide Oval, Cathedral room, Adelaide, Australia	Assistant Minister Ruston Jim Burston – Adviser  No official attendance was taken for the welcome reception. A full list of delegates and secretariat staff for the SPRMO meeting can be found at the following link.  <a href="https://www.sprfmo.int/assets/01-Commission-2017/ANNEXES/COMM5-Report-ANNEX-2-List-of-Participants-p10-17.pdf">https://www.sprfmo.int/assets/01-Commission-2017/ANNEXES/COMM5-Report-ANNEX-2-List-of-Participants-p10-17.pdf</a>  All SPRFMO delegates, secretariat staff and partners were invited to	Canapes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dunes and green Sparkling (Chardonnay Pinot Noir)</li> <li>• Yalumba Y Series Pinot Grigio</li> <li>• Yalumba Y Series Cabernet Sauvignon</li> </ul> <p>Hahn Super dry, Hahn Premium Light, Toohey's 5 Seeds Crisp Cider and soft drinks</p>	Nil	Food \$7 280.00 Beverages – \$5 460.00 AV/Microphone - \$495.00

			attend. The event was catered for 130 people.				
20 January 2017	Industry dinner held in the margins on the G20 Agriculture Ministers' meeting	Aigner Restaurant, Berlin	The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP Simon Price, Senior Adviser Jake Smith, Media Adviser Daryl Quinlivan, Secretary DAWR Lynette Wood, Australian Ambassador to Germany Nicola Hinder, Agriculture counsellor Josh Anderson, MLA Frank Albers, Albers Meat Udo Albers, Albers Meat Liz Murphy, Meat Traders Association Knutd Buhl, Danish Bacon and Meat Council Jochem Versloot, Jan Zandbergen Worldwide meats	Three course set menu.	Tyrrell's Wines, Vat 1 Sémillon 2009, Hunter Valley  Tyrrell's Wines, Vat 9 Shiraz 2009, Hunter Valley  Kreglinger sparkling wine	Nil	Food and non-alcoholic drinks – \$1 017.00  Wine provided by Australian Embassy
7 March 2017	Ritz Carlton Hotel, Jakarta	Beef and Cattle Roundtable Discussion	Assistant Minister Hartsuyker <u>Indonesian industry:</u> Juan Permata Adoe Hafid Wahyu Thomas Sembiring Wilson Hasan Achmad Fachmi <u>Australian industry:</u> Simon Westaway Sam Brown Troy Setter	Coffee, tea, biscuits			\$113.19

			Tracey Hayes Robi Agustini Valeska <u>Departmental staff:</u> Ian Mortimer Dean Merrilees Laura Timmins <u>DFAT staff:</u> Duane Bridger Deasy Ishak Ayu Harlinah <u>AM staff:</u> Jennifer Cahill				
8 March 2017	Ritz Carlton Hotel, Jakarta	Horticulture Roundtable Discussion over Breakfast featuring Australian Blueberries	Assistant Minister Hartsuyker <u>Indonesian industry:</u> Hendra Juwono Agus Setiawan Ang Harman Siswanto, William Jonathan F Ricky Liong <u>Australian industry:</u> Dominic Jenkin Andrew Bell <u>Departmental staff:</u> Ian Mortimer Dean Merrilees Laura Timmins <u>DFAT staff:</u> Duane Bridger Deasy Ishak Ade Johansyah <u>AM staff:</u> Jennifer Cahill	Display of breakfast cereal (3 kinds) Fresh milk Assortment of low fat, natural and fruit yoghurts Bircher Muesli Seasonal fresh sliced fruit platter Breakfast pastries display including plain and chocolate croissants, Danish, muffins, banana bread, brioche, white and whole wheat toast Raisin swirl French toast with softened butter and maple syrup			\$622.54

				White and brown toast bread (bread toaster machine) Assorted jam and honey Juice guava, apple and orange juice The Ritz Carlton selections of freshly brewed coffee, decaffeinated coffee and premium teas			
8 March 2017	Ritz Carlton Hotel, Jakarta	Wheat and Grain Roundtable Discussion	Assistant Minister Hartsuyker <u>Indonesian industry:</u> Franciscus Welirang Ratna Sari Loppies Dyah Farmasita Alex Britana Sumantrie Edwin C Tumakeng <u>Australian industry:</u> Alick Osborne Simon Johnson <u>Departmental staff:</u> Ian Mortimer Dean Merrilees Laura Timmins <u>DFAT staff:</u> Duane Bridger Deasy Ishak Ayu Harlinah <u>AM staff:</u> Jennifer Cahill	Focaccia Beef Sandwich Soft Roll Bread Smoked Salmon Sandwich Multi Grain Bread Vegetable Sandwich Grill Chicken Cajun and Vegetable Wrapped Tortillas Chicken Five Spice in Skewer Beef Fajitas Vegetable in Tortillas Risotto Ball with Parmesan Cheese Mushroom and Seafood Mini Pizza			\$724.42

5 April 2017	Agricultural Industry Advisory Council (AIAC) networking function	RSL Club Deniliquin, New South Wales	Attachment B	Cocktail Green Lamb skewers Cocktail satay chicken skewers Pulled port & Coleslaw sliders Smoked Salmon upon cucumber discs Individual chicken & camembert pies	Beer, wine and soft drink. No beverage list provided by venue.	Nil	Canape package 3: \$1125 (\$25 pp)  Beverage package: \$900 (\$20 pp/ph)
5 April 2017	Agricultural Industry Advisory Council (AIAC) members' dinner	The Crossing Café, Deniliquin, New South Wales	Attachment B	3 course menu: Shared appetisers to begin (caramelised pork belly, lamb kofta, Gorgonzola porcini arancini, Scallops on the shell, Tomato bocconcini balsamic bruschetta) Main course – alternating (Rosemary Lamb rump, Slow cooked duck on potato galette) Dessert (Vanilla pannacotta, Citrus tart)	Wines selected by members from the wine list: See Attachment C for red and white wine lists.	Nil	3 course menu: \$907.80 (\$60 pp)  Beverages: \$233.50
5 April 2017	Agricultural Industry Advisory Council (AIAC) meeting	RSL Club Deniliquin, New South Wales	Attachment B	Lunch: Wraps and Sandwiches Fresh fruit platter Cheese Fruit Platter Afternoon tea: Cakes and slices	Soft drink jugs Tea/Coffee continuous Orange juice	Nil	\$634.50 (including AV costs of \$25)



6 April 2017	Focus group on the Commercial Fisheries Policy Statement	Parkroyal Melbourne Airport	Senator the Hon. Anne Ruston Jim Burston - Adviser Gordon Neil – Assistant Secretary, DAWR Jenny Baldwin – Director, Commercial Fisheries Policy, DAWR Stuart Richey – Chair, Australian Marine Safety Authority Anthony Ciconte – Chair, Commonwealth Fisheries Association Veronica Papacosta – Director, Sydney Fresh Seafood Group Martin Exel – General Manager, Austral Fisheries Brian Jeffriess – CEO, Australian Southern Bluefin Tuna Industry Association	Morning tea - Portuguese custard tart Pumpkin Arancini, bush tomato chutney (V); Dilmah Exclusive Tea Blends, Freshly Brewed Douwe Egberts Coffee And Orange Juice.  Lunch - Pastrami Turkish bread sandwich, grilled capsicum, cheese, onion Marmalade, orange juice	Nil	Nil	Meeting Room - \$375.00  Morning tea - \$17.50 p.p. (\$157.50)  Lunch - \$12.50 p.p. (\$112.50)  Printing / photocopying - \$417.20  Espresso coffees- \$4.50  Total = \$1078.44 (incl. \$5.67 merchant service fee)
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<b>6 October 2016</b>	<b>6 October 2016</b>	<b>7 October 2016</b>
<b>AIAC networking function attendees</b>	<b>AIAC dinner attendees</b>	<b>AIAC meeting attendees</b>
AIAC members	AIAC members	AIAC members
Andrew Inglis	Andrew Inglis	Andrew Inglis
Hamish McLaren	Hamish McLaren	Hamish McLaren
Dean Wormald	Dean Wormald	Dean Wormald
Susan Bower	Susan Bower	Susan Bower
Stuart Richey	Stuart Richey	Stuart Richey
Kevin Sorgiovanni	Kevin Sorgiovanni	Kevin Sorgiovanni
Luke Bowen	Luke Bowen	Luke Bowen
David Moon	David Moon	David Moon
Eliza Brown	Eliza Brown	Eliza Brown
Perin Davey	Perin Davey	Perin Davey
<b>Deputy Prime Ministers Office</b>	<b>Deputy Prime Ministers Office</b>	<b>Deputy Prime Ministers Office</b>
The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP (Chair)	The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP (Chair)	The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP (Chair)
Richard Hyett	Richard Hyett	Richard Hyett
Rebecca Johnson	Rebecca Johnson	Rebecca Johnson
<b>Departmental Staff</b>	<b>Departmental Staff</b>	<b>Departmental Staff</b>
Daryl Quinlivan	Daryl Quinlivan	Daryl Quinlivan
		Melissa Brown
<b>Invited Guests</b>		Bronwyn Edwards (secretariat)
Senator the Hon. Anne Ruston		Abbey Irby (secretariat)
Konstantinos Poulos		
David Ridgeway		
Matt Williams MP		
Duncan McFetridge MP		
Mehdi Doroudi		

Will Zacharin		
Kathy Ophel Keller		
Gavin Begg		
Mike Keller		
Wendy Umberger		
Mark Hutchinson		
Leah Grantham		
Hagen Stehr		
Jonas Woolford		
Justin Phillips		
Simon Clark		
Trudi McGowan		
Brian Smedley		
Rob Kerin		
Wade Dabinett		
Darren Arney		
Geoff Power		
Andrew Curtis		
John Hunt		
Andrew Curtis		
Andrew Johnson		
Susie Green		
Trevor Radford		
Angelo Demasi		
Jordan Brooke- Barnett		
John Crosby		
Con Sciacca		
Warren Randall		
Graham Tapley		

Mr Simon Clark		
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<b>5 April 2017</b>	<b>5 April 2017</b>	<b>5 April 2017</b>
<b>AIAC meeting attendees</b>	<b>AIAC networking function attendees</b>	<b>AIAC dinner attendees</b>
AIAC members	AIAC members	AIAC members
Perin Davey	Perin Davey	Perin Davey
Hamish McLaren	Hamish McLaren	Hamish McLaren
Dean Wormald	Dean Wormald	Dean Wormald
Stuart Richey	Stuart Richey	Stuart Richey (late withdrawal)
Luke Bowen	Luke Bowen	Luke Bowen
David Moon	David Moon	David Moon
Andrew Inglis	Andrew Inglis	Andrew Inglis
Lenore Johnstone	Lenore Johnstone	Lenore Johnstone
Deputy Prime Ministers Office	Deputy Prime Ministers Office	Deputy Prime Ministers Office
Richard Hyett	Richard Hyett	Richard Hyett
Matthew Coulton	Matthew Coulton	Matthew Coulton
Rebecca Johnson	Rebecca Johnson	Rebecca Johnson
Assistant Minister Rustons Office	Assistant Minister Rustons Office	Departmental Staff
Senator the Hon. Anne Ruston MP	Senator the Hon. Anne Ruston MP	David Parker
		Paul Morris
Assistant Minister Hartsuykers Office	Departmental Staff	
The Hon. Luke Hartsuyker MP	David Parker	
Jennifer Cahill	Paul Morris	
Jesse Young		

Departmental Staff	Invited guests	
David Parker	Linda Broekman	
Paul Morris	Gary Rodda	
Gayle Holmik (secretariat)	Richard Bull	
Abbey Irby (secretariat)	Linda Duffy	
	Jennie Hehir	
	Graeme Pyle	
	Louis Kelly	
	Phil O'Neill	
	Michael Renehan	
	Jeremy Moreton	
	Graeme Kruger	
	Rachel Kelly	
	Malcolm Holm	
	Noel Graham	
	Simone Anderson	
	Gary Saliba	
	Brooke Doughty	
	John Harvie	
	Sussan Ley MP	
	Justine Keech	
	Jamie Tasker	
	Russell Tait	
	Sam Hall	
	Harold Clapham	
	Bruce Simpson	
	Rob Brown	
	Matthew Kelly	

	Shelly Scoullar	
	John Lolicato	
	Louise Burge	
	Andrew Reynolds	

AIAC wine lists for members' dinner – 5 April 2017

ATTACHMENT C

# Wine List

**thecrossing**  
CAFE & RESTAURANT

## Sparkling

		Glass	Bottle
NV The Habitat Sparkling Brut Cuve	Sth Eastern Aust	8	28
NV Lana Prosecco	King Valley Vic		40
NV Paul Louis Sparking Blanc de Blancs	Loire Valley France	9	42
NV Ruggeri Prosecco Superiore 'Quarcese'	Valdobbadiene Italy	9.5	45
DOCG Brut			

## Champagne

NV Laurent-Perrier Brut L-P	Tours-sur-Marne France		95
NV Laurent-Perrier Brut L-P 375ml	Tours-sur-Marne France		50

## White Wine

Reisling		Glass	Bottle
2011 Devil's Corner Riesling	Tamar Valley Tas		32
2015 Leeuwin Estate 'Art Series' Riesling	Margaret River WA		45
2014 Cherubino 'Laissez Faire' Riesling	Margaret River WA		48

## White Wine Varietals

2014 McPherson Vineyards 'Almee's Garden' Moscato	Goulburn Valley Vic	8	28
2014 Tenuta Maccan Pinot Grigio delle Venezie IGT	Friuli Italy		38
2015 Ad Hoc Nitty Gritty Pinot Grigio	Pemberton WA		36
2015 Tamar Ridge Pinot Gris	Tasmania		42
2011 Torzi Matthews 'Vigna Cantina' Trebbiano Eden	Barossa Valley SA		44

## Sauvignon Blanc & Semillon blends

2016 McPherson Sauvignon Blanc	Nagambie Vic	8	29
2016 Mount Vernonn Sauvignon Blanc	Marlborough NZ	9	37
2014 Fire Gully Sauv Blanc Semillon	Margaret River WA	9	42

## Chardonnay

2016 McPherson Chardonnay	Nagambie Vic	8	29
2014 Jones Road 'Jr Jones' Chardonnay	Mornington Peninsula	9	39
2015 Howard Park 'Miami' Chardonnay	Margaret River WA		44

## Rose

2016 McPherson Vineyards 'Lucies Promise' Rose	Goulburn Valley Vic	8	35
2014 Domaine du Grand Cros Rose	Cotes du Provence France		42

# Wine List

**thecrossing**  
CAFE & RESTAURANT

## Red Wine

### Pinot Noir

2013 Yering 'Village' Pinot Noir	Yarra Valley Vic	Glass 9	Bottle 39
2014 Hinton 'Hill Country' Pinot Noir	Central Otago NZ		52

### Red Varietals

2015/16 Wilds Gully Tempranillo	King Valley Vic		35
2012 Torzi Matthews 'Vigna Cantina' Sangiovese	Eden Barossa Valleys SA		40
2013 Kangarilla Rd Terzetto Sangiovese Primitivo Nebbiolo	Mclaren Vale SA		46

### Merlot

2013 Round Two Merlot	Barossa Valley SA	8	29
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### Cabernet Sauvignon & Blends

2014 Mitolo 'Jester' Cabernet Sauvignon	McLaren Vale SA	8.5	38
2010 Reschke 'Rufus the Bull' Cabernet Sauvignon	Coonawarra SA		42
2012 Leeuwin Estate 'Prelude' Cabernet Merlot	Margaret River WA		53

### Shiraz & Blends

2015 Round Two Shiraz	Barossa Valley SA	8	29
2014 Brown Brothers 10 Acre Single Shiraz	Heathcote Vic		38
2013 Cooper Burns Grenache Shiraz Mourvedre	Barossa Valley SA		45
2015 Teusner 'Joshua' Grenache Mataro Shiraz	Barossa Valley SA		52
2014 Mt Langi 'Cliff Edge' Shiraz	Grampians Vic		54
2013 Fox Creek 'Short Row' Shiraz	McLaren Vale SA		58
2010 Patricia Shiraz	Milawa Vic		95

### Stickies & Dessert

		Glass	750ml Bottle
2012 Mountain Gold Late Harvest Riesling	King Valley		35
NV Chambers Cream Apera	Rutherglen Vic	7	
NV Chambers Rutherglen	Rutherglen Vic	15	
Old Vine Muscadelle (tokay)			
NV Chambers Rutherglen Muscat	Rutherglen Vic	7	
NV Chambers Ruby Port	Rutherglen Vic	7	
NV Patricia Noble Riesling	Milawa Vic		45



**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Department of Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 58

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** Vacancies

**Proof Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator STERLE asked:**

Please provide a list of all statutory, board and legislated office vacancies and other significant appointments vacancies within the portfolio, including length of time vacant and current acting arrangements.

**Answer:**

As at 1 June 2017, the following vacancies existed for statutory, board and legislated office vacancies for the Agriculture and Water Resources portfolio.

Body	Position/s	Period vacant	Acting arrangement/s
Australian Grape and Wine Authority Selection Committee	Four members	From 30/11/2016	Nil
Lake Eyre Basin Community Advisory Committee	One member	From 06/11/2016	Nil
	One member	From 23/08/2015	Nil
	One member	From 24/10/2012	Nil
	One member	From 22/11/2013	Nil
Lake Eyre Basin Scientific Advisory Panel	One member	From 06/11/2016	Nil
	One member	From 17/04/2017	Nil
Great Artesian Basin Coordinating Committee	Chair	From 05/06/2015	Ms Juanita Hamparsum
Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	Chief Executive Officer	From 01/06/2017	1 July-31 December 2017 or until a permanent CEO is appointed— Dr Christopher Parker
Statutory Fishing Rights Allocation Review Panel	Two members	From 29/12/2012	Nil—Panel currently in process of being ceased.
	Four members	From 02/11/2013	

Vacancy details are also regularly published on the Department and Water Resources website at <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/about/who-we-are/portfolio-agencies/appointments-report>

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 59

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** Media and public relations

**Proof Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator STERLE asked:**

1. How much has the Department spent on media monitoring since 1 October 2016 (GST inclusive)?
2. Can a list of all Contract Notice IDs for the Austender website in relation to media monitoring contracts please be provided?
3. How many media or public relations advisers are employed in the Department?
4. At what APS level (eg EL2, APS5) is each staff member employed?
5. Can an organisational chart for the relevant area of the Department please be provided?
6. What was the total cost of employing relevant staff in calendar year 2016 (please provide a global figure)?

**Answer:**

1. Between 1 October 2016 and 31 May 2017 the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources has spent \$128,458.28 (GST incl) on media monitoring.
2. The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources has one Contract Notice ID for the Austender website in relation to media monitoring contracts: CN3289020.
3. As at 1 June 2017, the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources employs 29 media and public relations officers (28 FTE).
4. Classification of staff as at 1 June 2017.

<b>Classification level</b>	<b>FTE</b>
EL2	3
EL1	11.8

APS6	8.4
APS5	4.8

5. Organisational chart as at 1 June 2017.

Corporate Strategy & Governance Division		
Parliamentary, Communication and Portfolio Business Branch		
External Communications	Biosecurity Communications	Media & Social Media

6. The cost of employing media and public affairs officers was approximately \$2,645,400 in the 2016 calendar year.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 60

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** Advertising and information campaigns

**Proof Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator STERLE asked:**

1. How much has the Department spent on advertising and information campaigns since 1 October 2016 (GST inclusive)? Can a list of all Contract Notice IDs for the Austender website in relation to advertising and information campaign contracts please be provided?
2. How much did the Department spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored Facebook posts in calendar year 2016 (GST inclusive)?
3. How much did the Department spend on Google adwords advertising in calendar year 2016 (GST inclusive)?

**Answer:**

1. The department has not undertaken any advertising and information campaigns since 1 October 2016.
2. The department spent \$12,294 GST inclusive on Facebook advertising and sponsored Facebook posts in calendar year 2016 to promote the department's policies and programmes.
3. The department spent \$3,000 GST inclusive on Google AdWords advertising in calendar year 2016 to promote the department's policies and programmes.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 61

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** Market research

**Proof Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator STERLE asked:**

1. How much did the Department spend on market research in calendar year 2016 (GST **inclusive**)?
2. Can a list of all market research contracts entered into please be provided, together with the Austender Contract Notice number?
3. What was the purpose of this market research? Did it relate to an advertising or information campaign? If so, which campaign?

**Answer:**

1. The department entered market research contracts to the value of \$662,504 inclusive of GST in calendar year 2016.
2. All market research contract details above \$10,000, are available on the Austender website at [www.tenders.gov.au](http://www.tenders.gov.au) and are listed in the [department's annual report](#) for the 2015–16 financial year.
3. All contract details, above \$10,000, including the purpose of market research, are available on the Austender website at [www.tenders.gov.au](http://www.tenders.gov.au) and are listed in the [department's annual report](#) for the 2015–16 financial year. The department did not undertake any advertising or information campaigns in calendar year 2016.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 62

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** Consultancies

**Proof Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator STERLE asked:**

Please provide an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive) for spending in calendar year 2016 on external consultants/service providers in the following categories:

- i. social media
- ii. photography
- iii. graphic design
- iv. web design
- v. electronic communications
- vi. acting or public speaking training
- vii. ergonomics.

**Answer:**

Details of all spending on external consultants/service providers above \$10,000 in calendar year 2016 are available on the Austender website at [www.tenders.gov.au](http://www.tenders.gov.au). The provision of itemised costs on external consultants/service valued below \$10,000 would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Department of Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 63

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** Redundancies

**Proof Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator STERLE asked:**

1. How many staff were made redundant in calendar year 2016?
2. How many were voluntary redundancies?
3. How many were forced redundancies?
4. What was the total cost of all redundancies (expressed as a single global figure)
5. Have any staff made redundant in calendar year 2016 subsequently carried out work for the Department as a contractor? If so, please provide an itemised list of relevant contracts and related Austender Contract Notice numbers.

**Answer:**

1. 104
2. 104
3. 0
4. \$5,107,715.08
5. The department does not record this information.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates May 2017

**Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 64

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

**Topic:** Armidale ministerial office

**Proof Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator STERLE asked:**

With reference to the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources' ministerial office in Armidale, since 2 July 2016:

1. How many times has the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources visited the Armidale office?
2. How many times have any other departmental staff visited the Armidale office (excluding Departmental Liaison Officers)?
3. How many times has the Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources visited the Armidale office?
4. How many times has the Assistant Minister to the Deputy Prime Minister visited the Armidale office?

**Answer:**

For the period 2 July 2016 – 30 April 2017:

1. Nil.
2. Once.
3. Nil.
4. Nil.