

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 187

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Additional costs to provide media to opposition

Proof Hansard Page: 28-30 (23/05/2011)

Senator Colbeck asked:

Senator COLBECK: In due deference to Senator Xenophon. I asked some questions about the cost of media monitoring at the last hearings and I think you had spent something like 283,000 so far in the financial year. I might ask you for an update on that. I also asked about supplying of the media-monitoring clips to opposition spokesmen, as part of that process. It is question 17 and section 4 of that says: Provision of press clips to opposition members is outside the current licensing arrangements. To provide access would result in higher costs to the Commonwealth. In question 19 you say that:

The service was provided by Media Monitors Australia Pty Ltd. Media Monitors monitoring is provided daily to the department and is supplied electronically to the minister and the parliamentary secretary's office at no extra cost.

Why is there no extra cost to provide it to the minister's office but additional cost to provide it to the opposition?

Ms Freeman: Fran Freeman, Executive Manager of Corporate Policy Division. In answer to your first question, which was the total expenditure for media monitoring from 1 July 2010 to 30 April, for the department was 2008, \$409, GST inclusive.

Senator COLBECK: 2008?

Ms Freeman: Yes, \$409.

Senator COLBECK: It has gone down since additional estimates.

Ms Freeman: No, that was the amount—I think the 283 amount—

Senator COLBECK: That was 2009-10.

Ms Freeman: Yes, that was 2009-10. This is until the end of April, so still in train. Referring to the previous question on notice, my understanding is the provision to opposition senators was relating to the licensing agreement. I would have to take on notice why the additional expense aspect to that question.

Senator COLBECK asked: I am interested in the new arrangements and how they line up, because that does provide some consistency across all of government because it is a centrally sourced process. I would be interested to know how that impacts on your overall spend or whether or not you have a capacity to allocate within that broader procurement to the level of detail that you have done at the moment, because obviously you have made some efforts to look at that as an issue compared to what other departments may have done. I am interested whether you still have that capacity or not.

Ms Freeman: Certainly, happy to.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 187 (continued)

Answer:

The current DAFF media monitoring contract, which took effect on 1 June 2011 and includes the minister's and parliamentary secretary's offices, requires the media monitoring clips to be sent internally using DAFF email accounts.

This meets the specific requirements covered under the Statutory Government Licensing agreement which is administered by the Copyright Agency Limited (CAL) and the department's contract with the service provider, Media Monitors Pty Ltd.

An individual, who is not covered by the department's licensing arrangements, would need to establish a separate contract with a service provider. This would be a separate cost.

The DAFF media monitoring services were procured as part of a contractual agreement between the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) and Media Monitors Pty Ltd (Media Monitors).

The cost of conducting the procurement of this service was reduced as an open tender process was not required. The competitive process used ensured value for money and suitability of service.

As a result of new contract arrangements, charges per clip have been reduced and a monthly 'cap' arrangement is in place to further manage monthly costs.

All senators, members and parliamentary staff can access press and broadcast media monitoring clips through the Parliamentary library.

Note – technical correction for amounts of expenditure for media monitoring mentioned above were corrected via specific request to Hansard.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 188

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Communication programs

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. What communications programs has the Department/Agency undertaken, or are planning to undertake?
2. For each program, what is the total spend?

Answer:

The information provided in this question on notice is correct as at 1 June 2010.

The department is continuing two information campaigns, being Australia's Farming Future (AFF) and the Western Australia Drought Pilot, which require communication activities and advertising.

Communication activities and advertising produced for these programs are considered non-campaign as they do not include any paid media placement.

The AFF program has spent a total of \$240 851 on communication activities from 1 July to 31 May 2011. The department expects to spend \$1.45 million (up until June 2012) on communication activities as part of the initiative.

These activities consists primarily of a series of information sessions to help farmers adopt new technologies and farming systems that deliver lower greenhouse gas emissions, productivity growth and farm enterprise sustainability.

The Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI), which is part of the AFF program, has spent an additional \$34 763 on communication activities from 1 July 2010 to 31 May 2011.

The CFI is a scheme to help farmers, forest growers and landholders earn income from reducing agricultural emissions, such as nitrous oxide and methane, through changes to land management practices.

The communication activities include facilitated training sessions, a communications toolkit for facilitators and workshops with farmers.

The Western Australia Drought Pilot has spent approximately \$62 338 on communication activities (including advertising - \$26 515) from 1 July 2010 to 31 May 2011 to promote the initiative. The pilot commenced on 1 July 2010. The aim of the pilot is to test a range of reform measures that have been developed in response to

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates May 2011
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 188 (continued)

the national review of drought policy which are designed to support farmers in managing and preparing for future drought and a changing climate.

The communication activities included information sessions and advertising, a series of fact sheets, a mail-out to farmers in the region and communication materials provided to the Centrelink mobile office to help promote the pilot.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 189

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Appointments

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?
2. Please detail any board appointments for the FYTD.

Answer:

1. Gender ratio on portfolio boards and bodies (as at 16 June 2011)

Portfolio body	Current gender balance
Cotton Research and Development Corporation	5 women (56%) 4 men (44%)
Fisheries Research and Development Corporation	2 women (22%) 7 men (78%)
Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation	3 women (33%) 6 men (67%)
Grains Research and Development Corporation	2 women (25%) 6 men (75%)
Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation	4 women (44%) 5 men (56%)
Sugar Research and Development Corporation	5 women (63%) 3 men (38%)
Australian Fisheries Management Authority Commission	3 women (33%) 6 men (67%)
Wine Australia Corporation (previously known as the Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation)	3 women (37%) 5 men (63%)
Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority Advisory Board	3 women (33%) 6 men (67%)
Wheat Exports Australia	2 women (33%) 4 men (67%)
National Rural Advisory Council	3 women (37%) 5 men (63%)
Statutory Fishing Rights Allocation Review Panel	4 women (57%) 3 men (43%)

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 189 (continued)

Portfolio body	Current gender balance
Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee	2 women (18%) 9 men (82%)
Australian Landcare Council	11 women (58%) 8 men (42%)
Biosecurity Advisory Council	4 women (57%) 3 men (43%)
Rural Research and Development Council	6 women (60%) 4 men (40%)
Live Animal Welfare Partnership Advisory Committee (previously referred to as Live Trade Animal Welfare Partnership Project Advisory Committee)	2 women (25%) 6 men (75%)
Regional Food Producers Innovation and Productivity Program Advisory Panel	3 women (60%) 2 men (40%)
Forest Industries Development Fund Advisory Committee	5 men (100%)
Forest Industries Climate Change Research Fund: Assessment Panel	1 woman (25%) 3 men (75%)
Wine Australia Corporation Selection Committee	4 men (100%)
Cotton Research and Development Corporation Selection Committee	1 woman (100%)
Grains Research and Development Corporation Selection Committee	1 woman (100%)
Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation Selection Committee	1 woman (17%) 5 men (83%)
Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation Selection Committee	1 woman (25%) 3 men (75%)
Sugar Research and Development Corporation Selection Committee	1 woman (100%)

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 189 (continued)

2. Appointments for the financial year to date (FYTD) (as at 16 June 2011)

Agency/body	Position	Appointment(s)
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	Independent reviewer of Australia's live export trade	On 13 June 2011, Minister Ludwig appointed Mr Bill Farmer AO.
Grape and Wine R&D Corporation Selection Committee	Members	On 7 June 2011 Minister Ludwig appointed Ms Mary Corbett, Mr David Lowe, Mr Andrew McPherson, Mr Dennis Mills and Mr Lawrie Stanford for the duration of the selection process.
Australian Landcare Council	Members	On 27 May 2011 Minister Ludwig appointed Ms Keelen Mailman and Ms Ella Maesepp.
Sugar R&D Corporation	Directors	On 27 May 2011 Minister Ludwig appointed Dr Paul Donnelly, Mr Stephen Guazzo, Dr Tracy Henderson, Ms Lindy Hyam, Mr Julian Venning and Dr Kleanthes Yannakou
Cotton R&D Corporation Selection Committee	Presiding member	On 27 May 2011 Minister Ludwig appointed Ms Christine Hawkins.
Grains R&D Corporation Selection Committee	Presiding member	On 27 May 2011 Minister Ludwig appointed Ms Joanne Grainger.
*Wine Australia Corporation	Members	On 11 May 2011 Minister Ludwig appointed Ms Susan Henderson, Dr Anthony Jordan, Dr Kevin McLintock, Mr Bill Moularadellis, Ms Josephine Rozman and Ms Catherine Thompson.
Statutory Fishing Rights Allocation Review Panel	Registrar and deputy registrar	On 10 May 2011, the parliamentary secretary appointed Mr Gordon Neil as registrar, Mr Anthony Cuthbert as deputy registrar and terminated the appointments of Mr Roland Pittar as registrar and Ms Nancy Pederson as deputy registrar.
Rural Industries R&D Corporation Selection Committee	Members	On 12 April 2011, the parliamentary secretary appointed Mr Gerald Leach, Mr John McKillop and Ms Jodie Redcliffe.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 189 (continued)

Agency/body	Position	Appointment(s)
Grape and Wine R&D Corporation Selection Committee	Presiding Member	On 7 April 2011, the parliamentary secretary appointed Mr Robert Granger.
*Australian Fisheries Management Authority	CEO	On 28 March 2011, Minister Ludwig appointed Dr James Findlay.
Rural Industries R&D Corporation Selection Committee	Presiding Member	On 11 March 2011, the parliamentary secretary appointed Mr David Crombie.
Sugar R&D Corporation Selection Committee	Industry members	On 17 February 2011, the parliamentary secretary appointed Mr Alf Cristaudo, Mr Mark Day, Mr Don Murday and Dr Sandra Welsman.
Biosecurity Advisory Council	Interim member	On 28 January 2011, Minister Ludwig appointed Professor John Mackenzie as an interim member from 1 February 2011 to 1 May 2011.
Drought Pilot Review Panel	Chair and two members	On 20 January 2011, Minister Ludwig appointed Mr Mick Keogh as chair and Mr Bob Granger and Ms Sue Middleton as members.
Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority Advisory Board	Eight members including chair	On 10 January 2011, the parliamentary secretary appointed Mr Mark Allison, Mr Wayne Cornish, Dr Lyn Fragar AO, Mr Claude Gauchat, Ms Jennifer Mack, Professor Michael Moore, Mr Simon Robinson and Mr Roger Toffolon. Mr Allison was also appointed as chair.
Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Acting CEO	On 20 December 2010, Minister Ludwig extended the acting appointment of Dr James Findlay from 27 December 2010 to 30 June 2011 or until a permanent CEO is appointed.
Sugar R&D Corporation Selection Committee	Presiding Member	On 2 December 2010 the parliamentary secretary appointed Ms Christine Hawkins.
Wine Australia Corporation Selection Committee	Industry Members	On 9 November 2010 Minister Ludwig appointed Mr Stephen Couche, Mr Stephen Shelmerdine AM and Mr Robert Hill Smith.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 189 (continued)

Agency/body	Position	Appointment(s)
Grains R&D Corporation	Chair	On 1 October 2010, Minister Ludwig appointed Mr Keith Perrett.
Sugar R&D Corporation	Chair	On 8 September 2010, Minister Burke appointed the Hon. Ian Causley.
Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Acting CEO	On 3 September 2010 Minister Burke appointed Dr James Findlay.
Cotton R&D Corporation	Chair	On 16 July 2010, Minister Burke appointed Mr Michael Logan.
Wine Australia Corporation Selection Committee	Presiding Member	On 16 July 2010, Minister Burke appointed Mr Robert Granger.
*National Rural Advisory Council	Member	On 16 July 2010, Minister Burke appointed Mr Ian Feldtmann.
Fisheries R&D Corporation	Chair	On 16 July 2010, Minister Burke appointed the Hon. Harry Francis Woods.
Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee	Member	On 13 July 2010, Minister Burke appointed Mr Ian Fitzgerald.
Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee	Chair	On 13 July 2010, Minister Burke appointed the Hon. David Llewellyn.
Eminent Scientists Group	Chair and 3 members	On 9 July 2010, Minister Burke appointed Dr John Radcliffe (chair), Professor Chad Hewitt, Dr Mark Lonsdale and Professor Tom Kompas.
Australian Landcare Council	Four Members	On 6 July 2010, Minister Burke appointed Ms Kathryn Andrews, Dr Rosemary Hill, Ms Banduk Marika and Mr Dennis Mutton.

*Significant appointments.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 190

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Community Cabinet

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD?
2. How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Cabinet meeting? What was the total cost of this travel?
3. How many Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Cabinet meeting? What was the total cost of this travel?
4. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office?

Answer:

1. Community Cabinet travel costs for the minister and ministerial staff are met by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (DoFD), with the exception of car costs for the minister, which are met by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF).

The cost of Minister Ludwig's travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings on 2 December 2010 and 29 June 2011 is provided in the table below. DoFD was unable to provide its costs in time for tabling of responses to questions on notice. A final response will be provided as soon as the information is available.

	DAFF paid costs	DoFD paid costs	Total
Minister Ludwig	\$ 357.60*	To be advised	

* Figure does not include COMCAR costs for the meeting on 29 June 2011 as invoices have not yet been received.

Note without consultation with the travellers, the information to be provided by DoFD will rely on the assumption all travel to and from relevant locations immediately before and after the relevant Cabinet meetings, was for the purposes of attending the Cabinet meetings.

The figures provided by DoFD will include airfares and travelling allowance (including motor vehicle allowance) claims. The figures will not include travel:

- by taxis, because of the difficulties determining exact destinations using the electronic information as provided by Cabcharge
- by COMCAR, which is charged directly to portfolio agencies
- on special purpose aircraft, which is administered by the Department of Defence.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 190 (continued)

2. Two ministerial staff attended the Community Cabinet meeting on 2 December 2010. DoFD has advised no costs were incurred for this travel. Two ministerial staff attended the Community Cabinet meeting on 29 June 2011. DoFD was unable to provide its costs in time. A final response will be provided as soon as the information is available.
3. One departmental officer accompanied Minister Ludwig to the Community Cabinet meeting on 2 December 2010. The cost to the department for the departmental officer's attendance at the meeting was \$739.40.

One departmental officer accompanied Minister Ludwig to the Community Cabinet meeting on 29 June 2011. The cost to the department for the departmental officer's attendance at the meeting was \$2299.66—this figure excludes COMCAR costs as invoices have not yet been received.

4. The total cost to the department and the minister's office is outlined in the table below. DoFD was unable to provide its costs in time. A final response will be provided as soon as the information is available.

	DAFF paid costs	DoFD paid costs	Total
Cost of departmental staff attending Community Cabinet	\$3039.06*	N/A	\$3039.06*
Cost of the minister and ministerial staff attending Community Cabinet	\$357.60	to be advised	
Total	\$3369.66		

* Figure does not include COMCAR costs for the meeting on 29 June 2011 as invoices have not yet been received.

Note without consultation with the travellers, the information to be provided by DoFD will rely on the assumption all travel to and from relevant locations immediately before and after the relevant Cabinet meetings, was for the purposes of attending the Cabinet meetings.

The figures provided by DoFD will include airfares and travelling allowance (including motor vehicle allowance) claims. They will not include travel:

- by taxis, because of the difficulties determining exact destinations using the electronic information as provided by Cabcharge
- by COMCAR, which is charged directly to portfolio agencies
- on special purpose aircraft, which is administered by the Department of Defence.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 191

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Government reviews

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. How many Reviews are currently being undertaken by all departments and agencies in each portfolio?
2. When will each of these reviews be concluded?
3. What reviews have been concluded FYTD?
4. Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?
5. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
6. What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews? What further reviews are planned for 2010 - 11 FY?

Answer

1. As at 30 June 2011, nineteen major policy reviews were underway in the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry portfolio. Please refer to Table 1 for more information.

Table 1: Current reviews (by nearest anticipated end date)

Review Title	Start Date	End Date
Internal government review of biofuels policy. Joint review by DAFF and Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism (DRET). DRET has policy lead for this review.	Announced May 2008	Review being considered as part of the development of the Alternative Transport Fuels Strategy.
Rural Research and Development Corporations (Productivity Commission Review)	February 2010	Final report sent to government 11 February 2011. The final report and a preliminary government response was tabled in parliament on 15 June 2011.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 191 (continued)

Review industry training associated with AQIS co-regulatory arrangements	6 September 2010	June 2011
An independent evaluation and audit of the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement Industry Development Program	5 October 2010	June 2011
1994 National Recreational Fishing Policy Review	May 2008	June 2011
Levies Principles and Guidelines review	June 2010	September 2011 (pending external stakeholder consultation)
Effectiveness Review of the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	18 January 2010	July 2011
Review Mark I and Mark IV restraining boxes in Indonesia	May 2011	July 2011
Review of the European Union High Quality Beef Quota Arrangements 2011	23 May 2011	5 August 2011
Independent review into Australia's livestock export trade	13 June 2011	31 August 2011
Review of AQUAPLAN 2005–2010, Australia's National Strategic Plan for Aquatic Animal Health	April 2010	October 2011
Caring for our Country Review	November 2010	November 2011
Review of Drought Pilot in Western Australia	1 February 2011	30 September 2011
Feasibility of alternatives to the cancellation provisions under the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1991</i>	June 2008	December 2011
Stocktake of current investment and capability in soils research, development and extension nationally	December 2010	December 2011
Review of codes of practice for assessment against "Forest practices related to wood production in plantations: National Principles"	1 July 2010	December 2011
Review and revision of the 2004 National Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks	23 November 2009	30 December 2011

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 191 (continued)

Review of the Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council Code of Practice for Antifouling and In-water Hull Cleaning and Maintenance. Joint project between the Australian and the New Zealand Governments.	March 2009	June 2012
Evaluation of the Climate Change Research Program	June 2011	December 2012

2. Please refer to Table 1.
3. Two reviews have been completed in the 2010–11 financial year to date. Details of reviews are listed in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Reviews completed in the 2010–11 financial year

Review Title	End date	Provided to Government	Estimated Cost
Review of the Sugar Industry Reform Program (SIRP) 2004 to 2008	October 2010	Internal departmental review – not provided to government.	\$420 000
Wheat Export Marketing Arrangements - Public Inquiry	October 2010	Yes, in October 2010.	The review was undertaken by the Productivity Commission at nil cost to the department.

4. One of the two reviews concluded this financial year has been provided to the government. Please refer to Table 2 for more detail.
5. The timing of responses for reviews concluded in this financial year will be considered on a case by case basis by the government.
6. The estimated costs of the reviews concluded in this financial year to date are included in Table 2 above. There were no further reviews for the 2010–11 financial year.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 192

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Media monitoring

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office FYTD?
2. Which agency or agencies provided these services?
3. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Department and its agencies in FYTD?
4. Which agency or agencies provided these services?

Answer:

1. The total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, and electronic media transcripts provided to the department, the Minister and the Parliamentary Secretary's offices from 1 July 2010 to 31 May 2011 was \$238 400.
2. The DAFF media monitoring clips are provided to departmental staff, the Minister and the Parliamentary Secretary offices through DAFF email accounts and the department's intranet.
3. Please refer to the answer to Question 1.
4. The service provider is Media Monitors Pty Ltd.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 193

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Commissioned reports

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio FYTD? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.
2. How much did each report cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?
3. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

Answer:

1. Five reports have been commissioned by the government in the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry portfolio in the 2010–11 financial year (as at 16 June 2011). Please refer to the table below (listed by date of commission).

Name of report	Stocktake of current investment and capability in soils research, development and extension nationally.
Date of commission	December 2010
Date report handed to government	Proposed for late 2011
Date of public release	Proposed for late 2011
Terms of Reference	An assessment of Australia's current investment and capability in soils research, development and extension (RD&E) is currently being undertaken. The results will assist in improving research and development collaboration including linkages of extension programs. This assessment will involve government agencies; Research and Development Corporations and other research funders; CSIRO; universities; soil laboratories; private companies; consultants; the tertiary education sector; industry bodies; and major grower/producer groups.
Committee Members	The Soils (RD&E) Working Group consists of members from the Australian and state and Territory governments, research and development corporations, CSIRO and universities.
Cost of report	Less than \$80 000

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 193 (continued)

Number/level of departmental staff involved with report	One APS Band 3 Science Stream L6, one APS EL2, one APS EL1 and one APS 6 (please note that these staff are involved <u>at times</u> with the work, not on a full-time basis).
Status of report	In progress

Name of report	Discussion Paper on Ecosystem Services for the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Date of commission	9 May 2011
Date report handed to government	Due 29 August 2011
Date of public release	To be determined
Link to Terms of Reference	Terms of Reference currently being developed.
Committee Members	Steering committee being established
Cost of report	\$79 000 (GST inclusive)
Number/level of departmental staff involved with report	One EL 2, one EL 1 and one APS 5 on a part-time basis.
Status of report	In progress

Name of report	Review Mark I and Mark IV restraining boxes in Indonesia
Date of commission	30 May 2011
Date report handed to government	Expected in late July 2011
Date of public release	Decision of the Minister
Terms of Reference	An independent, scientific assessment of the on-going appropriateness of both the Mark I and Mark IV restraint boxes to be coordinated by the Australian Chief Veterinary Officer.
Committee Members	Mark Schipp, Peter Thornber, Adrian Coghill, Kiran Johar, Tristan Jubb (Australian Veterinary Association).
Cost of report	Still to be determined

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 193 (continued)

Number/level of departmental staff involved with report	One SES Band 2, two EL2.1 and one EL2.6.
Status of report	In progress

Name of report	Independent wheat market information study
Date of commission	6 June 2011
Date report handed to government	15 July 2011
Date of public release	22 July 2011
Terms of Reference	<p>The review will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an update of relevant developments since the 2008 Wheat Industry Expert Group recommendations on market information requirements and delivery • a review and stocktake of all relevant market information currently available to the industry, including the range of commercial and public information sources that growers can access, and identification of any potential gaps in this information that the industry should be receiving; • advice on the adequacy of the current ABS/ABARES project • a detailed breakdown of the costs of continuing the current ABS/ABARES project • advice on how industry could adopt (with options) and build on the ABS/ABARES project in areas such as information coverage and timeliness to help deliver appropriate long-term arrangements or other delivery options that industry could implement • advice on any constraints that could preclude delivery of these arrangements • advice on the costs involved and provision of appropriate examples of funding models to support the provision of market and industry information in the short-term and their feasibility in the long-term.
Committee Members	N/A. The study is being managed by Grain Growers Ltd which commissioned GHD Australia to undertake the study following a competitive tender process.
Cost of report	\$40 000

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
 Budget Estimates May 2011
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 193 (continued)

Number/level of departmental staff involved with report	Nil
Status of report	In progress

Name of report	Independent review into Australia's livestock export trade
Date of commission	13 June 2011
Date report handed to government	Final Report due by 31 August 2011
Date of public release	Still to be determined
Link to Terms of Reference	www.livestockexportreview.gov.au/
Committee Members	Review is being undertaken by Mr Bill Farmer AO.
Cost of report	Still to be determined
Number/level of departmental staff involved with report	The department is providing secretariat support for the review. As at 16 June 2011, the Secretariat consisted of the following officers: one SES Band 1, two EL 2, one APS 4. A number of other officers at various levels are in the process of being transferred into the secretariat.
Status of report	In progress

2. Please refer to the table above for the cost and departmental staff involved in each report.
3. Please refer to the table above for the current status of each report.

The timing of any responses will be considered as appropriate on a case by case basis by the Government.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 194

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Cabinet Submissions

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. How much time is spent preparing papers/submissions for Cabinet and Sub-Cabinet Committee meetings?
2. How often must papers/submissions for Cabinet and Sub-Cabinet Committee Meetings be redrafted or resubmitted? Please provide example of why this would happen (i.e. last minute policy changes or redate papers due to items not being discussed when initially scheduled).

Answer:

1. & 2. Please refer to the answer to Question CPD 14 from the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing in October 2010.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 195

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Stationery requirements

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. What are the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. special type of paper, envelopes)?
2. What are the costs of these items?
3. Is the Department/portfolio agencies paying for these?

Answer:

1. The minister and parliamentary secretary require printed with compliments slips and printed envelopes in various sizes – DL, C4, B4 and C3. These items use standard Tudor Rp 100 per cent recycled paper and Tudor RP Recycled 300gsm paper. The paper is 100 per cent and 70 per cent Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certified Post Consumer recycled pulp under the FSC credit system and is Certified Carbon Neutral under the Greenhouse Friendly Program. The minister and parliamentary secretary use electronic letterhead and do not require printed A4 letterhead.
2. The cost of these items from 14 September 2010 to 30 June 2011 was \$4980.
3. In accordance with the minister's and parliamentary secretary's entitlements, the department pays these costs.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 196

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Ministers travel

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. For the FYTD, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by your portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries. Include what sum was spent on travel, accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.
2. For the FYTD, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for any Minister and Parliamentary staff that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.
3. For the FYTD, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.

Answer:

1. In the 2010–11 financial year to date (as at 16 June 2011), Minister Ludwig has undertaken portfolio-related travel to Queensland, Tasmania, Victoria, New South Wales, Western Australia, the Northern Territory and Indonesia.

In the 2010–11 financial year to date (as at 16 June 2011), the parliamentary secretary has undertaken portfolio-related travel to South Australia, Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales.

Costs of travel by the minister and parliamentary secretary are largely met by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (DoFD), with the exception of car costs, which are met by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

The DoFD has not provided details on the costs it covers but has advised that this information is tabled in Parliament every six months in a report titled *Parliamentarians' Expenditure on Entitlements paid by the Department of Finance and Deregulation*. The reports and supporting information are also published on DoFD's web site and are available at www.finance.gov.au/publications/parliamentarians-reporting/index.html.

It is not possible to individually report on all the separate items requested as costs for domestic accommodation, food and incidental expenses are met by individual travellers from domestic travelling allowances paid to them.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 196 (continued)

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet advises that the total value of gifts presented by Minister Ludwig on the trip to Indonesia from the 8–13 March 2011 was \$968.20.

For the costs paid by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, please refer to Table 1. These costs do not include travel by taxis (due to the difficulties determining exact destinations from the electronic information as provided by Cabcharge).

2. Travel costs for ministerial staff are met by DoFD. Costs of travel by any accompanying staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* are also included in the report tabled in Parliament every six months.

It is not possible to individually report on all the items requested as costs are met by individual travellers from domestic travelling allowances paid to them.

3. Please refer to Table 1 below for costs incurred for departmental officers that accompanied the minister and parliamentary secretary.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 196 (continued)

Table 1

Minister Ludwig				
Location	Dates	Minister's costs	Accompany staff costs	Accompanying departmental officer costs
Rockhampton, QLD	16 Sept 2010	-	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister.</i>
TAS and VIC	21–23 Sept 2010	Vehicle costs - \$960.33	See answer to Question 2 above	One departmental officer accompanied the minister. <u>Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation: \$370.00 • Flights: \$675.96 Total: \$1045.96
Brewarrina and Bourke, NSW	1 Oct 2010	Vehicle costs - \$40.00	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister.</i>
Perth, Baldivis and drought pilot regions, WA	4–7 Oct 2010	-	See answer to Question 2 above	One departmental officer accompanied the minister. <u>Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation: \$540.00 • Flights: \$2715.22 • Travel allowance: \$538.00 Total: \$3793.22
Kempsey, NSW	29 Oct 2010	Vehicle costs - \$40.00	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister.</i>
Townsville and Mt Isa, QLD	30 Oct 2010	Vehicle costs - \$446.25	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister.</i>
Albury-Wodonga, VIC; Adelaide, SA; and Camden, NSW	9–12 Nov 2010	Vehicle costs - \$121.81	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister.</i>
Sydney, NSW	30 Nov–2 Dec	Vehicle costs - \$485.57	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister*.</i>

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 196 (continued)

Table 1 continued

Minister Ludwig				
Location	Dates	Minister's costs	Accompany staff costs	Accompanying departmental officer costs
Clontarf, QLD	2 Dec 2010	Vehicle costs - \$357.60	See answer to Question 2 above	One departmental officer accompanied the minister. <u>Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flights: \$428.85 • Accommodation: \$152.00 • Travel allowance: \$158.55 Total: \$739.40
Perth, WA	7-9 Dec 2010	-	See answer to Question 2 above	One departmental officer accompanied the minister*. <u>Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation: \$310.00 • Flights: \$1022.30 • Travel allowance: \$342.85 Total: \$1675.15
Mackay, QLD	13 Dec 2010	-	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister.</i>
Emerald, QLD	14-15 Dec 2010	-	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister.</i>
Harwood, NSW	17 Dec 2010	-	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister.</i>
Oakey and Emerald, QLD	4 Jan 2011	Vehicle costs - \$60.01	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister.</i>
Tenterfield, NSW	1 Feb 2011	Vehicle costs - \$61.55	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister.</i>

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 196 (continued)

Table 1 continued

Minister Ludwig				
Location	Dates	Minister's costs	Accompany staff costs	Accompanying departmental officer costs
Indonesia	8–13 March 2011	Security costs - \$4025.12 Security for the visit was provided commensurate with the assessed level of threat as determined by the National Threat Assessment Centre.	See answer to Question 2 above	Four departmental officers accompanied the minister. <u>Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flights: \$17 950.46 • Accommodation: \$2712.63 • Meals: \$209.20 • Car Hire/Taxi: \$102.00 • Incidentals/other: \$267.32 • Departure tax: \$68.00 • Airport parking: \$80.00 Total cost: \$21 389.61
Sydney, NSW	16 March	-	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister</i>
Darwin, NT	29 March–1 April	-	See answer to Question 2 above	Two officers from the department's Darwin office accompanied the minister. <u>Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entry into Crocodylus park: \$70 Total: \$70
Charleville, QLD	7 April	-	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister.</i>
Murrumbateman, NSW	13 April	-	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister.</i>
Sydney, NSW	18 April	Vehicle costs - \$80.60	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister.</i>
Sydney, NSW	19 April	Vehicle costs - \$213.02	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister.</i>

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
 Budget Estimates May 2011
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 196 (continued)

Table 1 continued

Minister Ludwig				
Location	Dates	Minister's costs	Accompany staff costs	Accompanying departmental officer costs
Gladstone, QLD	16 May 2011	-	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister*.</i>
Rockhampton, QLD	16 May 2011	-	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister.</i>
Muswellbrook, NSW	8 June 2011	-	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister*.</i>
Brisbane, QLD	9 June 2011	-	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the minister.</i>

**Note that departmental officers may have been in attendance on parts of the visit for purposes other than accompanying the minister.*

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 196 (continued)

Table 1 continued

Parliamentary Secretary Kelly				
Location	Dates	Parliamentary Secretary's costs	Accompany staff costs	Accompanying departmental officer costs
South Australia	11–14 October 2010	Vehicle costs - \$569.90	See answer to Question 2 above	One departmental officer accompanied the parliamentary secretary. <u>Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel \$874.18 • Accommodation \$853.18 • Travel allowance \$607.55 Total: \$2334.91
Wagga Wagga, Forbes, Dubbo, Narromine, Warren, Narrabri and Wee Waa, QLD	11–12 Jan 2011	Vehicle costs - \$118.60	See answer to Question 2 above	One officer from the department accompanied the parliamentary secretary. <u>Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation: \$135.00 • Proportion of Charter Flight (1/3 cost): \$2230.30 • Travel allowance: \$187.50 • Taxi: \$31.30 Total: \$2584.10
Melbourne, VIC	25 February 2011	Vehicle costs - \$327.09	See answer to Question 2 above	<i>No departmental officers accompanied the parliamentary secretary.</i>

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 196 (continued)

Table 1 continued

Parliamentary Secretary Kelly				
Location	Dates	Parliamentary Secretary's costs	Accompany staff costs	Accompanying departmental officer costs
Brisbane, Mooloolaba and Bundaberg, QLD	14–17 March 2011	Vehicle costs - \$386.09	See answer to Question 2 above	<p>One officer from the department accompanied the parliamentary secretary.</p> <p><u>Costs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flights: \$613.34 • Accommodation: \$378.00 • Travel allowance: \$261.75 <p>Total: \$1253.09</p>
Mooney Mooney, NSW	14 April 2011	Vehicle costs - \$348.83	See answer to Question 2 above	<p>Two departmental officers accompanied the parliamentary secretary.</p> <p><u>Costs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking: \$21.00 • Airfare: \$247.84 • Car costs: \$532.50 <p>Total: \$801.34</p>
Moruya, NSW	3 June 2011	Invoice not yet received	See answer to Question 2 above	<p>Two departmental officers accompanied the parliamentary secretary.</p> <p><u>Costs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hire car and refuelling: \$100.00 • Accommodation: \$220.00 • Travel allowance: \$240.00 • Official hospitality: \$90.00 <p>Total: \$650.00</p>

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 197

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Media monitors

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

5. Is there unused capacity in the current Media Monitors licensing arrangement?
6. If so, what is preventing these unused licenses being utilised by members of the opposition?
7. Given the current arrangement allows for 350 users to get the media monitoring service down streamed and up to 600 users to access it on the Department's media portal, how much would it cost for one extra user?

Answer:

1. No.
2. Please see response to Question 1.
3. The current DAFF media monitoring service, which includes the minister's and parliamentary secretary's offices, requires the media monitoring clips to be sent internally using DAFF email accounts.

This meets the specific requirements covered under the Statutory Government Licensing agreement which is administered by the Copyright Agency Limited (CAL) and the department's contract with the service provider, Media Monitors Pty Ltd.

An individual who is not covered by the department's licensing arrangements would need to establish a separate contract with the service provider. This would be a separate cost.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 198

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Ministers travel

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. What is the total cost of travel by the Minister since Additional Estimates in February this year?
2. What is the total cost of travel by the Minister's staff since Additional Estimates in February this year?
3. What places has the Minister visited since Additional Estimates in February this year?
4. In answer to QON 13 the Department advised the costs of travel for the Ministers and Ministerial staff since December 2007, can you provide these details broken down into financial years?
5. In answer to QON 13 the Department advised that overseas trips were under consideration can you provide details of what trips are being considered, when they are likely to take place and the anticipated outcomes from this travel.

Answer:

1. Costs of domestic travel by the minister are largely met by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (DoFD), with the exception of car costs, which are met by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Costs of official travel by ministers, parliamentary secretaries, and accompanying staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* are largely paid for by DoFD. DoFD has not provided the details of the costs it covers but advises the information sought is tabled in the Parliament every six months in a report titled *Parliamentarians' Expenditure on Entitlements Paid by the Department of Finance and Deregulation*. The reports and supporting information are also published on the DoFD website.

The cost of travel met by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry for Minister Ludwig since the Additional Estimates hearing on 21 February 2011 to 16 June 2011 is \$4318.74.

2. Travel costs for ministerial staff are met by DoFD. Costs of travel by any accompanying staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* are also included in the report tabled by DoFD in Parliament every six months (see Question 1).
2. Since Additional Estimates on 21 February 2011 and as at 16 June 2011, Minister Ludwig has visited the Northern Territory, Queensland, New South

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 198 (continued)

Wales, South Australia, Victoria, Western Australia and Indonesia as follows (see table below):

Dates	Location
8–13 March 2011	Indonesia
16 March 2011	Sydney, New South Wales
29 March–1 April 2011	Darwin, Northern Territory
7 April 2011	Charleville, Queensland
13 April 2011	Murrumbateman, New South Wales
18 April 2011	Sydney, New South Wales
19 April 2011	Sydney, New South Wales
16 May 2011	Gladstone, Queensland
16 May 2011	Rockhampton, Queensland
8 June 2011	Muswellbrook, New South Wales

4. The cost of travel met by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry is outlined below:

2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
\$20 254.26	\$59 942.68	\$34 846	\$26 519.80

* estimate as some costs for end of financial year are to be confirmed

5. The minister is considering what international travel he may undertake in second half of 2011.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 199

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Ministerial staffing numbers

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. Have there been any changes in the number of ministerial staff or ministerial staffing arrangements since Additional Estimates in February this year?
2. If so, please provide details.

Answer:

1. There have been no changes to the ministerial staffing numbers or arrangements since Additional Estimates in February this year.
2. Please refer to the answer to Question 1.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 200

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Release of Additional Estimates briefing

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

In response to QON 15 from Additional Estimates the Department advised that it would not provide a redacted version of the briefing material for the Minister for Additional Estimates despite making a redacted version of the Incoming Government Brief available.

The reasoning given was that it would take in excess of 200 hours to edit the materials and that this constituted an unreasonable diversion of resources for the department.

1. Can you advise how many hours it took to provide the redacted version of the Incoming Government Brief?
2. Why would it take longer to redact the Additional Estimates brief?
3. How was the 200 hours figure calculated?
4. How many hours does it take the Department to respond to Questions on Notice as a comparison?
5. How many hours does it take to actually produce the briefs for Additional Estimates?
6. Is it not in the public interest, as well as being a demonstration of transparency and accountability for the Government to provide the redacted briefs in the same way it did, to its credit, with the Incoming Government Brief?

Answer:

1. The estimated time was 708.25 hours.
2. It has not been stated that it would take longer to redact the Additional Estimates brief.
3. The estimated time to review and redact each Incoming Government Brief was 3.17 hours and this was used as the basis. There were 67 briefs prepared for Additional Estimates which equates to the 200 hours. Redaction for the brief would be a minimum of 200 hours.
4. The estimated time to respond to 223 of the 241 Questions on Notice arising from the Additional Estimates hearing was 466 hours. The estimated time to prepare the remaining 18 briefs was not recorded.
5. The department does not keep a record of hours as this is part of usual business.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 200 (continue)

6. To provide the redacted Additional Estimates brief would be an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources in accordance with paragraph 4.3 of the Government guidelines for official witnesses before Parliamentary committees and related matters – November 1989.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 201

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Communication programs

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. What changes have been made to the Department's advertising or communications activities scheduled for 2010-11 since Additional Estimates in February and what activities have been undertaken during this period? Please provide details.
2. What are the details of the Department's advertising or communications activities planned for 2011-12 including the nature and cost of the activities?

Answer:

1. The information provided in this question on notice is correct as at 1 June 2010.

The department has not changed or engaged in any new advertising campaigns as defined in the *Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Agencies (March 2010)* since 1 October 2010.

The department advertising expenditure year to date (1 July 2010 – 31 May 2011) was \$290 377 (including GST). Of this, approximately \$153 666 (including GST) was spent on non-campaign advertising and approximately \$136 711 (including GST) was spent on recruitment advertising managed by the Human Resources Branch of the department.

Non-campaign advertising includes advertisements to promote tenders, grant rounds, information sessions and operational information.

The department does not have any official advertising campaigns. The department has two information campaigns, as determined by the Department of Finance and Deregulation Interdepartmental Communications Committee (ICC), being the Western Australia Drought Pilot and Australia's Farming Future (AFF). These do not include any paid media placement.

The Western Australia Drought Pilot spent approximately \$62 338 on communication activities (including advertising - \$26 515) from 1 July 2010 to 31 May 2011.

Australia's Farming Future (AFF) spent a total of \$240 851 on communication activities from 1 July 2010 to 31 May 2011 which included activities such as printing, graphic design and a progress meeting.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 201 (continued)

AFF is the Australian Government's climate change initiative for primary industries. It provides grants and training to help primary producers adapt and respond to climate change. Its four major programs are the Climate Change Research Program, FarmReady, Climate Change Adjustment Program and Community Networks and Capacity Building.

The Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI), which is part of the Australia's Farming Future Initiative, spent \$34 763 on communication activities from 1 July 2010 to 31 May 2011. This included activities such as printing, graphic design and a forum in Canberra for Landcare facilitators.

The CFI is a scheme to help farmers, forest growers and landholders earn income from reducing agricultural emissions, such as nitrous oxide and methane, through changes to land management practices. The CFI will help establish a carbon crediting scheme and develop on-farm methodologies for emissions offset activities.

The seaports section of the Biosecurity Quarantine Operations has booked non-campaign advertising, through AdCorp, for *Shipping News*. The package, valued at \$33 481, was paid for by the department on 6 December 2010 and represents one page of advertising and two pages of editorial in four editions of the quarterly publication during 2011. The paid advertising agreement also includes a presence on the *Shipping News* website.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 201 (continued)

Details of the advertising/sponsorship spend in this reporting period are outlined below:

Communications program	Approximate communications expenditure from 1 July 2010 to 31 May 2011 (YTD)	Approximate breakdown of communications expenditure	
Australia's farming future (AFF)	\$240 851	Graphic design and printing	\$15 691
		Sponsorship	\$131 966
		Progress meetings	\$83 497
		Promotion of grants program	\$9695
Carbon faming initiative (CFI)	\$34 763	Graphic design and printing	\$2330
		Progress meeting (Forum) /consultancy	\$32 433
Total			\$275 614
Western Australia drought pilot	\$62 338	Communication activities, graphic design and printing	\$35 823
		Advertising	\$26 515
Total			\$62 338
Biosecurity and quarantine awareness communication activities	\$33 481	<i>Shipping News</i> advertising and website (for 12 months)	\$33 481
ACACA (Trade and Market Access)	\$10 653	Promotion of grants program	\$10 653

2. The department has no additional communication activities planned for 2011–12.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 202

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Commissioned reports

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio since Additional Estimates? Please you provide all relevant details?
2. What commissioned Reports are still being worked on and when will they be finalised?
3. Are you aware whether any consideration has been given to the commissioning of any Reports in 2011-12 and if so what are the details?

Answer:

1&2. See answer to Question 193 (CPD).

3. The department is aware of one report that is being considered for the 2011–12 financial year ‘Independent Review on Progress with Implementation of the South-West Forest Region of Western Australia Regional Forest Agreement’, anticipated for the second quarter of the financial year.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 203

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Government reviews

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. How many Reviews have been commissioned in the portfolio since the Additional Estimates and can you provide all relevant details?
2. Are there any reviews planned or being considered for 2011-12?

Answer:

1. Three reviews have been commissioned by the government in the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry portfolio since Additional Estimates on 21 February 2011.
 - ‘Independent review into Australia’s livestock export trade’ was commissioned on 13 June 2011 and is expected to report to government by 31 August 2011.
 - ‘The review into Mark I and Mark IV restraining boxes in Indonesia’ was commissioned on 30 May 2011 and is expected to report to government in late July 2011.
 - ‘The review of the European Union High Quality Beef Quota Arrangements 2011’ was commissioned 23 May 2011 and is expected to report to government by 5 August 2011.
2. The department is aware of one review that is planned for 2011–12. ‘The review of Harvest Strategy Policy’ is scheduled to start in July 2011 and is expected to report to government in October 2012.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 204

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Number of departmental liaison officers

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. Have there been any changes to the number of department liaison officers in the minister's office in the past year?
2. Please provide a comparison in each financial year since December 2007?

Answer:

1. There has been no change to the number of agriculture portfolio departmental liaison officers in the minister's office.

An additional departmental liaison officer was provided from the Attorney Generals portfolio to support flood recovery work being completed by the Minister.

2. Please see response in the table below:

Comparison of portfolio DLO numbers by financial year				
	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	2	2	2	2

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 205

Division/Agency: CPD – Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Blackberry communication

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. Can you provide a monthly breakdown of the expenditure on Blackberry communication since Additional Estimates in February this year?
2. Can you also provide an updated cumulative total of expenditure on Blackberry communication since December 2007?
3. Can you provide the amount spent on mobile phones in the Minister's office since Additional Estimates in February this year?
4. Can you provide an updated cumulative total of expenditure on mobile phones in the Department since December 2007?
5. Has there been any change in the number of Blackberry devices or iPads in the Minister's office? What are the current numbers?
6. In March 2011 the department has 1875 mobile phones, what is the latest number?

Answer:

1. The monthly breakdown of Blackberry communication by the department since Additional Estimates in February is provided in the table below:

February 2011	\$6983.07
March 2011	\$25 158.79
April 2011	\$34 101.48
May 2011	\$28 434.96
Total	\$94 678.30

2. The total expenditure on Blackberry communication in the department since December 2007 is \$1 657 582.01¹.
3. No mobile phones have been provided to the minister's office, however Blackberry devices have been issued and are being used as mobile phones. The expenditure on Blackberry devices since Additional Estimates in February is \$10 238.46.
4. The total of expenditure on mobile phones in the Department since December 2007 is \$3 203 900.25¹.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 205(continued)

5. There has been no change in the number of iPads or Blackberrys in the minister's office. There are currently 16² Blackberry devices and three iPads issued to the minister's office.
6. As at 17 June 2011 the department had 1350 mobile phones.

- 1 Owing to the reporting limitations of the department's Corporate Finance system in 2007–08, the information in this response is unable to be further disaggregated and contain costs attributed to blackberry and mobile phone costs for the financial year 2007–08.
- 2 The costs associated with the Blackberry provided to the adviser for floods recovery work will be recovered from the Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government.