

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 206

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Tenders for stationary and office supplies

Proof Hansard Page: 13 (23.5.11)

Senator Colbeck asked:

Senator COLBECK: Perhaps the best way to start looking at that. How many tenders do you have out for stationery and office supplies at the moment?

Ms Hazell: We have no tenders in the market at the moment; we have rolled over our current contracts awaiting the coordinated panel to come on board. I would need to take on notice how many actual contracts we have in the marketplace at the moment.

Answer:

As at 23 May 2011, the department did not have any stationery and office supplies tenders in the market.

The department has in place a stationery panel with two suppliers, Corporate Express and Complete Office Supplies.

The department has in place a toner panel with two suppliers, Corporate Express and Imaging Technology Australia.

On 17 June 2011, the Department of Finance and Deregulation released a Request for Tender for the provision of Stationery and Office Supplies for the Whole of Government.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 207

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Inspector General

Proof Hansard Page: 16 (23/06/11)

Senator Back asked:

Senator BACK: I want to ask you a couple of questions, if I may, in regard to the Inspector General of Biosecurity. I just wonder: is the inspector general here to respond to any questions?

Senator BACK: I would be interested during estimates, would he be following anything up on the import risk-analysis process, for example, with BSE?

Ms Hazell: That I would not have; I would have to take that on notice.

Answer:

The Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity has advised that he is not involved in any import risk analyses for the import of beef and beef products.

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 208

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Inspector General

Proof Hansard Page: 17-18 (23/05/2011)

Senator Back asked:

Senator BACK: The position has been in place for almost two years, from late 2009 I think you said. Could I ask what reports has the Inspector General delivered to the minister, on what subjects?

Dr O'Connell: We would have to just take that on notice and we get that to you later today. I just do not recall them off—

Senator Ludwig: There is one I recall that I specifically asked for but I can get a list as to the issues that he has examined. You recall, I think at last estimates, we discussed the prawns issue. That was one I requested him to investigate. He plays an invaluable role in being able to support the work in biosecurity.

Answer:

The Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity has advised that he has completed the following audits and reviews:

- a. An examination of what caused a consignment of imported raw peeled prawns that tested positive for White Spot Syndrome Virus (WSSV) to be mistakenly released into Australia by the Biosecurity Services Group (BSG).
- b. An examination of the likelihood of imported raw peeled prawns that tested positive for White Spot Syndrome Virus (WSSV) and were mistakenly released into Australia by the Biosecurity Services Group (BSG) entering high risk pathways and of then causing WSSV to establish in Australia.
- c. Import Health Certification for Horses Imported to Australia.
- d. Assessment of the Biosecurity Services Group internal audit of Sandown Post-arrival Quarantine Facility.
- e. Audit of Equine Pre-export Procedures in Singapore.
- f. Management of quarantine waste from international vessels at Australian seaports.
- g. Progress report of the Interim Inspector General of Horse Importation for the period January-June 2009.

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Question: 208 (continued)

- h. Quarantine surveillance following post-arrival quarantine for specified horses after importation to Australia.
- i. Assessment of discharge of obligations by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in relation to maintenance and update of the Australian Veterinary Emergency Response.

The Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity has also provided an annual report on his activities undertaken during 2009-10.

The Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity's reports, are progressively being uploaded on the department's website at:

www.daff.gov.au/about/publications/interim-inspector-general-of-biosecurity

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 209

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity

Proof Hansard Page: 19 (23/05/11)

Senator Heffernan asked:

Senator Heffernan: So what is he up to in Canada?

Dr O'Connell: He runs his program which is laid out in advance and that he is looking to achieve—

Senator Heffernan: Could we see the program that he is on in America? You know what it is.

Dr O'Connell: I think we can provide you with information on what he is doing or what his current—

Senator Heffernan: Do you know what he is doing?

Dr O'Connell: Do I know what he is doing today?

Senator Heffernan: So what is he doing?

Dr O'Connell: He is dealing with his opposite numbers in Canada and the US.

Senator Heffernan: Looking at what, though?

Dr O'Connell: Looking at the systems, as I understand it.

Senator Heffernan: Give us some detail of what he is looking at.

Dr O'Connell: We can give you detail—

Senator Heffernan: No, give it now.

Answer:

The Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity has advised that on his May visit to the United States and Canada he:

- received first-hand briefings of the United States of America and Canadian systems for quarantine and biosecurity audit and review activities
- gained an understanding on those agencies' views on key issues, challenges and risks for biosecurity and quarantine, with an emphasis on risk management verification systems
- developed an understanding of how the United States Office of the Inspector-General and other agencies establish and prioritise their biosecurity and quarantine audit and review activities which cover the range of systems and measures in place
- compared and contrasted the United States Inspector-General role with the Australian Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity role, in respect to biosecurity and quarantine issues.

The Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity has advised that he met with the:

- United States Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

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Question: 209 (continued)

- United States Inspector-General and the Office of the Inspector General
- Australian High Commission (Canada)
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 210

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Inspector General

Proof Hansard Page: 20 (23/05/11)

Senator Back asked:

Senator BACK: The allocation of I think \$19 million in the budget for future post-entry quarantine arrangements, the initial worth 13.7, I am just interested in knowing what role, if any, the Inspector General is having in advising you on these aspects?

Senator HEFFERNAN: You can read it out if you want to.

Senator Ludwig: We can take that on notice as to whether or not the Inspector General is providing any advice in relation to those. This is part of the Biosecurity reform agenda. With the post-entry quarantine facilities, I am happy to take you through those. If you recall, as I mentioned, they were sold by the previous government. That left us in a circumstance where we have been leasing these PEQs since that time. What that has meant is that some of them of course are no longer modern facilities, if you could appreciate that.

Answer:

The Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity has not provided advice to the minister on future post-entry quarantine arrangements.

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 211

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Inspector General

Proof Hansard Page: 22 (23/05/2011)

Senator Nash asked:

Senator NASH: The audit work program for the Inspector General for 09-10. There are two activities, the horse health certifications:

The object of this audit was to assess and check compliance of import health certification with the requirements for importing horses to Australia. It focused on certification for a number of consignments of stallions.

The second one, the Sandown audit review:

To independently assess the outcomes of the internal audit undertaken by the AQIS of the Sandown PEQ facility.

There are only those two activities that are listed here. How do you determine value for money? I think you said around 700,000 to run the—

Dr O'Connell: The list of 09-10 is considerably longer than that of his audit functions.

Senator NASH: Why is that not on the website then?

Dr O'Connell: I do not know. I will have to take that on notice. I read through them just a minute ago.

Answer:

As at 23 May 2011, two of the seven reports produced by the Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity for his 2009-10 audit work program were added to the department's website bringing the total published to three. The Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity's reports, are progressively being uploaded on the department's website at: www.daff.gov.au/about/publications/interim-inspector-general-of-biosecurity.

The Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity has advised that his 2009-10 work program consisted of the following activities:

- a. Import Health Certification for Horses Imported to Australia.
- b. Assessment of the Biosecurity Services Group internal audit of Sandown Post-arrival Quarantine Facility.
- c. Audit of Equine Pre-export Procedures in Singapore.
- d. Management of quarantine waste from international vessels at Australian seaports.
- e. Progress report of the Interim Inspector General of Horse Importation for the period January-June 2009.
- f. Quarantine surveillance following post-arrival quarantine for specified horses after importation to Australia.

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- g. Assessment of discharge of obligations by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in relation to maintenance and update of the Australian Veterinary Emergency Response.

The Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity has advised that he also provided an annual report to the Minister for his activities undertaken during 2009-10.

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 212

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Equine influenza

Proof Hansard Page: 49 (24/05/11)

Senator Williams asked:

Senator WILLIAMS: Did any small businesses, for example any in the horse freight industry, receive any compensation? Do you know, Minister? Dr O'Connell?

Senator Ludwig: I was just trying to remember who structured the package. I think it would have been the previous government that structured the package, but we can take it on notice. I do not have those details about who got what compensation. It would have been something worked out at the time, and I suspect it was the previous government that worked that compensation arrangement out. I think it straddled the two, but do not take my word for that—it may not be accurate. I would rather take it on notice. If anyone has got those details here—this was some time ago, obviously. We are going back to 2007.

Dr O'Connell: There are a set of potential claims around for compensation. It is important to distinguish between compensation claims that are around for the outbreak and the assistance packages that were in train at the time. Those are two different things. The compensation claims are running through the legal processes and others but the assistance packages were time limited around 2008.

Answer:

No compensation has been paid in relation to the outbreak of equine influenza (EI) in Australia in 2007.

The former government spent over \$90 million eradicating EI and over \$263 million in financial assistance to individuals, organisations and businesses most directly affected by the outbreak. The assistance schemes were the EI Hardship Fund, the Business Assistance Grants (BAG) and the Commercial Horse Assistance Payments.

These programs were delivered by other agencies on behalf of the department. These agencies retained the information regarding the funding recipients. Consequently, the department does not have complete records of who received financial assistance under these schemes.

The department does hold records on special circumstances cases which were referred to the department by Centrelink as part of the BAG appeals process. The department has not found any evidence of assistance being given to a horse freighting business due to special circumstances.

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 213

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Equine influenza

Proof Hansard Page: 49 (24/05/11)

Senator Williams asked:

Senator WILLIAMS: I was reading a story in the paper, 'Trucking group sues to recoup costs of equine flu outbreak', from 1 April this year. Minister are you aware of that action? I do not want to go into details of that action?

Senator LUDWIG: We can get the details on that for you.

Answer:

In the second half of 2009, Livestock Transport (Sydney) Pty Ltd (LTG) commenced legal proceedings for compensation in the NSW Supreme Court. LTG is seeking recovery for pure economic losses relating to the 2007 equine influenza (EI) outbreak (and related travel restrictions) on its livestock transport business. Claims are alleged for negligence and for breach of statutory duty. The full sum at issue is yet to be finalised. LTG entered into voluntary administration on 30 March 2011. The impact of its current status on the proceedings is yet to be determined. It is not appropriate for the Commonwealth to comment on LTG's current position.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 214

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Departmental Staffing

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. How many permanent staff has DAFF recruited this FYTD?
2. What classifications are these staff?
3. How many temporary positions exist or have been created by DAFF this FYTD?
4. This FYTD, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?

Answer:

1. As at 23 May 2011, DAFF has recruited 490 permanent staff.
2. As at 23 May 2011, DAFF has recruited staff at all levels, from trainees through to SES Band 2.
3. DAFF does not create non-ongoing or temporary positions. Positions are created and may be filled with either ongoing or non-ongoing employees.
4. From 1 June 2010 to 23 May 2011, 217 employees have been employed on contract. The average employment period for staff employed on contracts is 8.29 months.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 215

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Departmental staffing and graduate program

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts?
2. If so, where and at what classification?
3. Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.
4. What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.

Answer:

1. No.
2. Please refer to response to Question 1.
3. Yes, a staff reduction for 2011–12 has been planned with a target of 40 full time equivalents from corporate enabling services. The reduction will be achieved through rationalisation and possible redeployment into higher-priority areas.
4. No significant changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs.

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Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 216

Division/Agency: CSD-Corporate Services Division

Topic: Grants

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?

Answer:

1. Yes.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 217

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Freedom of Information

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. Has the Department/agency received any advice from the Government or any other source on how to respond to FOI requests?
2. How many FOI requests has the Department received?
3. How many have been granted or denied?
4. How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?

Answer:

1. The *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) outlines the statutory requirements agencies must meet when responding to requests. The Office of the Information Commissioner has issued guidelines to assist agencies process Freedom of Information (FOI) requests and apply the FOI Act. These guidelines may be found at www.oaic.gov.au.
When required the department seeks legal advice on the operations of the FOI Act.
2. As of 23 May 2011, the department had received 47 valid requests in 2010-11.
3. Of the 47 requests, as of 23 May 2011:
 - 12 provided access to the requested documents in full
 - 10 provided access to the requested documents in part
 - 4 were denied access on the grounds that it would unreasonably divert the department's resources
 - 1 was denied on the grounds that all documents within the scope of the request were exempt under the FOI Act
 - 3 were refused due to the department holding no documents that fell within the scope of the requests
 - 9 requests were withdrawn by the applicants
 - 8 remained undecided.
4. Since 1 July 2009, no conclusive certificates have been issued by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, or by an officer of the department on the minister's behalf.

Conclusive certificates can no longer be issued in relation to FOI requests. The *Freedom of Information Act (Removal of Conclusive Certificates and Other Measures) Act 2009* commenced on 7 October 2009. The Act repealed the power to issue conclusive certificates in the FOI Act and the *Archives Act 1983*.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 218

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Consultants

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway this FYTD? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (i.e. open tender, direct source, etc). Please also include total value for all consultancies.
2. Does each department and agency stand by its current tenders on the AusTender website? Have any changes or corrections been made for any tenders advertised on to Government Tenders website (www.tenders.gov.au) for tenders advertised this financial year? Explain. Are up to date with reporting requirements?
3. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.

Answer:

1. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (the department) has entered into 129 consultancy contracts between 1 July 2010 and 23 May 2011 at a total cost of \$9 995 195. Details of these consultancy contracts are available through AusTender, the government's electronic procurement information system at www.tenders.gov.au.
2. Yes. No. Yes.
3. Planned consultancies are published in the department's Annual Procurement Plan (APP). The department's APP is published on AusTender at the commencement of each financial year and updated throughout the year to provide details of all planned approaches to market. The subject matter, duration, cost and procurement method for these approaches to market are not yet known and will be determined prior to and following the approaches to the market.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 219

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Staff Access to Online Social Media

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and usage of Youtube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since October 2010? Please explain.

Answer:

1. See answer to 234 (CSD) Budget Estimates May 2011.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 220

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Consultancy contracts

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details.
2. Has the department/agency ever employed Shannon's Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon's Way? If yes, provide details.
3. Has the department/agency ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group in any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details.
4. Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details.
5. Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details.
6. Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details.
7. Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details.
8. Has the department/agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details.
9. Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.

Answer:

1. No.
2. No.
3. No.
4. Yes. The department has engaged Universal McCann (shares ABN with McCann-Erickson) to provide services in accordance with the whole of government arrangements for campaign advertising.

Details of all the department's contracts with Universal McCann are available through AusTender, the government's electronic procurement information system at www.tenders.gov.au.

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 220 (continued)

5. No.

6. No.

7. No.

8. No.

9. No.

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 221

Division/Agency: CSD-Corporate Services Division

Topic: Grants

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants FYTD? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.
2. Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?

Answer:

1. A list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for the financial year to date is available on the department's website at www.daff.gov.au under reporting obligations. The published information includes the name of the recipient, purpose of the grant and the locations that will benefit from the grant.
2. Please see the response to 216 (CSD) Budget Estimates May 2011.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 222

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Consultancy contracts

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.
2. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to newspapers? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.
3. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to magazines? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines

Answer:

1. Yes. The reasons, costs and channel details are provided in Attachments A and B.
2. Yes. The reasons, costs and newspaper details are provided in Attachments A and B.
3. Yes. The reasons, costs and magazine details are provided in Attachments A and B.

[Attachments A]

[Attachment B]

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 223

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Legal services expenditure

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD within the department and agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
2. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
3. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
4. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

Answer:

1. Aggregate expenditure on legal services for the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and portfolio agencies, including that apportioned to the Australian Government Solicitor, private firms and other sources, for the period 1 July 2010 to 23 May 2011 is provided at [Attachment A](#).

Due to the sensitive nature of some legal matters, it would be inappropriate to provide lists of each legal service and cost.

2. Please refer to response to Question 1.
3. Please refer to response to Question 1.
4. Please refer to response to Question 1.

[Attachment A]

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Attachment A

Question: 223 (continued)

Legal Services Expenditure – 1 July 2010 to 23 May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry portfolio agency	Australian Government Solicitor	Private legal firms	Other	Total
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	\$300 566.96	\$2 696 540.80	Nil	\$2 997 107.76
Australian Fisheries and Management Authority	\$9731.41	\$57 043.23	\$448 876.98	\$515 651.62
Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	\$4478.10	\$216 987.97	\$553 263.00	\$774 729.07
Cotton Research and Development Corporation	Nil	\$14 375.00	\$4133.74	\$18 508.74
Fisheries Research and Development Corporation	Nil	\$88 703.62	\$11 708.18	\$100 411.80
Grains Research and Development Council	Nil	\$64 669.00	\$251 462.00	\$316 131.00
Grape and Wine Research and Development Council	Nil	Nil	\$16 941.99	\$16 941.99
Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation	Nil	\$31 494.98	\$2724.55	\$34 219.53
Sugar Research and Development Corporation	Nil	\$383.35	Nil	\$383.35
Wheat Exports Australia	\$81 003.06	\$2546.50	Nil	\$83 549.56
Wine Australia Corporation	Nil	\$51 523.00	Nil	\$51 523.00

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 224

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Training

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. Please detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the cost and how many participants.

Answer:

1. The department and portfolio agencies have spent a total of \$4 207 462 on in house courses and tertiary studies for the period 1 July 2010 to 23 May 2011. This cost is divided into general management education expenses to the value of \$2 596 470 and technical education expenses to the value of \$1 610 992. General management training was utilised by staff on 8 747 occasions. Technical training was utilised by staff on 11 263 occasions.

The courses have been divided into two types:

1. *General management* training to enhance general public service skills, business acumen or leadership including capability development against the Integrated Leadership System.

2. *Technical training* to enhance technical skills in a particular field of expertise.

AGENCY	General Management		Technical	
	Number	Cost	Number	Cost
DAFF	8 078	\$2 031 830	11 037	\$1 381 850
AFMA	325	\$237 623	153	\$131 082
APVMA	145	\$110 333	59	\$75 715
CRDC	9	\$9 797	0	\$0
FRDC	41	\$29 951	0	\$0
GRDC	37	\$79 096	0	\$0
GWRDC	12	\$33 460	0	\$0
RIRDC	38	\$14 255	13	\$14 345
WA	3	\$9 000	1	\$8 000
WEA	59	\$41 125	0	\$0
Total	8 747	\$2 596 470	11 263	\$1 610 992

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 225

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Training

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. In relation to the purchase of executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each portfolio department and agency, please provide the following information FYTD:
2. Total spending on these services
3. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification
4. The number of employees who have utilised these services and their employment classification
5. The names of all service providers engaged
6. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide:
7. The name and nature of the service purchased
8. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based
9. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification
10. The total number of hours involved for all employees
11. The total amount spent on the service
12. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)
13. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:
14. The location used
15. The number of employees who took part on each occasion
16. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part
17. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location

Answer:

1. No answer required.
2. The total spending on all executive coaching and leadership training is \$255 669.
3. The total number of employees offered these services is 585 employees.
The classifications of these employees are:
 - 87 SES employees
 - 411 EL employees.
4. Employees utilised these services on 51 occasions and their employment classifications of these employees are:
 - On 22 occasions, the employees were SES
 - On 29 occasions, the employees were EL.

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 225 (continued)

5. The names of all executive coaching and leadership training service providers are:

- The Australian & New Zealand School of Government
- Australian Institute of Company Directors
- Australian Public Service Commission
- Directions for Change
- EPR Careers
- Executive Forums Australia
- JennGen
- Learn4Results
- Media Manoeuvres
- Mt Eliza Executive Education
- SHL
- Step Two Designs
- Yellow Edge.

6. No answer required.

7. The name and nature of the service purchased is:

- 7 x coaching services named *Executive Coaching*
- 1 x coaching service named *Coaching for Interview*
- 1 x coaching service named *Learn 4 Results*
- 2 x leadership service named *CDAC*
- 1 x leadership service named *LAFIA*
- 3 x leadership service named *Australian Institute of Company Directors*
- 1 x leadership service named *Executive Leadership Dimensions*
- 1 x leadership service named *Executive Level Transition*
- 1 x leadership service named *Cranalana*
- 1 x leadership service named *Company Directors Course*
- 1 x leadership service named *Executive Training Course*
- 1 x leadership service named *Communication with Media*
- 1 x leadership service named *ANZSOG*
- 1 x leadership service named *EPR Careers*
- 1 x leadership service named *Mt Eliza Executive Education*

8. 9 services provided were one-on-one, 15 services provided were group-based.

9. See answer to part 3.

10. The total number of hours involved for all employees for executive coaching and leadership training was 913 hours.

11. See answer to part 1.

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Question: 225 (continued)

12. 6 services were charged on an hourly rate and 18 services were charged as a complete package.
13. No answer required.
14. The following locations were used:
 - Australian Institute of Company Directors, Level 6, 1 O'Connell Street, Sydney
 - Medina Executive Apartments, Brisbane
 - Mt Eliza Business School, 200 Leicester Street, Melbourne
 - Te Papa Tongarewa, National Museum of New Zealand, Wellington.
15. One employee took part on each occasion.
16. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part at an external location was 449 hours.
17. There were no additional costs incurred to use these locations.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 226

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Paid parental leave for staff

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. Please list how many staff in each portfolio department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme?
2. Please list which portfolio department and agencies are providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff are in receipt of these payments.

Answer:

1. The eligibility criteria for the government's Paid Parental Leave scheme requires that an employee:
 - is the primary carer of a newborn child or the initial primary carer of a recently adopted child
 - is an Australian resident
 - has worked for at least 10 of the 13 months prior to the birth or adoption of the child
 - has worked at least 330 hours in that 10 month period (just over one day a week), with no more than an eight week gap between two consecutive working days
 - has received an individual adjusted taxable income of \$150 000 or less in the financial year prior to the date of birth or date of claim, whichever is earlier

As a result, it is possible that all employees in the department and portfolio agencies may be eligible to receive payments. However, eligibility can only be confirmed once employees apply for payments and their records are reviewed.

2. As at 23 May 2011, the department and portfolio agencies listed below are providing payments under the government's Paid Parental Leave scheme:
 - Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry 4 employees
 - Sugar Research and Development Corporation 1 employee
 - Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation 1 employee

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 227

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Property

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. For each portfolio department and agency office please list the occupied workpoint space allocated per person.
2. Does this adhere to the Government's Commonwealth Property Management Guidelines (the Guidelines)? Explain.
3. If yes, please explain if any refurbishment was required to meet the Guidelines and what the costs were.
4. What savings did each portfolio department and agency achieve by meeting the Guidelines? Please itemise each portfolio department and agency separately.
5. How much of these savings has each portfolio department and agency kept? Please itemise each portfolio department and agency separately.
6. If no, please give details why it does not, including whether an exemption has been received by the Finance Minister.
7. What funding has been taken from each portfolio department and agency because they do not meet the Guidelines? Please itemise each portfolio department and agency separately.
8. Are there plans to meet the Guidelines? Please explain.

Answer:

1. The Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry achieved an occupied workstation density of 20.4 square metres per person in the Department of Finance and Deregulation (DoFD) Property Data Collection (PRODACC) baseline reporting period of September 2009. This result was due in part to one office area which was temporarily vacant at the time of the workstation count and another office area which was under construction. Accordingly, this result should not be taken to mean each workstation occupies 20.4 sqm.

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) achieved an occupational density of 19.5 square metres per person.

The Australian Pesticides Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) achieved an occupational density of 18.7 square metres per person. Other portfolio agencies occupy accommodation that is below the minimum requirements to report property information to DoFD.

2. The department and its portfolio agencies have met the guidelines, through establishing a property management plan and reporting property information as required to DoFD.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Question: 227 (continued)

Additionally the department and its agencies have had regard to the target density per occupied work point of 16 square metres per person and have sought to achieve this target density with any new leased buildings or major fit outs of existing accommodation which contain over 500 square metres of usable office area.

3. The department and APVMA have not undertaken office refurbishments especially to meet the density targets. The density target will be one of the criteria that will be considered when completing fit-out projects or when leasing actions are undertaken.

AFMA is in the process of reconfiguring its Darwin office fit-out to improve security arrangements. The floor configuration will be adjusted in the affected area to improve compliance with the occupational density target of 16 square metres per occupied workstation.

4. The department and its portfolio agencies have not achieved realisable savings as a result of meeting the Commonwealth Property Management Guidelines. However the improved procedures, identification and management of office areas/workstations, and high level strategic property planning which have followed the implementation of the guidelines have been beneficial and are expected to deliver savings in the future, when current leases expire and are re-negotiated.
5. No reduction in appropriation funding for the department or APVMA was applied in the financial years 2010-15 inclusive. Savings were applied for AFMA's Darwin office, as detailed in the table below.

Other portfolio agencies under DAFF did not meet the criteria for reporting property information and therefore did not have savings applied.

AFMA - Darwin Office – savings

Savings	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	23 835	35 752.50	35 752.50	35 752.50	35 752.50

AFMA will retain one third of identified savings, with two thirds being returned to the Department of Finance and Deregulation.

AFMA - Darwin Office - Retained funding - one third of savings

Retained Funding	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	7945	11 917.50	11 917.50	11 917.50	11 917.50

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Question: 227 (continued)

6. The department and APVMA received special consideration of its funding mechanisms for those establishments which operate under a cost recovered industry funding arrangement. This translated to a number of properties being excluded from the identification of savings process.
7. No funding has been taken from the department or APVMA for the financial years 2010-15 inclusive. For AFMA, the two thirds proportion of identified savings is to be returned to the Department of Finance and Deregulation via a reduction in future appropriations.

AFMA - Darwin Office - Returned funding – two thirds of savings

Returned Funding	2010-11 \$	2011-12 \$	2012-13 \$	2013-14 \$	2014-15 \$
	15 890	23 835	23 835	23 835	23 835

8. The department and all its portfolio agencies have met the guidelines by preparing a “property management plan” and by reporting property data consistent with the Department of Finance and Deregulation guidelines. The density targets will be a consideration for future office fit-out projects for all agencies.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 228

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Hospitality

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. What is the Department's hospitality spend FYTD? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. Please detail any catering costs, listing the cost of food and beverages, and include a separate list of alcohol costs.
2. For each Minister/Parliamentary Secretary's office, please detail total hospitality spend FYTD. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. Please detail any catering costs, listing the cost of food and beverages, and include a separate list of alcohol costs.

Answer:

1. From 1 July 2010 to 23 May 2011, the department spent \$64 015 on official hospitality. Details of expenditure of official hospitality from 1 July 2010 to 21 February 2011 have been provided previously in response to questions on notice (numbers CSD06 in October 2010 and CSD04 in February 2011). Details of date, location, purpose and cost of events since 22 February 2011 is at Attachment A. The itemised cost of food, beverages and alcohol has not been provided because that would substantially and unreasonably divert the department's resources.
2. From 1 July 2010 to 23 May 2011, Minister Ludwig spent \$60 on hospitality and Parliamentary Secretary Kelly spent \$777. Details of date, purpose, location and costs of each event are provided at Attachment B. The costs have been split into two categories; 'food and beverages' as one category and 'alcohol' as another.

[Attachment A]

[Attachment B]

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 228 (continued)

Attachment A

Official hospitality expenditure by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry for the period 22 February 2011 – 23 May 2011			
Date of Event	Purpose	Location	Cost \$ (inc GST)
23/02/2011	Japan Lower House Research Bureau – morning tea	Canberra	171
24/02/2011	Rural research and development council – dinner	Sydney	598
1/03/2011	ABARES outlook conference – VIP lunch	Canberra	854
4/03/2011	Japanese Research Director, The Canon Institute for Global Studies – lunch	Melbourne	34
6-12/03/2011	Vietnamese delegation – AusAID Public Sector Linkages Program	Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne	4 481
08-11/03/2011	Vietnamese delegation for SPS Study Tour and Technical Market Access training	Sydney, Melbourne	433
12-26/03/2011	Australia/China Agricultural Cooperation Agreement delegation on forestry management	Perth, Sydney, Canberra	5 412
21/03/2011	National Rural Advisory Council – dinner	Adelaide	894
23/03/2011	Malaysia/Australia Agricultural Cooperation Working Group – lunch and official dinner	Hobart	4 620
30/03/2011	Turkish Ministry of Agriculture delegation – dinner	Canberra	336
31/03/2011	DAFF Development Grant – industry visits to China – project planning lunch	Canberra	54
20/04/2011	Crawford School of Economics and Government, ANU Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam – dinner	Canberra	254
19/04/2011	OIE Regional Animal Welfare Strategy – Asia Far East and Oceania Coordination Group – dinner	Bangkok, Thailand	900
2/05/2011	Community Networks and Capacity Building Assessment panel – dinner	Canberra	788
2/05/2011	Drought Pilot Review Panel, DAFF staff and secretariat – dinner	Canberra	470
3/05/2011	Caring for our Country review team – dinner	Canberra	139
9/05/2011	Mexican Delegation – dinner	Canberra	769

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 228 (continued)

Attachment A

Date of Event	Purpose	Location	Cost \$ (inc GST)
18/05/2011	Primary Industries Standing Committee Drought Group Meeting – dinner	Canberra	680
18/05/2011	The ASEAN–Australia–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA) – economic cooperation work program: Diagnostics of pest nematodes workshop with a view to capacity building in Thailand – dinner	Bangkok, Thailand	1 500
Total			23 387

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 228 (continued)

Attachment B

Official hospitality expenditure by the Minister for the period 1 Jul 2010 – 23 May 2011					
Date	Purpose	Location	Food & Beverages	Alcohol	Total Cost \$ (inc GST)
28/01/2011	Refreshments – Biosecurity roundtable	Brisbane	60	Nil	60
Total					60

Official hospitality expenditure by the Parliamentary Secretary for the period 1 Jul 2010 – 23 May 2011					
Date	Purpose	Location	Food & Beverages	Alcohol	Total Cost \$ (inc GST)
12/10/2010	Fishing industry stakeholders – lunch	Adelaide	426	Nil	426
13/10/2010	Oyster Industry Members – lunch	Port Lincoln	172	24	197
23/11/2010	Board Members of the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation – Refreshments	Canberra	154	Nil	154
Total					777

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 229

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Consultancy contracts

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway since Additional Estimates in February this year?
2. In answer to QON 3 from Additional Estimates the Department advised that it has spent \$36.8million on consultancy services since December 2007
 - a) Can you provide a breakdown for the past 5 financial years as to the number of consultancies each year and the annual total cost of consultancies?
 - b) Does the Department have any indicative percentage of Departmental spending that is available to be utilised for consultancies? If so, what is it?
 - c) Please provide details as the percentage of Departmental spending allocated to consultancies over the past 5 years and plans for the forward estimates?
 - d) How much expenditure is planned for consultancies for next financial year and what is the estimate for the number of consultancies?
 - e) Have there been any changes to planned consultancies since Additional Estimates and if so can you provide details and the reasons?

Answer:

1. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has entered into 50 consultancy contracts since Additional Estimates (22 February to 23 May 2011).
2. a)

Year	Number of consultancies	Total cost
2010-11 (to 23 May 2011)	129	\$9 995 195
2009-10	162	\$9 609 907
2008-09	192	\$16 537 050
2007-08	239	\$19 699 870
2006-07	209	\$13 529 473

Note: Total cost represents aggregate contract values not annual expenditure.

- b) No.
- c) On average, 6 per cent of departmental spending was allocated to consultancies over the past five financial years. The department has no plans for the forward estimates regarding the percentage of total spending on consultancies.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 229 (continued)

- d) Planned consultancies are published in the department's Annual Procurement Plan. The department's APP is published on AusTender at the commencement of each financial year and updated throughout the year to provide details of all planned approaches to market. The expenditure for these approaches to market is not yet known and will be determined following the approaches to the market.

- e) No.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 230

Division: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Departmental Travel

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. Please provide details of travel expenditure broken down by internal business unit/program, indicating the domestic and international travel components and identifying costs which are subject to full cost recovery for the 2008–2009 and 2009–2010 financial years and year to date for 2010–2011.
2. Please also provide details monthly breakdowns of travel expenditure by program for the 2008–2009 and 2009–2010 and current year to date.

Answer:

1. Actual travel expenditure broken down by business unit, indicating the domestic and international components, including cost recovered portions for 2009–2010 and the current year to 31 May 2011 are provided at Attachment A. The cost recovered portions for 2008–2009 are not available.

The figures in the attachments are net of GST, inclusive of mileage allowance and exclude contract management and administration fees from the department's travel service provider.

The figures include departmental and administered expenditure as travel has been undertaken on the behalf of the department and the government.

2. Monthly breakdowns of actual travel expenditure by business unit for the 2008–2009 and 2009–2010 and the current year to date are provided at Attachment B.

[Attachment A]

[Attachment B]

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 231

Division/Agency: CSD Corporate Services Division

Topic: Coordinated procurement

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

4. Provide details of the coordinated procurement arrangements that are being put in place, including details of when these arrangements become effective?
5. Based on the office supplies for the 12 months immediately preceding the implementation of this arrangement, what are the expected savings for the next 12 month period?
6. What are the expected savings in internal staff time?
7. What are the costs associated with charge back to the agency for the coordinated procurement service?
8. Provide details of how the charge back fees are calculated?

Answer:

Coordinated procurement is a whole of government initiative that is being implemented and managed by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (DoFD).

Specific details of the new arrangements are best asked of DoFD.

Potential savings to the department will not be known until the procurement arrangements are finalised.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 232

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Graduate program

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

Graduate program

1. Please provide details of the main activities, timing and timeframes of these activities.
2. For the last four years, please provide details of:
 - a) the number of applicants to the program
 - b) the number from offers made
 - c) the number of offers declined by graduates, and a brief explanation of why offers were declined
 - d) number of graduates recruited and to which areas within DAFF
 - e) retention rate of graduates for 1, 2 and 3 years after commencing with the department.
3. Please provide details of any KPIs that exist in relation to the graduate program, including advertising spend per recruit.
4. As no negative consequences or concerns have been identified flowing from the decision not to have the Graduate Program in 2010; why is it necessary to have a Graduate Program every year and can further savings be made by stopping for another year in future?

Answer:

1. The main activities of the 2011 Graduate Development Program are:

Activity	Timing
Graduates commenced	17 January 2011
Induction	17 – 18 January 2011
Rotation 1	19 January – 6 May 2011
Graduate Certificate in Public Administration face to face training (20 days)	21 February – 5 August 2011
Interpersonal and communication skills face to face training (6.5 days)	15 February – 28 September 2011
Rotation 2	9 May – 19 August 2011
Industry visit	22 – 26 August 2011
Rotation 3	29 August – 16 December 2011
Final presentation and graduation	1 December 2011

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 232 (continued)

2. In 2008, 988 applications were received for the Graduate Development Program. Of the 91 offers made, 34 were declined and 57 graduates commenced on the program.

In 2009, 632 applications were received for the Graduate Development Program. Of the 92 offers made, 40 were declined and 52 graduates commenced on the program.

In 2010, 811 applications were received. Following the application stage a decision was made to pause the program and no offers were made.

In 2011, 1025 applications were received for the Graduate Development Program. Of the 85 offers made, 21 were declined and 64 graduates commenced on the program.

DAFF graduates are not recruited to work in specific areas of the department and undertake three diverse workplace rotations.

Offers were declined or withdrawn following acceptance for a variety of reasons including personal circumstances or the acceptance of an employment offer from another organisation.

The following table depicts the Graduate Development Programs retention rates at one, two and three years following the commencement of the program.

	1 year after (at 15 January) %	2 years after (at 15 January) %	3 years after (at 15 January) %
2008 (57)	80.7	59.6	45.6
2009 (52)	94.2	84.6	n/a
2010 (0)	n/a	n/a	n/a
2011 (64)	n/a	n/a	n/a

3. The department does not have formal KPIs identified for graduate recruitment or the Graduate Development Program. Feedback is sought from candidates during the recruitment process and from the graduates following each component of their training and development. This feedback, along with industry reports and market trends, is utilised to continuously improve graduate recruitment and development.
4. Graduates are recruited and provided with training and development opportunities to prepare them for leadership roles within the department. Continuing the Graduate Development Program is important to address the risk of shortages at middle and senior levels in the future.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 233

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Staff movements

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

Information provided in response to Question on Notice 08 from the February 2011 Additional Estimates hearing indicates that over 35 employees ceased employment for “employer initiated” reasons from BSG.

1. What are the underlying reasons for this significant staff movement?
2. How many of these “employer initiated” reasons were redundancies?
3. What was the cost of redundancies?
4. Was there any funding budgeted for redundancies in the current financial year?
5. If so what was the budget and how do costs for the year to date compare with the budget?
6. Is there any funding budgeted for redundancies in the forward estimates?
7. If so, what are the figures?

Answer:

1. The purpose of Export Certification Reform Package (ECRP) Meat Ministerial Taskforce was to increase the efficiency of the export meat system. One of the efficiencies proposed by the taskforce was to transfer the function of meat inspection from the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) to industry. Surplus AQIS staff employed as on-plant meat inspectors were given the choice of redeployment or redundancy.
2. Of the 35.1 FTE employer initiated separations reported in February 2011 for BSG, 31 were redundancies.
3. The total cost of redundancy payments was \$4 936 204 which was made up of \$3 658 916 in severance payments and \$1 277 288 in un-used leave entitlements.
4. \$26 million was provided for meat inspection reform in 2009-12 and 2010-11. Industry and government through the Meat Ministerial Taskforce were given a remit to develop and implement strategies to increase efficiencies in the meat export system. No proportion of the funding was specifically allocated for redundancies.
5. Please refer to the response to Question 4.
6. Some ECRP funding has been retained to enable the full implementation of the Australian Export Meat Inspection System. Please refer to the response to Question 6.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 234

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Staff Access to Online Social Media

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. At Additional Estimates the Department indicated that it had a draft social media policy – has this policy now been finalised and have there been any changes?
2. Have there been any changes to the staff who are permitted access to social media?
3. Have there been any breaches of the Department's IT or social media policies?
4. Have there been any issues or adverse experience of staff using social media since Additional Estimates?

Answer:

1. No.
2. Yes. Access was given to additional staff members of ABARES and Corporate Communications Branch to support the ABARES Outlook Conference held in March 2011.
3. No
4. No

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 235

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Consultancy services

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. Has the Minister, Minister's staff or Department had any meetings with Hawker Britton or their clients since Additional Estimates?
2. If so, can you please provide details including date, subject matter and people present.

Answer:

1. No meetings with Hawker Britton have occurred between Additional and Budget estimates.
2. Please refer to the response to Question 1.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 236

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Workplace compensation

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. How many reported workplace injuries have occurred over the past financial year?
2. How does this compare with previous years?
3. Which agencies/ units have had the most reports?
4. How many cases of workplace compensation for injury or illness have occurred this financial year?
5. What was the level of total compensation?
6. Are there any ongoing cases?

Answer:

1. From 1 July 2010 to 23 May 2011, 202 incidents involving workplace injuries have been reported.
2. In 2008–09, 378 workplace injuries were reported and 336 workplace injuries were reported in 2009–10.
3. Central East Region, South West Region and South East Region Biosecurity Services have had the most incidents reported involving workplace injuries.
4. From 1 July 2010 to 23 May 2011, 151 claims for compensation have been accepted by Comcare.
5. \$2 439 679.
6. Yes, all cases remain open until there are no further costs associated with the compensation claim.

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 237

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Expenditure on retreats and conferences

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. How much has been spent in the past year on retreats and conferences?
2. Can you provide a breakdown of these?
3. How much has been spent each year since December 2007?

Answer:

1. As at 23 May 2011, \$65 245 has been spent on retreats and planning conferences.
2. Table 1 provides a breakdown of the retreats and planning conferences held from 1 July 2010 to 23 May 2011.

Table 1 – Retreats and planning conferences – 1 July 2010 – 23 May 2011

SES Conference	Develop 5 year Strategic Vision for the Department.	\$30 305
Perth Middle Managers Planning and Development Workshop	Development opportunity for middle managers to discuss national and regional priorities and develop strategies for these priorities.	\$1 023
Animal Biosecurity Planning Day	Develop branch objectives and strategies for the 2010-11 branch plan.	\$3 543
Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer Annual planning day	Address status of staffing, budget and current projects, determine key priorities for the remainder of the financial year.	\$1 851
Climate Change Land and Forests planning day	Post creation of ABARES – develop strategic plan identifying priorities and strategic directions for next 2-5 years.	\$2 700
Environmental Stewardship	Discuss budgets, policy and priorities and work planning.	\$3 925
ABARE-BRS Planning Day	Planning for New Merged Bureau	\$6 800
Seaports Section Planning Day	Clarify the role of the Seaports Program. Determine the priorities for the program for the next 12 months. Establish a structure to develop and implement program priorities.	\$1 058

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 237 (continued)

Senior Leadership Forum / North East Region Planning Day	Review of Regional Business Plan and progression key of milestones; Review of staff survey results and development of action items; Focus group discussions on leadership, communication, and building capability; Review of Regional governance and committee restructures	\$1 331
Ministerial & Parliamentary Branch Planning Day	Branch Planning day	\$1 026
Portfolio Strategy and Coordination Branch Planning Day	Branch Planning day	\$1 427
Communications Branch Planning days	Branch Planning day	\$10 256
Total		\$65 245

3. The listing below provides the cost of retreats and planning conferences held each year since December 2007:

- January 2008–June 2008: \$125 146
- 2008–09: \$119 920
- 2009–10: \$55 386
- 2010–11: \$65 245

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 238

Division: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Reduction in travel

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

3. What was the total cost of international travel taken by Department staff in this financial year?
4. How does this compare with the previous 3 financial years?
5. What was the total cost of domestic travel taken by Departmental staff in the past year?
6. How does this compare with the previous 3 financial years?

Answer:

1. Please refer to Table 1.

Table 1 – Domestic and international travel costs – 2007–08 to 2010–11

	2007-08 (\$m)	2008-09 (\$m)	2009-10 (\$m)	1 July 2010 to 31 May 2011 (\$m)
Domestic travel	14.8	14.0	12.4	13.8
International travel	6.7	7.0	5.3	5.6
Total Cost	21.5	21.0	17.7	19.4

Source: DAFF financial management information system – QSP

These figures are net of GST, inclusive of mileage allowance and exclude contract management and administration fees by the departments travel service provider.

The figures also include departmental and administered expenditure because the travel has been on the behalf of the department as well as the government.

2. Please refer to Table 1 above.
3. Please refer to Table 1 above
4. Please refer to Table 1 above.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 239

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Recruitment

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. What were DAFF's external recruitment costs this year?
2. How does this compare with the past 3 financial years?

Answer:

1. DAFF is only able to report on the external expenditure attributed to Adcorp, Australian Federal Police (AFP), Medibank and the Gazette.

The total expenditure for the above mentioned items for 2011 is:

Adcorp – HMA Blaze	\$160 229
AFP -	\$32 686
Medibank -	\$109 486
Gazette -	\$41 238
Total	\$343 639

2. A comparative expenditure table is provided below.

	Adcorp / HMA	AFP	Medibank	Gazette
2007-08	\$342 837	\$31 115	\$68 489	\$55 226
2008-09	\$378 097	\$39 594	\$63 786	\$57 336
2009-10	\$195 332	\$11 739	\$61 679	\$52 272
2010-11	\$160 229	\$32 686	\$109 486*	\$41 238

*The regions conducted approximately 283 pre-employment medical examinations at an average of \$290 per medical thus explaining the increase in expenditure.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 240

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Misconduct

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. How many Departmental employees were subject to an internal investigation owing to improper behaviour in past year and how does this compare with previous years?
2. How many of these were SES employees?
3. What types of actions were taken against individuals?
4. How many employees were terminated?
5. What was the value of items stolen or lost from the Department in the past year and how does this compare with previous years?
6. Please provide a breakdown of items stolen or lost with a value of more than \$100.00.

Answer:

1. From 1 July 2010 to 23 May 2011, the department conducted 24 investigations into allegations of misconduct against departmental employees. During 2009-10, the department conducted 19 investigations into allegations of misconduct against departmental employees.
2. From 1 July 2010 to 23 May 2011, the department conducted no investigations into allegations of misconduct against SES employees.
3. Where allegations of misconduct were upheld, the following sanctions were imposed: termination, reduction in classification, reduction in salary, fine, reprimand and/or counselling.
4. Two employees were terminated.
5. The total value of Commonwealth assets lost or stolen since 1 July 2010 is \$14 686. This is similar to reports for 2009–10 and slightly reduced from 2008–09.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 240 (continued)

6. Table 1 summarises the nature of Commonwealth assets lost/stolen during the past year where the value is identified as being more than \$100.00.

Table 1 – Assets lost or stolen

Item	Approximate value	Number lost/stolen
VPN Token	\$250	2
RSA Token	\$500	2
Laptop	\$2500	3
PC workstation	\$1700	2
Mobile telephone	\$300	3
Blackberry	\$315	1
Digital camera	\$200	2
Gas detector	\$300	2

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 241

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Corporate expenses

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. What was the cost of the Department leasing carparks for use by employees (broken down by city) during the past year?
2. Please provide a comparison with the previous 2 years?
3. What was the total cost of bottled water paid for by the Department during the past year?
4. Please provide a comparison with the previous 2 years?
5. What was the cost of Christmas decorations (or similar) during the past year?
6. Please provide a comparison with the previous 2 years?

Answer:

1 and 2. The table below includes expenditure broken down by city during the past year and provides comparison costs with the previous 2 years.

CITY	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11 (projected cost)
Canberra	\$1 028 477	\$1 063 564	\$1 104 671
Griffith	\$507	\$499	\$539
Sydney	\$86 510	\$89 537	\$92 672
Darwin	\$28 126	\$29 552	\$30 480
Brisbane	\$50 589	\$56 619	\$53 278
Gladstone	\$0	\$0	\$8 250
Townsville	\$26 838	\$21 546	\$23 273
Cairns	\$0	\$57 267	\$70 218
Adelaide	\$87 431	\$90 861	\$94 029
Melbourne	\$106 000	\$118 364	\$117 793
Perth	\$76 034	\$79 856	\$85 513
TOTAL:	\$1 490 513	\$1 607 666	\$1 680 715

Notes:

- *All figures are GST exclusive.*
- *The financial year 2010-11 includes projected costs for invoices not yet received.*

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- *The table represents itemised lease costs for all car parks used by employees, including parking for commonwealth vehicles.*
- *The amounts do not include car park lease costs which are not itemised separately in a property lease.*

The comparison costs for car parking expenses over the previous two financial years are included in the table above.

3. The total cost for bottled water between 1 July 2010 – 30 May 2011 was \$18 805 (excluding GST).
4. The total cost for bottled water for the financial year 2009–10 was \$30 355 (excluding GST). The total cost for bottled water for the financial year 2008–09 was \$30 011 (excluding GST).

5 and 6. The department did not purchase any Christmas decorations during the past year or during the previous two years.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 242

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Acting Senior Executive Service (SES) arrangements

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

Questions

1. How many executives are presently in acting positions? What are reasons for, and the periods of, these appointments?
2. How many executives have been in acting positions in the past year? What are reasons for, and the periods of, these appointments?
3. Can you give a schedule on the appointment of permanent staff in these roles?

Answer:

1. As at 23 May 2011, 14 executives were acting in positions for greater than three weeks. Substantive occupants were on leave, secondment or managing specific projects. Periods of acting for less than three weeks are not paid and are recorded only if delegations are required to be exercised by the officer acting in the position. Details of periods of acting greater than three weeks are outlined in Attachment A.
2. 52. Substantive occupants on leave, secondment or managing specific projects. Periods of acting for less than three weeks are not paid and are recorded only if delegations are required to be exercised by the officer acting in the position. Details of periods of acting greater than three weeks are outlined in Attachment B.
3. Two SES positions have selection activities currently underway. Attachment C outlines details.

[Attachment A]

[Attachment B]

[Attachment C]

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 242 (continued)

ATTACHMENT A

Division	Acting Class	From	To
Sustainable Resource Mngt	SES1	9-May-11	17-Jun-11
Sustainable Resource Mngt	SES1	4-Nov-10	24-Jun-11
Trade & Market Access	SES1	10-Jan-11	31-Jul-11
Trade & Market Access	SES1	2-May-11	1-Jul-11
Corporate Services	SES1	1-Apr-11	15-Jul-11
Corporate Services	SES1	18-Apr-11	15-Jul-11
BSG	SES1	24-Nov-10	29-Jul-11
BSG	SES1	2-May-11	28-May-11
BSG	SES2	7-Oct-09	2-Sep-11
BSG	SES1	23-Aug-10	22-Aug-11
BSG	SES1	5-May-11	25-Jun-11
BSG	SES1	30-Apr-11	2-Sep-11
Corporate Finance	SES1	13-Oct-10	30-Jun-11
ABARES	SES1	1-Dec-10	30-May-11

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 242 (continued)

ATTACHMENT B

Division	Acting Classification	From	To
Executive	Secretary	27-Jan-11	25-Feb-10
ABARES	SES1	1-Oct-10	31-Oct-10
ABARES	SES2	3-Sep-09	17-May-11
ABARES	SES1	7-Mar-11	1-Apr-11
ABARES	SES1	1-Dec-10	30-May-11
Agricultural Productivity	SES1	6-Dec-10	3-Jan-11
Agricultural Productivity	SES1	28-Mar-11	6-May-11
BSG	SES2	7-Oct-09	2-Sep-11
BSG	SES1	5-May-11	25-Jun-11
BSG	SES1	7-Mar-11	22-Apr-11
BSG	SES1	24-Nov-09	29-Jul-11
BSG	SES1	20-Dec-10	14-Jan-11
BSG	SES1	4-Jan-11	7-Jan-11
BSG	SES1	5-Jul-10	1-Sep-10
BSG	SES2	31-Aug-10	5-Oct-10
BSG	SES1	5-Jul-10	19-Aug-10
BSG	SES1	24-Dec-10	23-Jan-11
BSG	SES1	27-Oct-10	30-Nov-10
BSG	SES1	19-Aug-10	15-Oct-10
BSG	SES1	12-Jul-10	8-Aug-10
BSG	SES1	9-Aug-10	30-Sep-10
BSG	SES3	10-Jan-11	28-Feb-11
BSG	SES1	27-Dec-10	31-Jan-11
BSG	SES1	1-Jul-11	2-Sep-11
BSG	SES2	19-Jul-10	14-Aug-10
BSG	SES1	9-Oct-09	30-Sep-10
BSG	SES1	22-Dec-10	2-Feb-11
BSG	SES1	30-Aug-10	1-Oct-10
BSG	SES1	17-Mar-11	2-May-11
Corporate Finance	SES1	13-Oct-10	30-Jun-11
Corporate Policy Division	SES2	1-Jul-10	31-Aug-10
Corporate Policy Division	SES1	29-Jul-10	30-Nov-10
Corporate Services	SES2	10-Dec-10	23-Jan-11
Corporate Services	SES1	9-Aug-10	3-Sep-10
Corporate Services	SES1	6-Sep-10	15-Oct-10
Corporate Services	SES2	9-Aug-10	3-Sep-10
Corporate Services	SES1	1-Apr-11	15-Jul-11

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 242 (continued)

ATTACHMENT B

Corporate Services	SES1	20-Dec-10	31-Mar-11
Corporate Services	SES1	18-Apr-11	15-Jul-11
Sustainable Resource Mngt	SES1	27-Dec-10	28-Jan-11
Sustainable Resource Mngt	SES1	19-Jul-10	20-Sep-10
Sustainable Resource Mngt	SES1	4-Jan-11	24-Jun-11
Sustainable Resource Mngt	SES2	27-Dec-10	28-Jan-11
Sustainable Resource Mngt	SES1	17-Jul-10	17-Nov-10
Sustainable Resource Mngt	SES1	16-Aug-10	16-Sep-10
Sustainable Resource Mngt	SES1	17-Sep-10	18-Oct-10
Trade & Market Access	SES1	1-Jul-10	8-Nov-10
Trade & Market Access	SES1	16-Dec-10	21-Jan-11
Trade & Market Access	SES1	9-Aug-10	13-Sep-10
Trade & Market Access	SES1	10-Jan-11	31-Jul-11
Trade & Market Access	SES2	16-Sep-09	8-Nov-10
Trade & Market Access	SES1	2-May-11	1-Jul-11

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

Question: 242 (continued)

ATTACHMENT C

Classification	Job Title	Division	Date advertised	Comments
SES B2	Executive Manager	Chief Veterinary Officer	4/11/2010	Selection activities are underway
SES B2	Executive Manager	Chief Scientist	24/02/11	Completed

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 243

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Staff turnover

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. What has been the staff turnover rate in the past year?
2. What is the actual number of staff this relates to?
3. What has been the staff turnover rate for the past three years as a comparison?

Answer:

1. The permanent staff turnover rate for DAFF from 1 July 2010 to 23 May 2011 was 7.7 per cent.
2. 373
3. 2007–08 12.9 per cent
2008–09 9.0 per cent
2009–10 9.7 per cent

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 244

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Hospitality

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

1. What is the Department's hospitality spend FYTD?
2. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
3. For each Minister/Parliamentary Secretary's office, please detail total hospitality spend FYTD.
4. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.
5. What is the Department's entertainment spend FYTD?
6. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
7. For each Minister/Parliamentary Secretary's office, please detail total entertainment spend FYTD.
8. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.

Answer:

1. From 1 July 2010 to 23 May 2011, the department spent \$64 015 on official hospitality. Details of expenditure of official hospitality from 1 July 2010 to 21 February 2011 have been provided previously in response to questions on notice numbers CSD06 in October 2010 and CSD04 in February 2011.
2. Details of date, purpose, location and cost of all events from 22 February to 23 May 2011 is at Attachment A.
3. From 1 July 2010 to 23 May 2011, Minister Ludwig spent \$60 and Parliamentary Secretary Kelly \$777.
4. Details of date, purpose, location and cost of all events are at Attachment B.
5. The department does not separately account for entertainment. The terminology is interchangeable with hospitality and all entertainment expenses are accounted for in the response to Question 1.
6. Please refer to the response to Question 5.
7. The offices for the minister and parliamentary secretary do not separately account for entertainment. The terminology is interchangeable with hospitality and all entertainment expenses are accounted for in the response to Question 3.
8. Please refer to the response to Question 7.

[Attachment A]

[Attachment B]

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 244 (continued)

Attachment A

Official hospitality expenditure by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry for the period 22 February 2011 – 23 May 2011			
Date of Event	Purpose	Location	Cost \$ (inc GST)
23/02/2011	Japan Lower House Research Bureau – morning tea	Canberra	171
24/02/2011	Rural research and development council – dinner	Sydney	598
1/03/2011	ABARES outlook conference – VIP lunch	Canberra	854
4/03/2011	Japanese Research Director, The Canon Institute for Global Studies – lunch	Melbourne	34
6-12/03/2011	Vietnamese delegation – AusAID Public Sector Linkages Program	Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne	4 481
08-11/03/2011	Vietnamese delegation for SPS Study Tour and Technical Market Access training	Sydney, Melbourne	433
12-26/03/2011	Australia/China Agricultural Cooperation Agreement delegation on forestry management	Perth, Sydney, Canberra	5 412
21/03/2011	National Rural Advisory Council – dinner	Adelaide	894
23/03/2011	Malaysia/Australia Agricultural Cooperation Working Group – lunch and official dinner	Hobart	4 620
30/03/2011	Turkish Ministry of Agriculture delegation – dinner	Canberra	336
31/03/2011	DAFF Development Grant – industry visits to China – project planning lunch	Canberra	54
20/04/2011	Crawford School of Economics and Government, ANU Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam – dinner	Canberra	254
19/04/2011	OIE Regional Animal Welfare Strategy – Asia Far East and Oceania Coordination Group – dinner	Bangkok, Thailand	900
2/05/2011	Community Networks and Capacity Building Assessment panel – dinner	Canberra	788
2/05/2011	Drought Pilot Review Panel, DAFF staff and secretariat – dinner	Canberra	470
3/05/2011	Caring for our Country review team – dinner	Canberra	139
9/05/2011	Mexican Delegation – dinner	Canberra	769
18/05/2011	Primary Industries Standing Committee Drought Group Meeting – dinner	Canberra	680

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

Question: 244 (continued)

Attachment A

Official hospitality expenditure by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry for the period 22 February 2011 – 23 May 2011			
Date of Event	Date of Event	Date of Event	Date of Event
18/05/2011	The ASEAN–Australia–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA) – economic cooperation work program: Diagnostics of pest nematodes workshop with a view to capacity building in Thailand – dinner	Bangkok, Thailand	1 500
Total			23 387

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 244 (continued)

Attachment B

Official hospitality expenditure by the Minister for the period 1 Jul 2010 – 23 May 2011			
Date	Details	Location	Total Cost \$ (inc GST)
28/01/2011	Refreshments – Biosecurity roundtable	Brisbane	60
Total			60

Official hospitality expenditure by the Parliamentary Secretary for the period 1 Jul 2010 – 23 May 2011			
Date	Details	Location	Total Cost \$ (inc GST)
12/10/2010	Fishing industry stakeholders – lunch	Adelaide	426
13/10/2010	Oyster Industry Members – lunch	Port Lincoln	197
23/11/2010	Board Members of the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation – Refreshments	Canberra	154
Total			777

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 245

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Hospitality

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. What is the Department's hospitality spend since Additional Estimates in February 2011?
2. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events?
3. For each Minister/Parliamentary Secretary's office, please detail total hospitality spend since Additional Budget Estimates?
4. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event?

Answer:

1. For the period 22 February 2011 to 23 May 2011, the department spent \$23 387 on official hospitality.
2. Details of date, purpose, location and cost of all events are at Attachment A.
3. Nil expenditure.
4. Not applicable.

[Attachment A]

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 245 (continued)

Attachment A

Official hospitality expenditure by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry for the period 22 February 2011 – 23 May 2011			
Date of Event	Purpose	Location	Cost \$ (inc GST)
23/02/2011	Japan Lower House Research Bureau – morning tea	Canberra	171
24/02/2011	Rural research and development council – dinner	Sydney	598
1/03/2011	ABARES outlook conference – VIP lunch	Canberra	854
4/03/2011	Japanese Research Director, The Canon Institute for Global Studies – lunch	Melbourne	34
6-12/03/2011	Vietnamese delegation – AusAID Public Sector Linkages Program	Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne	4 481
08-11/03/2011	Vietnamese delegation for SPS Study Tour and Technical Market Access training	Sydney, Melbourne	433
12-26/03/2011	Australia/China Agricultural Cooperation Agreement delegation on forestry management	Perth, Sydney, Canberra	5 412
21/03/2011	National Rural Advisory Council – dinner	Adelaide	894
23/03/2011	Malaysia/Australia Agricultural Cooperation Working Group – lunch and official dinner	Hobart	4 620
30/03/2011	Turkish Ministry of Agriculture delegation – dinner	Canberra	336
31/03/2011	DAFF Development Grant – industry visits to China – project planning lunch	Canberra	54
20/04/2011	Crawford School of Economics and Government, ANU Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam – dinner	Canberra	254
19/04/2011	OIE Regional Animal Welfare Strategy – Asia Far East and Oceania Coordination Group – dinner	Bangkok, Thailand	900
2/05/2011	Community Networks and Capacity Building Assessment panel – dinner	Canberra	788
2/05/2011	Drought Pilot Review Panel, DAFF staff and secretariat – dinner	Canberra	470
3/05/2011	Caring for our Country review team – dinner	Canberra	139
9/05/2011	Mexican Delegation – dinner	Canberra	769
18/05/2011	Primary Industries Standing Committee Drought Group Meeting – dinner	Canberra	680

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 245 (continued)

Attachment A

Official hospitality expenditure by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry for the period 22 February 2011 – 23 May 2011			
Date of Event	Date of Event	Date of Event	Date of Event
18/05/2011	The ASEAN–Australia–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA) – economic cooperation work program: Diagnostics of pest nematodes workshop with a view to capacity building in Thailand – dinner	Bangkok, Thailand	1 500
Total			23 387

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 246

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Shredding/removal of confidential documents

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

In answer to QON 7 the total cost of shredding / secure removal of documents in the department from 1 December to 28 February 2011 was \$389,827.

1. Please provide the financial year breakdowns for this cost over the past five years
2. What is the total cost of shredding / secure removal of documents since Additional Estimates for the Department?
3. What is the total cost of shredding / secure removal of documents since Additional Estimates for the Minister's / Parliamentary Secretary's offices?

Answer:

1. The department's secure shredding expenses, excluding charges associated with the minister's and parliamentary secretary's office are below. All amounts listed are GST exclusive.

Date Range	Amount
1 December 2007 to 30 June 2008	\$ 51 254
1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009	\$ 119 058
1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010	\$ 146 801
1 July 2011 to 28 February 2011	\$ 72 714
Total	\$ 389 828

2. Since Additional Estimates, the total cost of shredding during the period 1 March 2011 to 30 April 2011 was \$15 503.

There have been no costs incurred by Minister Ludwig's office or Parliamentary Secretary Kelly's office since Additional Estimates for the shredding / secure removal of documents.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 247

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Coordinated procurement savings

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

Do you have any estimate or sense of what the impact of the co-ordinated procurement savings will be within the Biosecurity Group?

Answer:

Coordinated procurement is a whole of government initiative that is being implemented and managed by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (DoFD).

Specific details of the new arrangements are best asked of DoFD.

Potential savings to the department will not be known until the procurement arrangements are finalised.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 248

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Heffernan asked:

Inspector General Biosecurity

1. What is the role of the Inspector General?
2. What is his period of employment?
3. Who is he responsible to?
4. Is this role directly modelled on that proposed by the Beale Review?
5. What audits has he carried out?
6. Are his reports to be available publicly as outlined in the Beale Review?
7. What advice has the interim inspector general given on Myrtle rust, Asian Bee, NZ apples and Fire blight, bacterial canker in Kiwi fruit etc?

Answer:

1. To provide independent assurance, through audit and review, of the performance and appropriateness of the biosecurity systems and risk management measures that are the responsibility of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
2. With the minister's approval the Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity's contract has been extended to 30 September 2011.
3. The Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity reports to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
4. The Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity role follows the key descriptors for the role as set out in the One Biosecurity report and the Australian Government's preliminary response. Interim arrangements are in place pending the development and passage of legislation that will formalise the Inspector General of Biosecurity role.
5. The Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity has advised that he has carried out the following audits and reviews:
 - a. An examination of what caused a consignment of imported raw peeled prawns that tested positive for White Spot Syndrome Virus (WSSV) to be mistakenly released into Australia by the Biosecurity Services Group (BSG).

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 248 (continued)

- b. An examination of the likelihood of imported raw peeled prawns that tested positive for White Spot Syndrome Virus (WSSV) and were mistakenly released into Australia by the Biosecurity Services Group (BSG) entering high risk pathways and of then causing WSSV to establish in Australia.
 - c. Import Health Certification for Horses Imported to Australia.
 - d. Assessment of the Biosecurity Services Group internal audit of Sandown Post-arrival Quarantine Facility.
 - e. Audit of Equine Pre-export Procedures in Singapore.
 - f. Management of quarantine waste from international vessels at Australian seaports.
 - g. Progress report of the Interim Inspector General of Horse Importation for the period January-June 2009.
 - h. Quarantine surveillance following post-arrival quarantine for specified horses after importation to Australia.
 - i. Assessment of discharge of obligations by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in relation to maintenance and update of the Australian Veterinary Emergency Response.
6. The Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity advised the department that, in his reports to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, he provides advice on whether he is agreeable to his reports being made publicly available. He advises that it is the intention for IIGB reports to be published, unless they contain a high-level of commercially sensitive information.
7. None.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2011

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 249

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Back asked:

The office of the IGB has broad-ranging powers of audit and investigation:

1. Is the prawn incident the only incident that Dr Dunn has conducted since his appointment in 2009? If not provide detail on others.
2. How was this inquiry referred to the IGB for investigation? The Minister?
3. Why was this matter referred and not an inquiry into apples; sentinel bees, Hendra outbreak, BSE?
4. Does he have a role in the Import Risk Analysis process?
5. What investigations / audits or visit has he conducted since 2009? Any airports / ports/quarantine facilities etc?

Answer:

1. The Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity has advised that the prawn incident review is the only ad-hoc incident review that he has conducted.
2. It was initiated by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry through the Department.
3. None of these matters have been referred to the Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity for review.
4. No.
5. Please refer to the response to Question on Notice 208 (CSD) from the May Budget Estimates hearing for a list of audits and reviews.
The Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity has also advised that he has undertaken the following audit and/or inspection visits or held the following meetings:

02 February 2009	PEQ* facility, County Kildare, Ireland
02 February 2009	PEQ facility, County Kildare, Ireland
03 February 2009	PEQ facility, County Tipperary, Ireland
03 February 2009	PEQ facility, County Tipperary, Ireland
06 February 2009	PEQ facility, Lower Saxony, Germany
09 February 2009	PEQ facility, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
16 March 2009	PEQ facility, California, USA
17 March 2009	PEQ facility California, USA
19 March 2009	PEQ facility, Kentucky, USA

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19 March 2009	PEQ facility, Kentucky, USA
20 March 2009	PEQ facility, Kentucky, USA
20 March 2009	PEQ facility, Kentucky, USA
23 March 2009	PEQ facility, New Jersey, USA
26 June 2009	Eastern Creek Quarantine Station, Sydney
27 June 2009	Eastern Creek Quarantine Station, Sydney
17 July 2009	Spotswood Animal Quarantine Station, Melbourne
17 November 2009	DAFF Central East Region facility, Sydney
18 November 2009	DAFF South East Region facility, Melbourne
3 December 2009	DAFF North East Region facility, Brisbane
19 May 2010	DAFF Central East Region facility, Sydney
19 May 2010	Port Botany Seaport, Sydney
19 May 2010	Garden Island, Sydney
19 May 2010	Commercial quarantine waste facility, Sydney
25 May 2010	DAFF North East Region facility, Brisbane
25 May 2010	Port of Brisbane
25 May 2010	Commercial dry-dock facility Morningside, Brisbane
25 May 2010	Commercial quarantine waste facility, Brisbane
25 May 2010	Commercial quarantine waste facility, Ebenezer, Queensland
23-24 June 2010	Agrifood and Veterinary Authority of Singapore
23-25 June 2010	2010 Singapore Turf Club quarantine facility
26 June 2010	Singapore Airport horse export facility
12 April 2011	Eastern Creek Quarantine Station
13 April 2011	DAFF Northern Region facility, Cairns
13 April 2011	Cairns international airport
13 April 2011	Cairns seaport
23 May 2011	United States Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
25 May 2011	United States Inspector-General and the Office of the Inspector General
27 May 2011	Australian High Commission, Ottawa
30 May 2011	Canadian Food Inspection Agency

* PEQ = pre export quarantine

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Question: 250 (continued)

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Back asked:

Dr Dunn was initially engaged as Inspector-General of Horse Importation:

1. Has he undertaken any visits to horse quarantine facilities since his appointment?
2. Has he visited Eastern Creek or Spotswood prior to its temporary closure to assess the facilities as per the recommendations of the Callinan Review? If so, provide details and copies of reports (to the Minister?)
3. The government has committed funding has said that in this Budget it has allocated \$19.1 million for “Future Post Entry Quarantine Arrangements – initial work” - \$13.7 million of which go towards urgent capital work at existing facilities. Will the IGB be involved assessing what work needs to be done at existing facilities?
4. Will he be involved in the identification of the new post entry quarantine facility or in assessing its suitability?

Answer:

1. Yes.
2. Yes. Copy of report attached. Details of the visits are provided below.
 - a. Spotswood
 - 02/10/2008 - Inspected horse facilities.
 - 14/11/2008 - Undertook audit of horse facilities and operations.
 - 08/12/2008 - Undertook audit operations involving horse shipment arrival.
 - 17/07/2009 - Undertook audit of imported horse health certification.
 - b. Eastern Creek
 - 25/09/2008 - Inspected horse facilities.
 - 10/12/2008 - Undertook audit of horse facilities and operations.
 - 26/06/2009 - Undertook audit of imported horse health certification.
 - 27/06/2009 - Audit operations involving imported horse shipment arrival.
 - 12/04/2011 - Inspected shower-out renovations of horse facilities.
3. No.
4. No.

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Question: 251

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Back asked:

Provide the following information on the appointment and role of the Interim Inspector-General of Biosecurity:

1. Dr Dunn is overseas at present – is it a matter of official business?
2. If yes, what is the purpose of his trip?
3. Is Dr Dunn’s role and responsibilities consistent with the recommendations of the Beale Review and the Callinan Inquiry? Job description?
4. What is the IGB’s salary?
5. Has it remained the same since his appointment in 2009?
6. How many people work in the “Office of the Interim-Inspector of Biosecurity”?
7. If it is not independently resourced – what resources are provided by the Department? (Details of number of staff and responsibilities)
8. Where are expenses relating to the IGB provided for in the Budget
9. Provide detailed breakdown of actual budget since 2009 to 2011 and forward estimates.
10. Will this expense continue to be incorporated within the DAFF Budget? If not, where?
11. When will legislation be introduced to establish the statutory office of the ‘Inspector-General’?
12. Who will be asked to comment on the exposure draft?

Answer:

1. Yes.
2. The Interim Inspector General of Biosecurity on his May visit to the United States and Canada advised that he:
 - received firsthand briefings on the United States of America (US) and Canadian systems for quarantine and biosecurity audit and review activities
 - gained an understanding of these agencies’ views on key issues, challenges and risks for biosecurity and quarantine, with an emphasis on risk management verification systems
 - developed an understanding of how the US Office of the Inspector-General and other agencies establish and prioritise their biosecurity and quarantine audit and review activities, to cover the range of systems and measures in place
 - compared and contrasted the US Inspector-General role, with the Australian IIGB role, in respect to biosecurity and quarantine issues.

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3. Yes. Dr Dunn's role is to provide independent assurance, through audit and review, of the performance and appropriateness of the biosecurity systems and risk management measures that are the responsibility of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
4. \$1 100 per day (based on a minimum of 75 days and a maximum of 150 days) plus superannuation contributions.
5. The daily rate of remuneration has remained the same but the number of days has varied.
6. 2.5 FTE currently work within the DAFF Biosecurity Secretariat in Canberra.
7. 4 FTE are budgeted for the DAFF Biosecurity Secretariat in Canberra comprising 1 x EL2 Manager, 1 x EL1 Auditor, 2 x APS6 support staff.
8. The expenses relating to the IIGB are funded from the departmental funding for Outcome 2. The estimates of total departmental expenses for Outcome 2 are shown in the Portfolio Budget Statements 2011-12, at page 64.
9. The budget figures and forward estimates are shown in the following table.

	Budget
	\$ 471
2009–2010	163
	\$ 685
2010–2011	631
	\$ 783
2011–2012	179
	\$ 801
2012–2013	227
	\$ 819
2013–2014	872

10. Yes.
11. The statutory office of the Inspector-General of Biosecurity is proposed to be established in the new biosecurity legislation. The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry indicated in his post-budget breakfast speech on 12 May 2011 that 'the Government will release an exposure draft on this legislation for consultation later this year'.
12. The Exposure Draft will be available to all members of the public for comment during a consultation. In developing the Exposure Draft, the department is

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already consulting with a range of Australian Government and industry stakeholders on issues related to the proposed reforms.

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Question: 252

Division/Agency: CSD-Corporate Services Division

Topic: Staff during disaster relief

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Back asked:

1. Were any Biosecurity staff reallocated to other departments to assist with disaster relief – if so, how many and where to?
2. Have all reallocated staff returned to DAFF? If not, how many?
3. Were staffing expenses also reallocated against the corresponding department?

Answer:

1. No.
2. N/A.
3. N/A.

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Question: 253

Division/Agency: CSD – Corporate Services Division

Topic: National efficiency dividend

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

Do you have any estimate or sense of what the impact of the co-ordinated procurement savings will be with the Agricultural Productivity Division?

Answer:

Coordinated procurement is a whole of government initiative that is being implemented and managed by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (Finance). Potential savings to Agriculture Productivity Division will not be known until the procurement arrangements are finalised.