

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates 2012-2013, Monday 11 February 2013

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Portfolio

Senate Reference No.	Program/ Division or Agency	Senator	Broad topic	Question	Proof Hansard page & hearing date or Written Q	Date rec'd	Date tabled
01	Agricultural Productivity Division	Colbeck	Agricultural Finance Forum Meeting	<p>Senator COLBECK: I have one final question and I do not know whether it applies here, but it is related. Has there been a meeting of the Agricultural Finance Forum in recent times?</p> <p>Ms Freeman: There is one scheduled for June. Let me just take that on notice as it might be even sooner. I just do not know it off the top of my head, but there was certainly one where the minister met with them.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: We have got one scheduled shortly. I do not have a date in my head either. We wanted to have them regularly, so we had one last year and we will have another one shortly. We also had an opportunity of sitting down with the Treasurer at a financial forum that he had convened as well, so I participated in that. In particular, there were representatives from right across Queensland. There was dairy, there was Growcom. There was a range of financial institutions also available there. It is one of those areas that I continue to keep on my radar.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: I did see some reporting on that.</p> <p>Ms Freeman: Mr colleague Mr Koval from the ag productivity division will be able to answer that question when the next finance forum is scheduled.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Let us put him on notice. If you could give us a schedule of what has happened over the last couple of years.</p> <p>Ms Freeman: Certainly.</p>	032-33		
02	Agricultural Productivity	Ruston	IAC Appointments	<p>Senator RUSTON: Is AgriExchange a member of Citrus Australia?</p> <p>Mr Koval: I am not aware. I can take that on notice and find out.</p>	106		

	Division						
03	Agricultural Productivity Division	Ruston	IAC Appointments	<p>Senator RUSTON: Okay. Could you put on record for me when the new IAC was appointed and can we also have the date of Ms Barkley's resignation? I believe you will find that they are totally in conflict to the answer that you gave me to a question on notice.</p>	106		
04	Agricultural Productivity Division	Joyce	Agricultural Water Use	<p>Senator JOYCE: ...How much water is used by agriculture in Australia? Do you have any figure for how much water agriculture uses and the proportion of the water it uses? I have a rough idea it is around 52 per cent.</p> <p>Mr Morris: I am sure that number is around, but I do not have it with me here. We will have to take that on notice.</p>	109-110		
05	Agricultural Productivity Division	Joyce	Allocation of Water	<p>Senator JOYCE: Do you know how much is allocated to the northern systems?</p> <p>Mr Morris: Again, we would have that information, but I am not sure I have it at hand here. It will take me a few minutes to find it if it is in one of our publications. Again, we can take that on notice if you want.</p>	110		
06	Agricultural Productivity Division	Heffernan	Plant Gene Patents	<p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Does the department, in forward planning for productivity, understand that one of the great restrictions on future productivity for agriculture will be the patenting of plant genes?</p> <p>Mr Tucker: Yes.</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: So what are you doing to support the cause of doing something about the broad interpretation of patent law which includes the discoverable material as opposed to the inventive work? I have not heard a squeak out of you. Could you tell me where you are up to with presenting the case which is in the courts in the US and Australia now, on absolutely doing away with one of the great restrictions which will absolutely cause a serious monopoly on seed supply across the world if we continue to allow companies like Monsanto and Syngenta and others to patent what is discoverable material? If you do not know anything about it just say so and we will deal with it somewhere else.</p>	112		

				<p>Mr Koval: Plant genetic resources, I know, are a topic of much interest but I am not aware of us being engaged in debate—</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: You have not got your head across it? It does not matter.</p> <p>Mr Koval: I think IP Australia might be the people but we can take it on notice.</p>			
07	Agricultural Productivity Division	Heffernan	Availability of Farmable Land and Soil Types	<p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Can I tell you that, like the funded report on who owns what in Australia, it is completely flawed. I must do this. The Ord has the capacity to get rid of the lead mine and use the rising soils, which they have not used yet, for about 80,000 hectares. There is a similar amount of soil and soil types around the conjunction of the Fitzroy River and the Margaret River. If you are prepared to do what Carnarvon and places like that have done and use fertigation on the lighter soils—some of my farmland was considered not farmable. You put lime on it and you bring it up to standard. You get the pH back up. It is just a matter of treating the soil. CSIRO was flawed in this, so can you go away and take on notice to find out what soils were considered by CSIRO to be suitable soils and report back to this committee?</p> <p>Mr Morris: We can certainly ask CSIRO the question and provide any information they can provide to the committee.</p>	113		
08	Agricultural Productivity Division	Nash	Regional Food Producers Innovation and Productivity Program	<p>Senator NASH: It is a little 'chicken and the egg', though, isn't it? You are saying the funding got redirected because you did not have enough applicants but you did not actually get to distributing the funding because you did not get enough applicants and the money was gone.</p> <p>Mr Koval: Certainly, when you put it like that, it is 'chicken and egg' in the sense of what is the optimum number. I will have to go back and look at what we initially costed the program on in terms of what projects we initially thought—</p> <p>Senator NASH: Okay, if you could do that for me—</p> <p>Mr Koval: I do not have that off the top of my head.</p> <p>Senator NASH: If you could do that for me, that would be great, because I am genuinely interested in getting a sense. Obviously we had a number of expressions of interest: in round 1 there were 54 applications and in round 2 50. So I just want to know how far that</p>	114-115		

			<p>is off your estimated ballpark of what a good number would be. I will move to the time line and figures that you have provided for me, which are extremely useful; thank you very much. The first round was launched on 18 December. Three million dollars of the \$35 million went to the Promoting Australian Produce (Major Events) program on 5 December, which is almost two weeks before the first round was launched. Why was that? Why was money redirected before you had even launched the first round, given that you said that the redirection was as a result of the low numbers?</p> <p>Mr Koval: I think that at the time the decision was made there was a lot of interest in other ways of promoting agriculture and agricultural food, and major events are one such proposal. I am not aware of the discussions at the time I was there. I am certainly willing to go back, have a look at the files and see what the conversations were around that.</p> <p>Senator NASH: Okay. Could you do that for me and take it on notice insofar as you can provide it for the committee, because it seems extraordinary that before you had even started money was being siphoned out of here. We then went through the process. We had 53 applications reviewed. On 24 July 15 grants were approved. That is all fine. I think round 2 was launched on 1 April 2009. There were a significant number of expressions of interest—around 160. Forty-two applications were reviewed by the advisory panel, and obviously 31 grants were approved all up. During that period of time, though—between when the rounds were launched and the final approval of the final 16 grants—there was \$4.3 million shunted off to other things. One was uncommitted funds returned to government before we even got to the approval of any of the grants. Is it usual to have uncommitted funds when you have not even finished the process?</p> <p>Mr Koval: I think it would have been the case at the time—and again I will have to go and look in a bit more detail at the process—that we would have had a rough idea of what the ask was and what potential money was there, and we would have done a reconciliation of all that.</p> <p>Senator NASH: I do recognise that you might not necessarily have all this at the top of your mind, so I would appreciate it if you would take it on notice, but that \$3 million of uncommitted funds was</p>			
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				<p>before the 160 expressions of interest were even received for the second round, so the second round process really had not even started. It just seems a bit extraordinary that there are uncommitted funds when the second round had not even started.</p> <p>Mr Tucker: Mr Koval said he will have to go back and look at the records, but there might be a sense of terminology here. For example, even though we talked earlier about the Caring for our Country program for the out years and that amount of money has been announced, technically that is also regarded as uncommitted money even though it is associated with the program. So we will go back and look, but the language we are using might also be confusing it slightly.</p>			
09	Agricultural Productivity Division	Nash	Regional Food Producers Innovation and Productivity Program	<p>Senator NASH: Okay. That would be great. If you could take that on notice and provide some more detail, that would be very useful. Sixteen second round grants were approved in February-March 2010. At the last estimates we had a discussion about the finalisation of the funds being \$8.5 million. Why wasn't there another round, given that that was February-March 2010, which is nearly three years ago, and we have only just come to the end of the funding being distributed? On 13 April 2010 there was around \$800,000 to other administered activities, 30 June 2010 to the end of the financial year over \$1 million of uncommitted funds were returned to the government, in financial year 2010-11 \$4.5 million was for other programs and initiatives and another \$300,000 of uncommitted funds was returned to government and in 2011-12 \$7.9 million was for other initiatives and \$4.481 million of uncommitted funds was returned to government. Throughout that period from 13 April 2010 there was not ever another round launched. Why not?</p> <p>Mr Koval: It was a decision of the government at the time not to do another round and to redirect the funds to other priorities.</p> <p>Senator NASH: Why?</p> <p>Mr Koval: I will have to go back and have a look. As I said, I was not around at the time, so I will have to go back and look at the files.</p> <p>Senator NASH: Could you take that on notice for me? That is really quite extraordinary. I do not often say that there are worthwhile things coming out of this government but this one—</p>	115		

10	Agricultural Productivity Division	Nash	Regional Food Producers Innovation and Productivity Program	<p>Senator NASH: I do. Thank you very much, Chair. I would like to thank the department for their extraordinarily good cooperation and their willingness to take on notice for me the questions I have put so far on notice. Perhaps the officers might also take on notice to give me an indication of why, from February-March 2010, there was not another round launched. I could be wrong, Mr Tucker, but I think you suggested that you may be able to go back and find out if there was an explanation for that. It would be very much appreciated if you could do that.</p> <p>Mr Tucker: We will do that. The circumstances are that none of us here were around at that time on that program, so we will have to check the records.</p> <p>Senator NASH: As I said last time, Minister, if everybody sitting on that side of the table used that with us we would be here for seven years getting not very much. Could you use your best endeavours to do that for us?</p> <p>Mr Tucker: We will do our best.</p> <p>Mr Metcalfe: We will take it on notice.</p>	116		
11	Agricultural Productivity Division	Gallacher	CSIRO Research and Development in Agriculture	<p>Senator GALLACHER: Is the taxpayers' investment in CSIRO research and development in relation to agriculture measured in terms of agricultural productivity and, if so, what is that figure? I am happy if you want to take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Koval: Agricultural productivity in terms of projects they are actually investing in?</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Research and development in agriculture: is it measured in terms of an increase in agricultural productivity?</p> <p>Mr Koval: I will take that on notice and ask the CSIRO.</p>	116		
12	Agricultural Productivity Division	Edwards	Families from Wyong 'trade mission' to China and Hong Kong	<p>Senator EDWARDS: Have you heard of the first families of Wyong—12 family companies owned through the generations? They packed themselves up and went on a trade mission to China and Hong Kong. Did you have any involvement in that or provide any assistance, financial or otherwise, to that trade mission?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Not to our knowledge, but we can check that for you.</p>	125		
13	Agricultural Productivity	Williams	The PIERD Act & Introduction of	Will you advise how soon the PIERD Act can be amended to give prawn producers and other seafood sectors the ability to raise levies	Written		

	Division		Prawn Levies.	for promotion and marketing? What process is required?			
14	Agricultural Productivity Division	Williams	Country of Origin Labelling on Cooked Seafood in Outlets, Restaurants and Cafés	As you are aware, all imported seafood sold in the Northern Territory must be labelled with its country of origin, including cooked seafood sold for immediate consumption in restaurants and take-aways, but restaurants and take-aways in other jurisdictions are not required to display the country of origin of seafood in their cooked meals.	Written		
15	Agricultural Productivity Division	Williams	Country of Origin Labelling on Cooked Seafood in Outlets, Restaurants and Cafés	I refer to the submission to the Australian Government from May 2010 by the seafood industry peak body, the National Seafood Industry Alliance, entitled “Review of Food Labelling Law and Policy”. In which the Alliance requested that the existing country of origin labelling be extended to apply also to seafood in the restaurant and food service sector. Have you taken any action in response to this request?	Written		
16	Agricultural Productivity Division	Williams	Country of Origin Labelling on Cooked Seafood in Outlets, Restaurants and Cafés	Given the widespread industry view that labelling of country of origin on seafood sold in restaurants and take-aways would significantly boost sales of Australian seafood, will you initiate action to make such labelling mandatory throughout Australia?	Written		
17	Agricultural Productivity Division	Ruston	Citrus IAC and HAL Governance	Is DAFF concerned that “strategic partnerships or alliances” between commercial entities and Peak Industry Bodies such as AUSVEG will distort priority setting through the strategic planning and IAC process? Is DAFF concerned that such alliances might create a conflict of interest when IAC’s are mostly comprised of peak industry body representatives who recommend funding to HAL?	Written		
18	Agricultural Productivity Division	Ruston	Citrus IAC and HAL Governance	How does HAL ensures citrus projects approved for funding have been scientifically peer reviewed to ensure quality research is delivered?	Written		
19	Agricultural Productivity	Ruston	Citrus IAC and HAL Governance	Is the review done by independent scientists or technicians with expertise in citrus research?	Written		

	Division						
20	Agricultural Productivity Division	Ruston	Citrus IAC and HAL Governance	Where does the advice to the HAL Citrus IAC (independent of CA), come from in regard to the quality of grant applications? How have those individuals who provide technical advice to the IAC been selected and what are their qualifications / experience in relation to citrus?	Written		
21	Agricultural Productivity Division	Ruston	Citrus IAC and HAL Governance	What are the guidelines under which they operate?	Written		
22	Agricultural Productivity Division	Ruston	Citrus IAC and HAL Governance	What is the role if any of the National Horticulture Research Network (NHRN) in assisting in the development and scrutiny of project proposals?	Written		
23	Agricultural Productivity Division	Ruston	Citrus IAC and HAL Governance	Does the Deed of Agreement with HAL require that all citrus project applications submitted to HAL for funding approval are provided to the entire HAL Citrus IAC for consideration and if not what are the circumstances they would not go to the IAC? Is DAFF aware of industry concerns about the level of reporting and transparency related to HAL grants?	Written		
24	Agricultural Productivity Division	Ruston	Citrus IAC and HAL Governance	Does the Deed of Agreement require for stakeholders to have access to timely details on funding of individual projects, up to date milestone and final reports via the HAL website.	Written		
25	Agricultural Productivity Division	Ruston	Citrus IAC and HAL Governance	Is HAL subject to the same Freedom of Information (FOI) provisions applied to other RDC's and if not why not?	Written		
26	Agricultural Productivity Division	Colbeck	Food Policy Working Group	When did the Food Policy Working Group decrease from 12 to 6 people and what was the rationale for the decrease in membership? Are Janine Allis, Jeff Lawrence, Jock Laurie, Nick Stace and Peter Williams still members?	Written		

27	Agricultural Productivity Division	Colbeck	Horticulture: Review of the Export Efficiency Powers	<p>Has the ACCC approved the new Citrus to US Marketing Program?</p> <p>How will the minimum price paid for citrus to the US market be determined and what has been the response of the US to this?</p> <p>What has the feedback from smaller citrus producers been to the changes to the export efficiency powers?</p> <p>Has the Government communicated its decision to the smaller citrus producers and the citrus industry in general?</p> <p>What is the estimated transitional cost to the citrus industry?</p>	Written		
28	Agricultural Productivity Division	Colbeck	Australian Farmer of the Year	<p>Is the final report by Australian Farmer of the Year Ltd available?</p> <p>If so, please provide copy.</p> <p>If not, please advise when it is expected to be available.</p> <p>What were the key outcomes?</p> <p>Were all states and territories included in the National Roadshow?</p> <p>Is the Department considering be more specific regarding the number and geographic spread of the events in the funding deeds in future?</p> <p>The recently announced increases in enrolments in agricultural education are positive, what plans does DAFF have to continue to support initiatives that keep increasing the profile of agriculture?</p>	Written		
29	Agricultural Productivity Division	Colbeck	Food Bowl	<p>What is the status of the National Food Plan White Paper?</p> <p>What consideration and strategies does the Food Plan include to assist primary producers survive in the short term when we have organisations such as Dairy Australia anticipating a 10% drop in farm gate milk prices?</p>	Written		

30	Agricultural Productivity Division	Edwards	Agriculture Smart Phone Application	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the Department aware of a new smartphone application (app) that has been launched by McDonald's to highlight the agricultural supply chain? (called TrackMyMaccas) 2. Has the Department considered funding or supporting this app or a similar app as a way to promote Australian grown produce and agricultural products? 3. At a time when Australian consumers are saying they want more Australian grown produce and want to know more about the provenance of their produce, wouldn't it be a good time for the department to at least facilitate the take up of an app like this more broadly? 	Written		
31	Agricultural Productivity Division	Edwards	Trade Mission to China	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the Department aware of the trade mission to China and Hong Kong that some of Australia's oldest family-owned wine companies to promote their wineries and regions? (companies include Brown Brothers, Henschke, Yalumba, De Bortoli and Tyrrell's) 2. Is the Department providing any assistance? 3. What is the Department doing to help close the gap where the wine industry is left standing along in doing their own promotion through their own initiatives? 	Written		
32	Agricultural Productivity Division	Edwards	Barossa Wine School in Asia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is Wine Australia aware of the new Barossa Wine School in Asia? 2. What assistance, if any has Wine Australia provided for this Wine School that will help promoted the wine region? 3. What is the Department doing to help close the gap where the wine industry is left standing along in doing their own promotion through their own initiatives? 	Written		
33	Agricultural Productivity Division	Edwards	AWRI RCE&C	<p>In light of AWRI preparing a new research, development extension and commercialisation (RCE&C) Pan for July 2012 – June 2018 can the following questions please be answered.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When will the plan commence? 2. In what ways is the plan an improvement on the previous plan? 3. What industry if any, stakeholders have been consulted with regards to the new plan? 	Written		

34	Agricultural Productivity Division/Australian Egg Corporation Limited	Rhiannon	Members of the Hen Welfare Forum	<p>Senator RHIANNON: So that is the Hen Welfare Forum, is it?</p> <p>Mr Kellaway: That is correct.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Is it on your website or can you provide who is on that and their positions?</p> <p>Mr Kellaway: We can provide who is on that, yes, thank you.</p>	103		
35	Agricultural Productivity Division/Australian Egg Corporation Limited	Rhiannon	Survey of Egg Producers	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Considering that you have undertaken this survey and your job is to work with the different levels of the industry, why was it an anonymous survey? Why don't you survey everybody?</p> <p>Mr Kellaway: We did survey everyone, but not everyone responded.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Why did you choose for it to be anonymous?</p> <p>Mr Kellaway: Because we thought that would be the best way to get the biggest survey return from that questionnaire that we sent out?</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: How big was the return?</p> <p>Mr Kellaway: I would have to take that question on notice.</p>	103		
36	Agricultural Productivity Division/Australian Egg Corporation Limited	Rhiannon	CTM 'free range' Application	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In its CTM "free range" application to the ACCC last year, the AECL proposed that a stocking density of 20,000 birds per hectare of outdoor area constitutes "free range" production. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What government funding was spent on the any activities that informed or supported this failed CTM application, including research and development? 2. The AECL's website states it represents approximately 400 commercial egg producers. How many of those producers run free-range production systems that would meet consumer expectations of 1,500 birds per hectare of outdoor area – along with other accepted free-range conditions such as no beak mutilation? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What level of support does AECL provide for such producers? Please give details. b. What processes and procedures does the AECL have to ensure smaller free-range producers' concerns and input is represented in the AECL? 	Written		

				<p>c. Do such producers have any say in the research and development carried out by the RIRDC for example, or the AECL, in regards to free-range egg production systems? What sort of such input has been given and incorporated into any R&D that has received any public funding?</p> <p>3. Have there been any concerns expressed to the AECL about its lack of support for smaller “true” free-range egg producers? What are the details please?</p> <p>4. The ACCC is currently investigating a complaint about Coles and Woolworth’s labelling of intensively stocked eggs as ‘free range’:</p> <p>a. Please provide any details the AECL knows about this complaint?</p> <p>b. How many of AECL member/producers provide Coles and Woolworths home brand free range eggs?</p> <p>5. At what hen densities are those egg production systems run?</p>			
37	Agricultural Productivity Division/Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	Colbeck	Environmental Assessment Costs	<p>Senator COLBECK: So, under the arrangement that you have with SEWPaC, a level 1 environmental assessment costs \$12,605, a level 2 environmental assessment costs \$3,255 and a level 3 environmental assessment costs \$620?</p> <p>Mr Matthew: I would like to check if those figures have moved on but essentially they were the figures that we spoke about in October last year. If the agency accepts the work order to do that work—in this case, environmental level 1—the expectation is the work will be done and we will provide them the value as stipulated in the table.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: But you need to confirm on notice?</p> <p>Mr Matthew: I would like to take on notice if we have in fact revised any of those fees since July 2010. There were negotiations underway late last year to revise fees to take account of current costs. But I might add that, if there is a considerable amount of additional work and we cannot agree that it fits one of the predetermined levels, then work orders can be constructed that relate back to the hourly rate.</p>	066		
38	Agricultural Productivity Division/Aus	Colbeck	Operating Costs	<p>Senator COLBECK: Okay, so can you give me an idea of what three months of operating costs sits at?</p> <p>Mr de la Fosse: The three months operating financial reserve is \$7</p>	067		

	tralian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority			<p>million.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: If you go back to page 198, could you confirm the numbers in the 2010 to current day column as to their currency. I suppose the other question around that is: is there some form of rise, fall or adjustment process that is part of that agreement? The DoHA one, for example, I think according to the information I have is the 2010-16 agreement—so it is over a period of time. It would be reasonable to expect that there might be some adjustment clauses within that particular section.</p> <p>Mr Matthew: I will try and get that correction within the session now.</p>			
39	Agricultural Productivity Division/Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	Colbeck	Number of Environmental Assessment Charges	<p>Senator COLBECK: But if they come up against a big job that does not fit within the parameters of the agreement you have in place then there is capacity for them to say 'sorry we cannot do that for the fee in that particular category. We need to do it on an hourly basis' or some other form of agreed process?</p> <p>Mr Matthew: Yes because if they do not accept to undertake the work order that we offer them, there can be a process of discussion to see if it would more neatly fit under professional services or some other mechanism.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: How often would that happen?</p> <p>Mr Matthew: I am not sure of the number of times that has happened in recent times but it does happen from time to time. I might have to take that on notice.</p>	067		
40	Agricultural Productivity Division/Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	Edwards	Research on Pesticide Spray Drift	<p>Senator EDWARDS: The decision to implement mandatory buffer zones on pesticide levels—has any work been done to assess whether that has been helpful in reducing spray-drift issues?</p> <p>Mr Koval: There is a group on spray drift, and APVMA looked at a couple of chemicals in the products around. They are looking at the effectiveness of them. I am not aware of any research done on that, but I am willing to take it on notice and have a look—</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: Yes, if you would not mind. It is a bit of an issue.</p>	068		
41	Agricultural Productivity	Di Natale	Antibiotics Report	Has the Authority completed the ‘Quantity of Antimicrobial Products Sold for Veterinary Use in Australia’ antibiotics report?	Written		

	Division/Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority			What is the status of this Report and when is it due to be released publicly?			
42	Agricultural Productivity Division/Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	Back	Banning of Fenthion; Change of Label Directions and Reduced MRL.	<p>1. In recent years, the APVMA lifted the MRL on fenthion from 2mg/kg to 5mg/kg.</p> <p>The MRL has now been set at the level at 0.2 mg/kg.</p> <p>In response to questions as to why the acceptable level has been decreased so dramatically, APVMA advised that the 5mg/kg MRL referred to long term dietary exposure to fenthion.</p> <p>Did the APVMA conduct reviews on both long term and short term exposures at the same time? If not, why not?</p> <p>2. If APVMA only reviewed long term exposure and failed to consider short term exposure, has APVMA potentially put young children in harm's way?</p> <p>3. If the APVMA ruled that 5mg/kg was a safe MRL, why did the APVMA see the need to make such drastic cuts in the new MRL of 0.2mg/kg?</p>	Written		
43	Agricultural Productivity Division/Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	Back	Registration of AgVet Chemicals.	<p>1. How exactly does the current APVMA registration process contribute to the risk-based national framework for managing the use of AgVet Chemicals promoted by the PSIC, particularly in terms of its cost-effectiveness and utilisation of government and corporate resources?</p> <p>2. Approach to risk:</p> <p>a. To what extent are specific risks being identified, prioritised and appropriately managed in the registration process, OR is risk avoidance currently defaulting to a bastardised form of the</p>	Written		

				<p>precautionary principle which requires registration applicants to substantiate the absence of risk even when significant hazards or adverse outcomes are unlikely, or can be reasonably expected to be negligible?</p> <p>3. Robustness of responding to registration applications:</p> <p>a. To what extent does the current review process and advice to, or requirements of, registrants (particularly of failed applications) inform and contribute to appropriate identification and management of risk, OR</p> <p>b. Is there a failure within the agency to properly identify and communicate the significant risks related to a particular product application, OR (as an extension of that)</p> <p>c. Despite the time taken for an application to be considered, why is there not some advice routinely supplied to an applicant which would enable them to address particular issues of risk, including for products which are approved.</p> <p>4. To what extent does the inflexibility of (the application of) MORAG and other parts of the registration system inhibit the registration of innovative, low-risk products or changed label directions which would enhance animal health and welfare in Australia?</p> <p>5. To what extent does the difficulty of registering veterinary chemicals in Australia, particularly those known to be effective and widely used elsewhere, contribute to risk by encouraging inappropriate and illegal off-label use of both registered and unregistered chemicals (such as Ag versions of the active) and/or the continued use of already registered but less effective or higher risk alternatives?</p>			
44	Agricultural Productivity Division/Australian Pesticides and	Williams	Support for Goat Industry	Although the goat industry pays levies to MLA, Animal Health Australia and the National Residue Survey, it is deemed too small for investment in animal health products. The industry exports 30,000 tonnes of goat meat annually, and exports 85,000 goats. The industry is crying out for investment, so what can the APVMA do to aid the industry, what guidance can it give, and can it work with the	Written		

	Veterinary Medicines Authority			industry and Australian Veterinary Association to administer chemicals through minor use permits?			
45	Agricultural Productivity Division/Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	Di Natale	Cephalosporins	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are any cephalosporins being used now in animals? Either food animals or companion animals? If so what are they? Has there been a change in categorising of drugs as 3rd or 4th generation at any time during the past 5 years? If so please provide details as to what these changes were and why the change was made. 2. What is the difference in terms of risk to human medicine between the various generations of cephalosporins? 	Written		
46	Agricultural Productivity Division/Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	Heffernan	Chemicals	<p>In response to the APVMA Answers to the October 2012 Senate Estimates Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When does a mixture or concoction of chemicals become a Chemical Product that requires APVMA Approvals and Registrations? 2. If a Tank Mixture has been given a name and has its very own MSDS identifying the constituents of the product and defining it a risk assessment rating such as a Poison Schedule, such as Gloricide; when does that Formula become recognised as an Agricultural Chemical Product under Australian Law? 3. If as you claim that a range of herbicides on Permit 11463 can be mixed together as a new formula/product and used under that Permit, at what point do you draw the line? Is it acceptable to allow the rest of Australia to operate under the Permit System and create random super poisonous concoctions that can be used without restraint, due to the lack of conditions the APVMA has imposed on specific Product Labels/Permits and the culture of advice the APVMA provides Industry, Local Government, State Governments, Budget Senate Estimate Committee's etc 4. Is it true that if a private company wanted to develop a new product such as Gloricide and commercialise its use under a trade name and individualised MSDS, it could bypass APVMA Product Registration Fees, Permit System, Product Testing 	Written		

				<p>Requirements, WH&S, Environmental Duty of Care?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Would it be fair for a Private Company to develop a new Chemical Formula/Product that depends on operators mixing up S5 and S6 products and inform the workers in the MSDS that they are using a 'Non-Hazardous Product' and because it is diluted it is safe to use and does not warrant any protective equipment, even with estrogen mimicking substances such as 2,4-D and Gloricide? 6. Is the APVMA aware of the WH&S Rating of Gloricide established in the MSDS for the product and do you agree that workers are fully informed of the dangers to themselves, the Community and the Environment? 7. Does the APVMA think it appropriate that they have allowed Products such as 2,4-D and Metsulfuron methyl to be re-registered and Labels re-approved by the APVMA in return for money, if the product MSDS/Label does not contain one empirical direction as to where you can use the products? 8. The APVMA is more than aware of the risks of using Gloricide, 2,4-D and Metsulfuron methyl, as per the restrictions on Permit 10540. Why has the APVMA not provided one direction on Amicide or Metsulfuron Labels that regulates the risks the APVMA has established, surely a minimum setback distance is necessary or some empirical guidance or restrictions? 9. The APVMA claim in Response to the October Questions, that the UNEP is not responsible for implementing the Rotterdam Convention due to Australia not being a signatory to the Enforcement component of the Convention, who is responsible for Australia's Compliance with the Rotterdam Convention and is this a priority? 10. Is it true that 2,4-D product can be used as precursor products for 2,4,5-T aka Agent Orange, under variable conditions and the mixing of perhaps hundreds of different chemicals never tested in combination with earth other? 11. Is it true that Gloricide, 2,4-D and Metsulfuron methyl are being used in and around Aquatic Areas, as defined by Schedule 3A, Part 3, Ag Vet Chemical Code Regs 1995 by the SCRC and private contractors for hire? 12. Is it true that Gloricide, 2,4-D and Metsulfuron methyl are being 			
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				<p>used in and around Critical Habitat for Endangered Acid Frogs etc by the SCRC?</p> <p>13. How much area of land has been treated with Gloricide and how many times per year are Gloricide, 2,4-D and Metsulfuron methyl being applied to these sandy soils and wetlands?</p> <p>14. Is it true that Gloricide, 2,4-D and Metsulfuron methyl are being used right up to the edge of the vegetation on the coastal foredune and up to and over the edge of Coastal Steams as per the Utube Videos on the 'dontpoisonmeplease' channel?</p> <p>15. In this situation; Coastal Foreshores, Wetlands, Sandy Soils, Endangered Acid Frogs, high rainfall, perched water tables, what setbacks should the APVMA require for each of the Products to meet their respective Label Conditions?</p> <p>16. The products Gloricide, 2,4-D and Metsulfuron methyl are claiming by SCRC, Queensland Government, OCO to be using within the Label and Permit Instructions. Does the APVMA CEO agree that the Gloricide Program is fully compliant with relevant Australian Laws including Chemical Regulation, WH&S, Environmental Protection etc?</p> <p>17. Considering the presence of perhaps some of the most sensitive Endangered Species on our planet, Acid Frogs; did the APVMA consider this when you approved the Gloricide program to continue in May Budget Senate Estimates and in correspondence to a wide range of organisations and Regulators?</p> <p>18. It is the case that the Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman, Office of the Queensland Ombudsman, Queensland Crime and Misconduct Commission, etc have refused to undertake an investigation into the very serious allegations levelled at the APVMA regarding the use of Unregistered Agricultural Chemical Products and using Registered Agricultural Chemical Products against their Label and Permit Advice?</p> <p>19. Is it true that the APVMA CEO has refused to provide a Statement of Reasons to Adam Presnell, Director of ATP Environmental pty ltd, regarding the CEO's decision to allow Gloricide to continue illegally, thus benefit corrupt contractors prepared to risk the lives of their staff on deliberate misinformation? If so can you justify why the APVMA is</p>			
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				<p>refusing to clarify and demonstrate the decision of the APVMA CEO to allow Gloricide to continue despite not using a Registered Chemical Product, despite all constituent product not registered for use in or around Aquatic Areas, despite the explicit Permit Conditions regarding use in and around Aquatic Areas, despite the application of multiple, selective hormonal herbicide concoctions to Endangered Acid Frogs etc?</p> <p>20. Is it true that Formal Complaints concerning the conduct of the CEO of the APVMA, regarding the provision of deliberately False and Misleading Information etc, were lodged with DAFF, Minister Ludwig and the PM? The Minister and the PM have failed to investigate and respond to the matter as have the OCO. Has the APVMA and the Gillard Government undertaken due legal process to concerns raised by Adam Presnell if no one is or has investigating the matter independently at a Local, State or Federal Level?</p> <p>21. Being that the responsible Ministers have failed in their duties to investigate a CEO of a Chief Government Regulator and considering the \$500 000 price tag of a prosecution against the APVMA by a small private company that has been sent broke because they refused to use these products illegally; is it appropriate the complaint be openly and transparently examined and for various decisions by the APVMA CEO to be explained both to the Parliament, the Queensland Government and to the Complainant?</p> <p>22. Is it true the Federal Government is claiming it is a State Issue and the State Government is calling it a Federal Issue and Local Government Issue and that not one investigation by an independent authority has being undertaken?</p> <p>23. If the APVMA is the regulator of Chemical in Australia, is it proper that the APVMA at least attempt to regulate the control and use of Chemicals in Australia by providing more honest information in the Labels and MSDS with some empirical data?</p> <p>24. South Australian EDO Solicitor Ms Ballantyne claims: “There is currently a 100m buffer zone for all 2,4-D products, whereby a buffer zone of 100 metres must be maintained between field edges and downwind water bodies and native vegetation. Is this buffer zone applicable to South Australia or all of Australia?”</p>			
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				<p>Can you confirm or deny this claim, do you know who prepared this regulation/policy and when?</p> <p>25. Did the APVMA mislead the Parliament in October when you claimed their are no standards on the Label thus none exist</p> <p>26. If the APVMA was aware the Gloricide, 2,4-D and Metsulfuron methyl are being used contrary to the Permit Conditions, why has the APVMA condoned and defended this highly risky research without a valid Permit?</p> <p>27. The Manufactures of Amicide and Brushhoff claim that their Products are not registered or approved for use in or around aquatic areas with very serious disclosures including: Amicide: PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE, FISH, CRUSTACEA AND ENVIRONMENT: DO NOT contaminate streams, rivers or waterways with the chemical or used container. Brushhoff: Toxic to aquatic organisms may cause long term effects in the aquatic environment. Does it claim anywhere on Permit 11463 that either 2,4-D or Metsulfuron methyl can be used in and/or around Permit Areas?</p> <p>28. Is it true that the SCRC, BQ, WH&SQ, DERM, OQO, CMC etc are allowing the Gloricide Program to continue due to correspondence you have issued claiming that the APVMA is not investigating the matter or has investigated the matter and officially endorsed the Gloricide Program.</p> <p>29. Is it true that SCRC claim or have claimed that the Gloricide Program is operating partly under a Research Permit and partly under a Minor Use Permit? If this is the case would this concern you that neither Permit adequately covers the legitimacy of the work.</p> <p>30. Is it true that the Queensland Government has delegated regulating the use of chemicals and management of endangered species entirely to SCRC?</p> <p>31. Does the SCRC, as proud Designers, Suppliers and Users of Unregistered Chemical Products, have a Chemical Engineer or appropriately qualified WH&S Expert in its staff to manage the risks?</p> <p>32. With regards to the APVMA previous response to questions at the October 2012 meeting, Queensland State Control of Use Legislation the Chemical Usage Act 1988, Section 11A states 'a</p>			
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				<p>person must not make a claim about the use of an unregistered chemical' unless 'the use of the unregistered chemical (such as Gloricide) is authorised by a Permit. For the life of me i can not find and thing on Permit 11463 that claims that the Permit can be interpreted as allowing use of mixes of registered products. Where in Permit 11463 does it allow random concoctions to be used?</p> <p>33. How does the use of Gloricide under Permit 11463 differ from the risks of using a Gloricide type product under Permit 10540?</p>			
47	Agricultural Productivity Division/Grains Research and Development Corporation	Edwards	White Grain Research Funding	<p>Mr Tucker: The commission is part of the portfolio, so you can put questions to us and we will put them to the appropriate bodies and come back to you with detailed responses.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: No worries. I will do that. I will move on to wheat. I brought it up earlier this morning and got referred to here. My questions relate to the white grain research funding that is supported by GRDC and the South Australian Grain Industry Trust. Do you know what area of South Australia is affected by white grain and is it now endemic in other areas as well around Australia?</p> <p>Mr Koval: I am not quite sure that endemic is the right word, but certainly in South Australia—</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: What is the word?</p> <p>Mr Koval: It is an emerging disease. It is a disease, as I understand it, that was not well known or seen much until about two or three years ago.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: Where did it come from?</p> <p>Mr Koval: I understand that it is a necrotrophic fungus. It is a fungus that lives in the soil. They are doing research to see how it is transferred. Is it transferred through rain or wind spores or those types of things. The wheat crops in parts of South Australia, including the north-eastern Eyre Peninsula in the upper north, are particularly affected at the moment. Places like Victoria and southern New South Wales and the western side of the Eyre Peninsula are radically free of the disease.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: Do we know how many tonnes have actually been affected at all?</p> <p>Mr Koval: I am not aware of that.</p>	108-109		

				<p>Senator EDWARDS: Or how many hectares? We have got no grasp of it?</p> <p>Mr Koval: I am not aware of it. I can certainly ask and see what we can find on notice for you, Senator.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: If you would not mind. I have had a lot of representations about it and people are concerned about it, but I do not know how big the problem is. You probably do not, either, by the sound of it. You may do.</p> <p>Mr Koval: It is one of those emerging diseases and so we are trying to get a handle on how the fungus operates, how widespread it is and those types of things. GRDC have been asking growers to let them know if they see white grain or a light, discoloured grain in their crop so that we can get a better handle on the spread of it.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: Where did it come from?</p> <p>Mr Koval: I am not quite sure of the origin of it. It has emerged in the last couple of years.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: Imported seed wheat? We do not import seed wheat, surely.</p> <p>Mr Koval: No.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: Is it possible to have that one on notice? Could you try and chase that?</p>			
48	Agricultural Productivity Division/Grains Research and Development Corporation	Edwards	White Grain Research Funding	<p>Senator EDWARDS: We sit in this sort of sterile environment and talk about these things, but are you slapping the backside on this and getting a move on? Give me some indication—and Senator Heffernan would say that that is bureaucratic speak, and I do not mean to offend you, because you have done nothing to offend me—that there is a focus and a priority because this is a very big thing for my state.</p> <p>Mr Koval: I understand 2010 was the first year it started to emerge as a problem. In 2011 they actually ran fungicide trials to see if they could use some of the fungicides available now to control it. In 2012-13 they continue to try to work out a better way of controlling it. So it emerged reasonably quickly and they very quickly went into trials to see what they could do to control it.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: Who is heading up that task force?</p> <p>Mr Koval: I cannot recall the researcher's name. I can provide it to you on notice.</p>	109		

49	Agricultural Productivity Division/Meat and Livestock Australia	Rhiannon	Breaches of ESCAS	<p>Senator RHIANNON: So to Dr Barnard and Mr Hansen, the question was: has MLA been notified by any of your consultants or the companies that they work for about breaches of ESCAS?</p> <p>Dr Barnard: As the general manager responsible, I cannot recall a single case—</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Do you want to take it on notice?</p> <p>Dr Barnard: No; I am prepared to answer it: I cannot recall a single case where a definite breach of ESCAS has been observed by our consultants.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: I would ask if it could go on notice, because just listening to your language it sounds like it needs to be checked.</p>	071		
50	Agricultural Productivity Division/Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation	Rhiannon	Kangaroo Reports	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. May I please have a collated list of all RIRDC projects and reports about kangaroos, with the Research Organisation and researchers, and the Objective summary for each project. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How many contracts have been awarded to members, associates or supporters of the KIAA? 2. May I please have a copy of the research project titled “Research to assist market development for kangaroo products in California & NY” and its supporting material used to convince Californian and New York legislator to allow the sale of kangaroo products. 	Written		
51	Agricultural Productivity Division/Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation	Rhiannon	RIRDC Contracts and Conflicts of Interest	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many RIRDC kangaroo projects have been awarded to Lenah Consulting, and what was the amount of funding paid to Lenah Consulting for each project? 2. What is Lenah Consulting’s relationship to Lenah Game Meats? Is John Kelly, of Lenah Consulting, associated with the Kangaroo Industry Association of Australia? If yes, given the KIAA plays a part in choosing RIRDC funded research, please explain how there is no conflict of interest in the KIAA awarding itself RIRDC funded contracts? 	Written		
52	Agricultural Productivity Division/Rural Industries Research and	Rhiannon	Captive Bolt Gun Experiments on Joeys	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regard the RIRDC project titled “Improving the welfare and humaneness of commercially harvested kangaroos: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How many joeys were killed in the experiment using captive bolt guns? What were the ages of each joey? b. It is stated that “most animals died”. How many joeys did 	Written		

	Development Corporation			not die immediately? 2. How much is this project cost?			
53	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences	Back	Wild Dog Management in Australia	<p>Senator BACK: I am glad you did! Mr Morris, I take you to your planned biosecurity deliverables 2012-13, under which one of your projects is 'wild dog management in Australia—a landscape approach', as you describe it. You would be aware now of the enormous impact of wild dogs in our sheep and goat industries and increasingly in our cattle industry. Also, I recently had feedback on our native animal species being attacked in pastoral areas in WA. Can you tell me where you are with progress in examining the impediments that exist to appropriate wild dog management?</p> <p>Mr Morris: You may be aware that ABARES administers, on behalf of the department, the Australian Pest Animal Research Program—APARP—and has been doing that for a number of years. Under that program there is quite a number of projects funded on wild dog management, including quite a number on appropriate control measures and that sort of thing. For the projects that are completed, there is information on our website, which goes into quite a bit of detail on the impacts of wild dogs and potential control measures. So, that is the main area of our work. We have also done a bit of work ourselves. Unfortunately I do not have a whole lot of detail in front of me on where that work is up to, but I am happy to take that on notice and give you more detail later on.</p>	017-18		
54	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences	Back	Risk Assessments of Biosecurity Projects	<p>Senator BACK: I am particularly interested to know what programs, if any, involve cooperative funding between the Commonwealth and the states. I would also appreciate it if, in providing that on notice, you have any observations or recommendations in terms of management of national parks and public lands. The overwhelming evidence coming to us—I learnt this this morning from New South Wales, and I know it well in relation to the pastoral areas of Western Australia—is that whatever efforts farmers or pastoralists themselves are making on their land are as nil, because the equivalent work is not being undertaken in national parks and other areas. So, if you could do that I would be appreciative.</p> <p>Also, if time does not permit, perhaps you could also take on notice</p>	018		

				<p>what progress you may have been making with regard to the social and economic impacts of a foot-and-mouth disease outbreak— whether you have any updated information on that. Finally, I notice you are also doing some work on rabies risk assessment. Knowing now that we seem to have a fairly significant incidence of rabies in Bali in monkey populations and dog populations, and given the number of Australians visiting Bali and being bitten, I was wondering whether you have any advice for us in terms of where you might have been in that particular project as well.</p> <p>Mr Morris: Certainly we have a number of projects underway for the biosecurity area of the department, which is doing risk assessments of potential outbreaks of a range of different pests and diseases. So it is a relatively new area for ABARES, starting to get into those risk assessments. We have done quite a bit of work on foot-and-mouth disease, and I am happy to provide you with that information.</p>			
55	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences	Heffernan	Hazard Reduction and Encroachment of National Parks on Agricultural Land	<p>Senator HEFFERNAN: In the advice that you give, have you bothered to do a cost-benefit analysis on the agricultural side following the recent phenomenon of seriously hot fires which completely destroy the landscape. You cannot put stock in to reduce the fuel load and you have not got the resources to do cold burns in any proportion that is required? Have you bothered to figure out, which any person with half a brain could figure out, what happens when a hot fire goes through? If you go on the road in the Snowy from Adaminaby to Talbingo, you will see whole valleys of mountain ash stone dead, like bloody graveyards. Do you give advice that says perhaps we ought to consider other options and advice on why fires are getting bigger when the gear is getting better? It is almost like football now: fires are a TV event with a helicopter, with half the water they drop evaporating before it hits the ground. Also, have you done a cost-benefit analysis on the encroachment on agricultural land of national parks that have now become a breeding ground for dogs and pigs. As Senator Back and others would know, wild dogs have become a serious problem—</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: I do not mean to interrupt the flow. I know time is precious. I would like maybe one question followed by another question followed by another question, so the officer at the table can</p>	033		

				<p>respond.</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Because Senator Rhiannon is having kittens, perhaps you could take that on notice or give a brief answer. Have you done a cost-benefit analysis?</p> <p>Mr Tucker: Not to our knowledge. We will have to check with our ABARES colleagues.</p>			
56	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences	Macdonald	Figure on the gulf for Northern Prawn Fishery	<p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: You are saying that there is \$0.4 million worth of fish that will no longer be caught—that is \$400,000 worth of fish. Do you have that in tonnes at all?</p> <p>Dr Stobutzki: I should have it in tonnes; I might have to—</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Doctor, I think we are going to run out of time, so perhaps if you could take it on notice. What is your figure on the gulf for northern prawn? Did you do grey mackerel fishery as well?</p> <p>Dr Stobutzki: We did. The northern prawn displacement in the north marine region was up to \$2.08 million. In terms of the joint authority fishery, I might take that one on notice because I am not sure if it was released. Given the number of operators, it might be confidential.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: To make that publicly available, what do you need? Authority from the operators to tell us. I am quite sure none of the operators would mind the public knowing just what the impact of this bioregional zone is going to have on their fishery. It is not a question of their income.</p> <p>Dr Stobutzki: All these estimate are available in the ABARES's reports that can be obtained from the ABARES's website or the department of environment' website, SEWPaC. The Northern Territory offshore net and line fishery, which I think is the joint authority—</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: No.</p> <p>Dr Stobutzki: So it is not that one.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: It is round a bit further, I think.</p> <p>Dr Stobutzki: My apologies; but I will check to see whether we released those.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Could you give me all those details, please. You would interpret them better than me. I want to be clear: what you were doing was working out the money value of the</p>	078-79		

				<p>fisheries product that will no longer be taken from those fisheries as a result of the bioregional marine plans—is that correct?</p> <p>Dr Stobutzki: Yes. The direct displaced GVP.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Were you just there to find a monetary assessment, a volume assessment, or were you looking at the impact on the long-term future of the fish stock?</p> <p>Dr Stobutzki: The focus is more on the displaced catch, not the long-term future of the fish stock, but there was work done on the impact of that displaced catch back on to home ports and a social and economic survey.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: That is ABARES' work, is it? Not SEWPaC's?</p> <p>Dr Stobutzki: Yes.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Is that all in the same report?</p> <p>Dr Stobutzki: Yes, it is.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: If you can easily collate them for me, that would be helpful. Otherwise, if you give me the website I can do it myself, I guess. I would rather you do it. Do you or anyone from AFMA have a comment on the sustainability of the fish stocks without the marine bioregional planning and with the marine bioregional planning?</p>			
57	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences	Colbeck	Consultancy Reports	<p>Is it correct that the consultancy “Development of methodology for socio-economic profiles for the forest and timber industry” has a start date of January 2012 and finish date as June 2014?</p> <p>Is it the development of the methodology that is taking is taking 30 months or is that the time frame for the overarching project?</p> <p>Are there any interim results or outcomes from the Forest product statistics and modelling project?</p> <p>What is the budget for that project?</p>	Written		
58	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource	Colbeck	Carbon Tax	<p>Did ABARES examine the impact export red tape may have had on the negative attitude of vegetable growers have towards exporting?</p> <p>What actions has the government undertaken to help Australia’s</p>	Written		

	Economics and Sciences			<p>vegetable growers' access international markets and to address their concerns that these markets are too difficult and time consuming to crack?</p> <p>What actions is the government planning to undertake to help Australia's vegetable growers' access international markets and to address their concerns that these markets are too difficult and time consuming to crack?</p> <p>Is ABARES planning to do any analysis of the effects of the carbon tax on fisheries, particularly high value, highly perishable products that use airfreight?</p>			
59	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences	Colbeck	Wood Supply and MIS	<p>Does ABARES plan to investigate the impact of the collapse of the MIS and of companies like Gunns on timber supply?</p> <p>If as stated in QON 66 (May 2012) "The full effects of the collapse of some MIS companies will not be known for another 10 years", what actions are being taken to ensure that there is not a significant impact on wood supply in the medium to long term?</p>	Written		
60	Australian Chief Veterinary Office	Macdonald	Countries with BJD	<p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: On notice, could you tell me which of the countries we export the cattle to that have BJD, which of them have protocols which in some way impact our export of those cattle to those countries and whether in view of the Australian government they are relevant and fair? I do not understand but Senator Back may well understand. If they have BJD and you export them BJD, what the heck.</p> <p>Dr Schipp: We can certainly take that on notice. We have provided a list of those markets publicly and it was in the press earlier this week. But we can take that on notice.</p>	055		
61	Biosecurity Animal Division	Rhiannon	Animal Welfare Groups	<p>Senator RHIANNON: I am hoping you can answer this considering cattle and sheep are nearly finished. What efforts are made to ensure that members of the review panel reflect and represent the entire industry including those who may be looking at addressing animal welfare issues to be consistent with good practice in farming these animals?</p>	060		

				<p>Mr Smalley: The process that has been undertaken has given invitation to all of the stakeholder groups that were of interest, particularly in relation to your citing sheep and cattle. In some instances, animal welfare groups decided not to be members of the writing groups. They have participated to date in the reference groups, which are also a part of sheep and cattle. In addition to what has happened in the past, the animal welfare committee has also decided that it ought to review the way that these codes of practice are converted to national standards and guidelines. That review process is hopefully going to start up during the course of the next few months. So that will look at how the process is done, over what time frame and who is involved so that we can aim to do things more expeditiously.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Can you take on notice, when will that review be done?</p>			
62	Biosecurity Animal Division	Williams	Trade and Market Access	Which markets are the priority markets and why (DAFF should be working off the priorities determined by the Protocol Committee of the industry which DAFF is a participant).	Written		
63	Biosecurity Animal Division	Nash	Information from USA Regarding BSE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the department received any information from the United States regarding BSE affected meat? 2. Has the department been in communication with USA in obtaining that information? 3. Is there a time period in which that the USA has to provide that information to Australia? 4. How long does Australia have to wait for the USA government to provide Australia with information on cattle health and certification systems? 	Written		
64	Biosecurity Animal Division	Rhiannon	Greyhounds	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In a letter to Humane Society International regarding export of greyhounds to Macau, the Minister stated that the Australian Government will continue to request updates on Macau's progress to introduce animal welfare legislation. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. When did the Australian Government last request an update, and what are the details of that update? b. What is Australia doing to encourage the Macau Government to enact such legislation? 	Written		

				<p>c. How is the banning of greyhound to Macau different to the banning or suspension of livestock exports as has been done by various Australian Governments?</p> <p>2. The Minister stated that Greyhounds Australasia is working towards ensuring the welfare of greyhounds exported from Australia.</p> <p>a. What are the details of Greyhounds Australasia's programme in this regard, and where is it up to?</p> <p>3. What are the Government's requirements for the welfare of exported Australian greyhounds, and how does it differ from requirements for exported Australian livestock?</p>			
65	Biosecurity Plant Division	Ruston	Citrus Growers Submission into Unshi Mandarins from Japan	<p>Senator RUSTON: What was your response to the then citrus organisation, which I assume would still would have been under the guise of Australian Citrus Growers, in terms of their submission, when they said that they were seriously concerned about the exposure to the Australian citrus industry from the potential import of this product into Australia?</p> <p>Ms Findlay: I will go back and have a look at the submission that they put in in 2009. It is four years ago now, so I would like to refresh my memory of that one.</p>	042		
66	Biosecurity Plant Division	Colbeck	IER in the Horticulture Sector	<p>Senator COLBECK: Can you tell me where the IER sits in relation to the horticulture sector?</p> <p>Ms Calhoun: As at 1 July 2012, the IER was reverted back to zero, and we are running back on a cost recovery track, so the IER will be calculated out at the end of this financial year. So, at 1 July last year, part of the \$6.5 million that was provided by the government to support the horticulture sector was used to wipe out the deficit sitting in that IER. So it is currently sitting at zero dollars.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: What was the deficit?</p> <p>Ms Calhoun: \$1.658 million.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: What is the target level for the IER?</p> <p>Ms Calhoun: Projected for this year?</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: No. We talked before about how there was a target of having it at, I think, 10 per cent—I think that was the number we were talking about before.</p> <p>Ms Calhoun: The target would be 10 per cent—deficit or</p>	044		

				<p>revenue—where we would be looking at whether we needed to readjust the fees.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: So, what is the annual expenditure that that 10 per cent would be set off?</p> <p>Ms Calhoun: It is approximately \$1 million.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: And that is the annual operating costs?</p> <p>Ms Calhoun: Plus or minus 10 per cent.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Or, is that the level that the IER would be set at?</p> <p>Ms Calhoun: That is the level of the IER.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: So, your \$10 million programs set the IER at \$1 million?</p> <p>Ms Calhoun: Yes.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: In questions 182 and 184, there was some discussion about several models being developed to support the impact assessment process. Is it possible to get access to the various models that were considered?</p> <p>Ms Calhoun: That was throughout the consultation through the horticultural ministerial task force. They were papers that were provided.</p> <p>Ms Mellor: They were provided to the ministerial task force, and we can provide those on notice.</p>			
67	Biosecurity Plant Division	Back	Import of New Zealand Apples	<p>Senator BACK: Following the lifting of the ban last year or the year before on New Zealand apples coming to Australia, can you tell us what has been the history of imports of New Zealand apples into Australia? How many consignments have been successful; how many consignments have been knocked back and for what reasons, if any, have they been knocked back?</p> <p>Ms van Meurs: To talk about the 2012 season, we have had five consignments of New Zealand apples come to Australia—about 57 tonnes. We have undertaken nine offshore inspections of those five consignments and there have been no rejections.</p> <p>Senator BACK: Nine inspections of five consignments?</p> <p>Ms van Meurs: That is correct.</p> <p>Senator BACK: And all nine were done offshore?</p> <p>Ms van Meurs: That is correct. There were no inspections specifically on arrival. The on-arrival inspections have been done</p>	046		

				<p>offshore in New Zealand.</p> <p>Senator BACK: By Australian officials.</p> <p>Ms van Meurs: By Australian DAFF officials.</p> <p>Senator BACK: How does that contrast with 2011?</p> <p>Ms van Meurs: I will have to take that on notice but my recollection was that around 12 shipments. I would have to take that on notice. Again, there were fewer in 2012 than in 2011.</p> <p>Senator BACK: In 2011 there were some rejections by DAFF officials offshore, weren't there? If you would provide that on notice I would be appreciative.</p>			
68	Biosecurity Plant Division	Colbeck	Consignments from New Zealand	<p>Ms van Meurs: Yes. We are preparing for the 2013 season. It is likely to start around April 2013. We have had an initial request for a number of officers to go to New Zealand in April. We do not know the exact numbers yet. That will depend on the commercial arrangements that New Zealand have with their importers in Australia. At the moment we have five valid import permits as of 7 February 2013.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Are there any more applications or increase in activity about registered establishments or import permits?</p> <p>Ms van Meurs: My understanding is that they have not finalised their establishments for registration as yet. I think in 2012 they had eight. I do not think they have finalised their registrations to date.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: But we do not have any indications of what the numbers might be at this stage, just that there are five permits.</p> <p>Ms van Meurs: Those are valid permits. The permits are valid for two years.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Are there any further applications in process?</p> <p>Ms van Meurs: Not that I am aware of, but I can take that on notice.</p>	046-47		
69	Biosecurity Plant Division	Ruston	Huanglongbing (HLB) & Asiatic Citrus Psyllid (ACP)	<p>What arrangements are in place to provide regular revision of the plan?</p> <p>Who will be providing input into the revisions and what is DAFF doing to ensure that the most experienced scientists are utilized?</p>	Written		

70	Biosecurity Plant Division	Ruston	Huanglongbing (HLB) & Asiatic Citrus Psyllid (ACP)	How will DAFF maintain expertise and resource to ensure the plan provides the best possible blue print in the event HLB and ACP are detected in Australia? How is Australia's expertise and preparedness for incursion of HLB and ACP being maintained?	Written		
71	Biosecurity Plant Division	Ruston	Huanglongbing (HLB) & Asiatic Citrus Psyllid (ACP)	What measures are being undertaken to maintain Australian expertise and preparedness for incursions of HLB and ACP through regional collaboration with Asian countries?	Written		
72	Biosecurity Plant Division	Ruston	Huanglongbing (HLB) & Asiatic Citrus Psyllid (ACP)	Does DAFF have an up to date plan available for nursery industries which includes bud wood certification and nursery registration as part of Australia's preparedness?	Written		
73	Biosecurity Plant Division	Williams	Potatoes	<p>I would like to thank Dr. Grant and Dr. Findlay for speaking with the Guyra potato growers after the October estimates and I know a lot of their concerns were alleviated by what you told them about the threat of zebra chip disease. Obviously no decision has been made on whether these potatoes will be imported from New Zealand – could you brief me on where this process is up to?</p> <p>I think you mentioned in that phone hook-up that there were no premises in Australia that would meet the strict biosecurity that's needed – if that is the case, it would be up to importers to construct new premises?</p> <p>Generally is the industry opposed to the import of New Zealand potatoes?</p> <p>How long before a decision is made?</p> <p>At this stage would you say the risk of the disease spreading into Australia if these potatoes are imported is low, negligible or none?</p> <p>Is there anyone at the desk who can tell how much has been spent on this whole investigation process since it started?</p>	Written		

74	Biosecurity Plant Division	Ruston	Citrus Canker	<p>What is the amount of unshu mandarin from Japan that has been imported into Australia since access to Australia was agreed?</p> <p>If unshu has been imported have there been any quarantine detection and what have they been?</p> <p>What information has been provided by Japan MAFF since approval was granted to confirm the 25 hectare area granted access is free from citrus canker?</p>	Written		
75	Biosecurity Plant Division	Ruston	Citrus Canker	<p>Is DAFF aware of any other requests from other countries known to have citrus canker seeking access on the same or similar basis of low pest prevalence of canker similar to the Japan submission?</p> <p>What were the specific reasons DAFF treated the request for Japan for access of unshu mandarins as a standard risk assessment rather than submitting it to the eminent scientist group given the overwhelming science based concerns raised by plant pathologists, entomologists and industry at the time?</p>	Written		
76	Biosecurity Plant Division	Ruston	Huanglongbing (HLB) & Asiatic Citrus Psyllid (ACP)	<p>What is the status of the HLB and ACP Contingency Plan (Incursion Management plan)?</p>	Written		
77	Biosecurity Plant Division	Heffernan	Tomato Potato Psyllid	<p>The Operational Science Program Bulletin from May 2012, published on the DAFF Website states that “during a weekend inspection at Crewe Place...a live psyllid was intercepted in a consignment of loose tomatoes from New Zealand.” The Minister previously stated that there has not been a detection or an incursion of the tomato potato psyllid in the Australian environment.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide details of the intercept, where were the tomatoes grown in NZ? 2. Was this intercept of tomatoes from NZ a first for DAFF? 3. If so, how many similar cases from NZ have been detected since this inspection? Please provide details 4. Can the Department please explain why the Minister’s statement contradicts what has been published on the Department’s website? 5. Please provide in detail other cases of live psyllid into Australia 	Written		

				since 2010?			
78	Biosecurity Plant Division	Colbeck	CRIS Horticulture – Demand Assumptions	<p>Given the demand assumptions were based on a 20% reduction and the current reduction is 5%, will this result in greater revenue than expected this financial year?</p> <p>How was the reduction to 5% determined?</p> <p>Have all registered establishments received their registration fees for 2012-13?</p> <p>If not, what is the delay?</p> <p>Without this information how can the 5% reduction be determined?</p> <p>Will this extra income be moved into the IER?</p> <p>If so, will this in turn permit the \$1.68 million used to meet the existing deficit in the IER to be returned to industry or used for other purposes?</p> <p>If so, where will that money be allocated?</p>	Written		
79	Biosecurity Plant Division	Colbeck	Horticultural Exporters Assistance Package	Provide specific details of where and when the \$6.5 million assistance package for the horticultural industry has been spent.	Written		
80	Biosecurity Plant Division	Colbeck	Rebate to all Fees and Charges Collected in 2011-12	<p>When will the estimated 22% rebate to all fees and charges collected in 2011-12 be refunded?</p> <p>Is it correct that an administrative issue with the rebate is holding up the rebate?</p> <p>Will interest be paid on the refunds due given the refund is about half a year late?</p>	Written		

81	Biosecurity Policy Division	Colbeck	Review of the National BioSIRT (Biosecurity Surveillance Incident Response and Tracing) Program	<p>Has the Review of the national BioSIRT program been provided to the Standing Council on Primary Industries yet?</p> <p>Is it publicly available?</p> <p>What is causing / caused the delay?</p> <p>What are the key outcomes?</p> <p>What are the implications for Biosecurity and for the new biosecurity legislation?</p>	Written		
82	Biosecurity Policy Division	Colbeck	Myrtle rust	Has any work been done on the impact the die back caused on new growth and the susceptibility of myrtaceae species, eucalypt etc. to bushfire?	Written		
83	Biosecurity Policy Division	Colbeck	Myrtle rust	What progress has been made on allocating the \$3 million set aside to manage Myrtle rust? How much of the money has been allocated and what activities are underway?	Written		
84	Border Compliance Division	Colbeck	Operation Hayride	<p>Senator COLBECK: Operation Hayride, from recollection, was about 14,000 hours and about \$850,00 was what it ended up costing.</p> <p>Mr Chapman: I would have to check on the figures. We provided some answers to questions on notice about this. Operation Hayride was expensive because of the large amount of follow-up work that we had to do and the number of premises that we had to visit.</p>	036		
85	Border Compliance Division	Colbeck	Compliance Activities	<p>Mr Chapman: Us conducting activities to verify compliance—and we have a whole range of activities that do that—is accepted as a legitimate cost of ensuring compliance at the border. As I mentioned before, there are specific fees and charges we have for certain activities. For instance, if we inspect goods or if we conduct an audit, the person whose goods we inspect or the recipients of that service get a direct charge. Over and above that there is a fee for every container that comes into the country; there is a fee for every full import declaration that we assess. They are very broad based—and they are not very large—and they are the ones that provide the funding for this sort of activity.</p>	037		

				<p>Senator COLBECK: What is the allocation in your budgets across the board for these sorts of compliance activities? And I presume they would then get built into those broader charges that everybody has applied to them.</p> <p>Mr Chapman: I will have to take that on notice so I can give you something that covers off the range of the compliance activities we conduct; it goes across targeted campaigns and it goes across our cargo compliance verification and the investigations that we do as well which are actually appropriation funded. So there are several elements to it and I will have to advise you on notice how it is broken up.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Is it possible to give it to us in that level of detail?</p> <p>Mr Chapman: We can say what the allocated budgets are for those areas, yes.</p>			
86	Border Compliance Division	Colbeck	Operation Hayride	<p>Senator COLBECK: We have already discussed that about 14,000 hours were spent in the overall process of identifying and retrieving that 132 tonnes under Operation Hayride. Can you tell me how much of that time was spent working through paperwork to track the product? We had a conversation earlier about whether or not any of your computer systems were involved in that process. It appears that it was largely a manual process.</p> <p>Mr Chapman: Yes.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Can you give me a sense of what proportion of that time might have been undertaken doing that sort of work?</p> <p>Mr Chapman: I will have to take that on notice too. I suspect that we will only be able to give you a ballpark figure. In tracing the goods, it was very much an iterative process, because in the course of following up the information that was given to us by the importers and the QAP operators, we would get extra bits of information and we also identified that there were some people who were trying to, even at that stage, bypass the system. So we would go in again and find something else. So we can give you an estimate of how much time was spent, but it will only be an estimate.</p>	037		
87	Border Compliance	Colbeck	DAFF Cargo Consultative	<p>Senator COLBECK: Moving on to the performance targeting and effectiveness program, are the minutes of the DCCC meeting 61 on</p>	039		

	Division		Committee	7 May 2012 going to be made available, noting that the minutes of meeting 62 already are available? Were there any issues there? Mr Chapman: No. We can make those available.			
88	Border Compliance Division	Colbeck	PTEP	<p>Mr Chapman: The \$2.5 million is the staffing cost of the people in the program.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: I think that we are at variance.</p> <p>Mr Metcalfe: I think that I may have—</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: I thought that we are on a reasonable program, Mr Metcalfe.</p> <p>Mr Metcalfe: I think that I may have tried to be too helpful. I might just clarify that.</p> <p>Mr Terpstra: The \$2.5 million budget for PTEP is the total cost of running that program, including salary costs and on costs for all of those staff. The issue on which we have some confusion is when a campaign budget established. The campaign budget does not include salary dollars. It includes all of the extras, if you like, over and above the salaries. But that campaign budget comes out of the total \$2.5 million allocation that had allocated for PTEP.</p> <p>Mr Metcalfe: I am sorry for any confusion that I caused. You were originally talking about a question that had been answered on notice, so we had just better double check that we are quite clear about what is in and what is not in that particular figure.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: We talked about Operation Abercorn and Operation Balmain. Their budgets excluded staff costs. We are all on the same page with that. What I need to get an understanding of now is what proportion of the \$2.5 million is staff costs and what proportion is for allocation to particular operations, given that my understanding now would be that those staff are there all the time and that would be a particular unit that would be applied to operations when and as they occur.</p> <p>Mr Chapman: It might be easier for us to take it on notice so that we can spell it all out.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: I was expecting you to say that.</p> <p>Mr Chapman: I do not want to cause any confusion or fail to answer the question in the most helpful way. It might be useful if we can provide you an answer that says, 'Here are the staffing costs, here are the overheads and here is how we take into account setting</p>	040		

				<p>up budgets for particular campaigns.'</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Okay. That sounds fair.</p> <p>Mr Terpstra: I offer another piece of clarification that might add a little confusion in the short term but that confusion will also be explained in that answer. Not all of that \$2.5 million budget for PTEP is allocated to the development and execution of targeted campaigns. There are three other major components of work in that program that we will provide some independent numbering on. There is the post-quarantine detection area, which is a routine area that looks after any reports of items that are identified by members of the public that should not be here and that we need to sort out. There is also a small operational intelligence capability. There is also some staff allocated to the management of the profiles that Mr Chapman mentioned earlier. I think we have given evidence previously that there are in the order of around 4,000 different profiles in our IT systems.</p>			
89	Border Compliance Division	Colbeck	Biosecurity IT System	<p>What improvements need to be made the current Biosecurity IT system (including ICON, BICON, AIMS, ICS) for it to be more efficient?</p> <p>What changes can be made to reduce the need for Biosecurity to sign off on the importation of goods?</p>	Written		
90	Border Compliance Division	Colbeck	Review of Industry Training Associated with AQIS Co-regulatory Arrangements	<p>Why was the Review of industry training associated with AQIS co-regulatory arrangements terminated?</p> <p>Was any sort of report provided to Government in return for the investment of nearly \$100K?</p>	Written		
91	Border Compliance Division	Colbeck	PTEP Campaigns	<p>What rate is used to calculate staff costs for campaigns like Operation Hayride, Albercorn and Balmain? Is it salary or salary plus on costs or the commercial charge out rate used for industry? How is the decision regarding appropriate charge out rate made?</p>	Written		
92	Border Compliance	Colbeck	DAFF Cargo Consultative	<p>Please provide a link to the website where financial data, staff deployment details and other associated information related to the</p>	Written		

	Division		Committee	operation of the DCCC can be found.			
93	Border Compliance Division	Colbeck	Guidelines for Post Border Recovery Operations	<p>Is there a post incident report for Operation Hayride?</p> <p>Are there post incident reports available for any other operations (Abercorn, Balmain)?</p> <p>What are the key outcomes of each of the incident reports?</p> <p>Have any internal audits (mentioned in QON 166 October 2012) been undertaken yet?</p> <p>Are / will the internal audits undertaken by people independent of the operations?</p> <p>What training in undertaking systems audits have been provided to the Internal Auditors and to those undertaking the actual operations?</p> <p>QON 169 October 2012 states that Senior managers are responsible for selecting staff for recovery operations. How do senior managers select people with the “personal attributes” needed to undertake the task? What are these personal attributes?</p>	Written		
94	Border Compliance Division	Colbeck	AQIS / Biosecurity Cargo Staffing Numbers	<p>What types of activities carried out by Cargo Import Operations (eg data entry, physical inspections)?</p> <p>The response to QON 13 October 2012 regarding staffing numbers shows an increase of 30% in the number of entries for the addition of only 2 staff. Is this the correct interpretation of the data provided? What else has contributed to this apparent productivity gain?</p> <p>Has there been a similar increase in the number of other activities undertaken by the Cargo Import Operations? Provide details of staffing numbers, activities and performance measures for period 2007-08 to present.</p>	Written		

				<p>What activities has the division undertaken to find efficiencies?</p> <p>What has been the impact of the “risk return” initiatives which where to eliminate unnecessary processes and interceptions?</p>			
95	Border Compliance Division	Colbeck	Movement of Staff from Airports to Cargo	<p>Between 2008-09 and 2011-12 the number of air cargo consignments increased by 74% and the number of cargo consignments “referred” to DAFF increased by 14%.</p> <p>What does “referred to” mean? Is this suspicious consignments?</p> <p>Does decreasing the number of staff involved in airports and mail programs change the risk profile of this entry point?</p> <p>If not, how do you support this assertion?</p>	Written		
96	Border Compliance Division	Colbeck	Coffee Berry Borer	<p>What was the trigger that led to the discovery of illegally imported coffee seed recently?</p> <p>Is DAFF confident all of the illegally imported coffee seeds involved in the recent coffee berry borer incident have been retrieved?</p> <p>How is the affected property being treated to kill any pests that might be in the area?</p> <p>Does Australia have registered chemicals for the control of this beetle or was a minor use permit?</p> <p>Are there charges pending?</p> <p>Who will bear the costs of recovery and disposal and what are those costs estimated to be?</p>	Written		
97	Climate Change Division	Nash	Methane Methodologies	<p>Mr Tucker: Two methane methodologies have been approved: one for piggeries and one for dairies. As the minister said, it is best to go into the detail, but my understanding of the current approval of</p>	023		

				<p>methodologies and the difference with the camel methodologies is that, obviously, with piggeries and dairies you actually know how much stock you have and you can measure very readily the output, whereas camel numbers are not well known across Australia. There certainly are estimates. The estimates move up and down, depending on the climatic conditions across Northern Australia. So I suspect some of those factors may have played into the discussions around that particular methodology.</p> <p>Senator NASH: Why would that be an issue? One would imagine that the amount of methane coming out of a camel would be a reasonably standard rate. Whether you have got two camels or 2,000 camels, all you have got to do then is multiply their back ends to get where you are headed. I do not see how the number of camels really impacts on a methodology, because all you do is multiply the work—and I take the minister's point that that work has not been done and needs to be done—but the numbers surely do not matter that much because it is just a multiplication exercise.</p> <p>Mr Tucker: It does depend on diet, just as feedstock does to other animals. But you are sort of getting beyond our level of competence. We are trying to assist, but it is best that details go to the particular department.</p> <p>Senator NASH: You are assisting very well. Perhaps I could ask you to take on notice—in so far as you can assist, and certainly from the perspective of this department—given the ranging nature of the feral camels, how would you expect there to be a determination on the feed type as you have been talking about? Perhaps you could also ascertain for us the reasons for the rejection.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: That question may in fact be better put to the climate change department. We will see what we can provide.</p> <p>Senator NASH: In so far as you can, if you would not mind. I will certainly put it to the other department as well. I do very much appreciate your assistance.</p>			
98	Climate Change Division	Colbeck	CSIRO – Review of State and Territory Codes of Practice for Plantation	<p>Senator COLBECK: We talked to you once before about some work the CSIRO was doing in relation to review of state and territory codes of practice for plantation management. It was supposed to be finished by July 2011. Can you tell me where that is at—whether it is finished?</p>	027		

			Management	Ms Freeman: I might take that on notice. I may be able to get that to you shortly. I am just not precisely sure of the exact status of that one.			
99	Climate Change Division	Colbeck	Tasmanian Forest Contractors Exit Package	Senator COLBECK: How much money has been paid out? Do you know? Ms Freeman: I will take that on notice of where it is up to.	028		
100	Climate Change Division	Colbeck	Rural Financial Counselling Services	Senator COLBECK: What impact has that had on the waiting times, and what is the size of the Tasmanian waiting list at the moment? Ms Freeman: I would have to take that on notice; I honestly do not know. Senator COLBECK: If there a KPI around that I would be interested. Ms Freeman: I could give you some fairly general figures about the demand for the service more generally. It is roughly 7,000 to 8,000 a year across the country. Part of the service includes, for example, providing direct assistance and working with recipients of our transitional farm family payment. They are a direct client, so we have roughly 360 or 370 across Australia on that hardship payment at the moment. That would be a normal part of their client base. I could tell you what they are for Tasmania, but I would just have to take it on notice as I would not know the specifics.	032		
101	Climate Change Division	Colbeck	Rural Financial Counselling Services	Ms Freeman: The quantum of clients has actually fallen, partly in relation to the fact that there are no areas currently in an exceptional circumstance. I think that is one reason. The other is that we have a database that actually monitors the number of clients that we have. That database has changed, partly because we were double counting if someone came in and out of the system twice. So it is hard to say, but the numbers are roughly half of what they were a number of years ago. I think it is also important to note that the nature of the business or their engagement with the RFCS would be quite a different when they are not helping people in terms of their EC applications or whatever. Both the business and the number of clients have changed. Senator COLBECK: What is the cycle of reporting that you	032		

				<p>receive on that?</p> <p>Ms Freeman: I would have to take that on notice for this specifics. But, for example, they are audited regularly, we would set up biannual meetings with them where we actually go through what is happening in terms of—</p>			
102	Climate Change Division	Rhiannon	Closure of Eden Wood Chip Mill	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Minister, have you been involved in any talks about the closure of the Eden chip mill owned by South East Fibre Exports?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: I will check, but I do not have any clear recollection of that.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: So you will take it on notice if there have been any informal or formal talks?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: If I have, I do not recollect. You asked me whether I have been involved. My recollection is no. Just in case it involved another entity or another name, I will check my records.</p>	033		
103	Climate Change Division	Rhiannon	Logs & Wood Chips for Energy Purposes	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Another one to take on notice with that: for whole logs or wood chips that are destined to be used for energy purposes, including electricity generation, are there any controls with respect to export or generally?</p> <p>Mr McNamara: Under the Export Control Act that there is a requirement for saw logs over two tonnes for licencing, but under two tonnes it essentially falls to state legislation.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Could you take that on notice, please.</p>	034		
104	Climate Change Division	Macdonald	Live Cattle Ban Funds	<p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: But, Minister, is it not a fact that the money you set aside following the live cattle export ban has not been fully taken up. In fact, very few producers could meet what I might editorialise as rather odd guidelines. There is money left over in those funds. There has been a proposal put to you which I have written to you about. I did not make the application—industry groups did. What I am saying is that because the industry is in difficulty—and you do not need to accept my view on that, just read the papers—I am wondering if the government has some thoughts on a general package, not necessarily related to the Indonesian ban, not necessarily related to BJD. People are doing it tough and I do not want you to tell me what you are considering, but is the</p>	056		

				<p>government considering some sort of industry assistance perhaps only a small amount out of what was left over from the live cattle fund that I understand has not been utilised?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: Perhaps we can clear up that matter. Any unspent moneys of that package would have been returned to budget. You do not hold them as carryover. I am sure you are familiar with budget rules.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: This is for the current year.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: They are still returned. Any unspent funds will be and have been returned to the Consolidated Revenue Fund.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Even if they are out of this year?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: You do not hold unspent moneys.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: No, but you have a program and I assume people can still apply for it.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: That date has finished, as I understand it.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Perhaps on notice, can someone tell me what was actually used of the fund that was announced following the live cattle ban?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: The total of the funds allocated was about \$12.7 million during 2012.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Is that what was paid out?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: Yes.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: What was the total program that was offered?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: I will have to take that on notice. I cannot recall it.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Thank you.</p>			
105	Climate Change Division	Rhiannon	Tasmanian Forests Intergovernmental Agreement Contractors Voluntary Exit Grants Program	<p>Mr Metcalfe: I have one thing come back to assist the matter that we took on notice earlier. Senator Rhiannon asked for a list of all the grantees under the Tasmanian Forests Intergovernmental Agreement Contractors Voluntary Exit Grants program. I am advised that all grants paid for by the department are listed on the grants reporting section of the department's website. The 58 grantees of the program are listed from March 2012 onwards. I have a particular part of the website I can refer you to so I will give that to the secretariat and they can refer it to Senator Rhiannon.</p>	060		

106	Climate Change Division	MacDonald	Funds to Australian cattle Industry	<p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: on the \$20 million. I accept what you say. I am simply asking you, on notice if needs be: is there anything else that has gone to the Australian cattle industry following the live cattle ban apart from the 12 point whatever it was million dollars you mentioned earlier, Minister.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: My recollection of it is that the substantive funds—I think it was \$12.7 million—have been expended out of a package. There was also, I think, at the time a range of other measures that were addressed, but I would take that on notice rather than speculate.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: If you would take that on notice, I would appreciate it. Thank you very much.</p>	065		
107	Climate Change Division	Williams	Total Payments to Cattle Exporters	<p>Senator WILLIAMS: Perhaps you could take it on notice to provide details of the total payments to Australians, whether they be exporters or the cow cockies themselves. I would be interested to see if it is as much as the \$20 million that was given to Indonesia. It probably will not be.</p>	065		
108	Climate Change Division	Rhiannon	States Notifying of RFA Changes	<p>In response to my question on 11 February 2013 in Estimates about the RFA and the responsibility of state governments to inform the federal government of any changes relevant to the implementation of the RFA that covers their forests Department officers stated that they would “expect discussions”. Will the federal government initiate these discussions? What steps have to be taken for these discussions to occur?</p>	Written		
109	Climate Change Division	Rhiannon	RFA Review Process	<p>What is the process to review, adjust or cancel regional forestry agreements when one party to the RFA expands sawlog production or reduces the strength of state environmental legislation?</p>	Written		
110	Climate Change Division	Rhiannon	Logging in National Parks and RFA Breaches	<p>If the NSW Government makes areas inside National Parks available for logging would the Commonwealth consider this a breach of the RFA? Have there been any discussions with the NSW Government on this issue?</p>	Written		

111	Climate Change Division	Rhiannon	Tasmanian Forest Exit Grants.	In relation to fraud investigation into the \$17 million exit assistance package for Tasmanian forest contractors by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forests (DAFF), can the Minister/ Department provide a final list of grants provided under the scheme?	Written		
112	Climate Change Division	Rhiannon	Diesel Fuel Rebate in RFA Regions	What is the total amount of the Diesel Fuel Rebate claimed by the logging industry in each of the past 4 years by RFA region?	Written		
113	Climate Change Division	Colbeck	Increase in Drought Assistance	Program 1.11 has had increase of Drought Assistance – Re-establishment Assistance has increased by \$3.9 million. What is the justification for this increase? How will it be administered and accessed? What are the eligibility criteria?	Written		
114	Climate Change Division	Colbeck	Review and Assessment of Assistance Provided to Primary Producers through the Provision of Tax Concessions	What is the status of the “Review and assessment of assistance provided to primary producers through the provision of tax concessions”? Is it publicly available yet? What is causing the delay in publicly releasing this review? What are the key outcomes?	Written		
115	Finance and Business Support Division	Nash	Temporary Personnel Services	Senator NASH: Thank you very much. Also, regarding the temporary personnel services, it looks as though \$981,173 has been spent on the temporary personal services, according to the contract notices. Can you give us an indication of why the department would need the expenditure for the extra staff? Mr Schaeffer: They are for situations where we do not have staff on board yet, obviously. So they exist at the border sometimes, in relation to cargo clearance, or they could be for accounts payable staff, or they could be for a whole series of reasons right across the department.	009-10		

				<p>Senator NASH: Could you take on notice for me to identify each of those for the period 1 August 2012 to June 2013?</p> <p>Mr Schaeffer: Each of the areas?</p> <p>Senator NASH: Each of the individual contract notices and what the services were for.</p> <p>Mr Metcalfe: Sorry, did you say June 2013?</p> <p>Senator NASH: Yes, to June 2013.</p> <p>Mr Metcalfe: So, into the future.</p> <p>Senator NASH: Yes. These must be contracted through till the end of June 2013, I am assuming.</p> <p>Mr Schaeffer: Yes.</p> <p>Senator NASH: That would be great. And provide an indication of why they could not be found from within the current resource pool.</p> <p>Mr Schaeffer: Sure.</p>			
116	Finance and Business Support Division	Colbeck	Timeframe for the Release of the Cost Recovery Impact Statement	<p>Senator COLBECK: What is the usual time frame for the release of the cost recovery impact statement around the increase in fees? Is there a policy around that, when it should or should not be released?</p> <p>Ms Mellor: I am not sure that there is a specified time frame. I will double-check with our CFO under the cost recovery guidelines of the government. We generally try to get them out as quickly as we can as we consult with industry.</p>	056		
117	Finance and Business Support Division	Colbeck	Efficiency Dividend	<p>Please confirm that there will be no staffing cuts to achieve the 4% efficiency dividend.</p> <p>QON 77 October 2012 detailed projected savings of \$1.92 million, what is the current level of savings connected to the efficiency dividend?</p> <p>What percentage does this represent?</p> <p>Are there any divisions that are not meeting the budgets that have been set for them to manage?</p>	Written		
118	Finance and Business Support	Colbeck	Consultancies	<p>Have the five consultancies listed in QON 93, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual review of the National Residue Survey Grain Program • Review of Australian Pest Animals Strategy 	Written		

	Division			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the department's protective security framework • Review of Australian Weeds Strategy • Review of regional plans for National Resource Management been tendered and if so what is the duration and cost of each? <p>As a result of the spending on these five consultancies, how will the planned reduction of \$944K on consultancies still be achieved?</p>			
119	Finance and Business Support Division	Colbeck	DAFF Budget	How is the DAFF budget being affected by the funding offers being made by Minister Burke for things like the IGA and the Fisheries adjustment package?	Written		
120	Finance and Business Support Division	Colbeck	IER	<p>Provide a month by month balance of the IER for the Import Clearance Program from 1 July 2011 to date.</p> <p>Provide details of income and expenditure, including the source of income and the what funds were spent on.</p> <p>Provide details of industry agreement to this expenditure.</p> <p>Provide evidence of industry being aware of the erosion of the IER, particularly the fact that the IER will drop below the agreed 10% level.</p> <p>Provide evidence of industry being made aware of the consequences the IER falling below the 10% level and of the potential need for an increase in fees to bring the IER back up to the agreed 10% level.</p>	Written		
121	Finance and Business Support Division	Colbeck	BICON	<p>The information provided in response to QON 176 October 2012 regarding industry funding of BICON does not clearly demonstrate that industry had been consulted and were supportive of \$18million of IER being used on the project. Is there some other communication or position paper that does show consultation and support of industry?</p> <p>If so, please provide this information.</p>	Written		

122	Finance and Business Support Division	Colbeck	ICON	<p>Why did the funding model for the redevelopment of ICON into BICON change from using AQIS cash reserves and cost recovering the depreciation (Estimates 26 May 2008) to 75% industry funded?</p> <p>Is this because the initial development of ICON went so significantly over time and over budget?</p>	Written		
123	Finance and Business Support Division	Colbeck	Taxi Costs	<p>QON 154 October 2012 asked about cost recovery of Biosecurity's taxi spend. The response was "such analysis is not considered to be an appropriate allocation of resources." Does this mean DAFF / Biosecurity Division do not know the breakup of cost recovered vs appropriated costs and activities?</p> <p>If this sort of detail is not tracked, how are cost recovered activities truly cost recovered?</p> <p>For the year to date, what is the Biosecurity spend on taxis?</p> <p>What was the largest taxi fare for the Biosecurity Division and where was it to / from?</p> <p>How often do Biosecurity Division taxi fares exceed of \$150?</p>	Written		
124	Finance and Business Support Division	Colbeck	Office Lease	<p>The response given to QON 139 October 2012 highlights a number of leased properties where the annual rent is "NIL". Why is that?</p> <p>Are these properties free?</p>	Written		
125	Finance and Business Support Division	Colbeck	Electricity Costs and Provider	<p>QON 146 October 2012 indicated that DAFF has not held discussions with electricity providers. When are electricity contracts renegotiated?</p> <p>What was the cost of electricity to DAFF for 2011-12?</p> <p>What is the cost for electricity YTD?</p>	Written		
126	Finance and Business	Colbeck	Program Spending Freeze	<p>QON 147 October 2012 stated that "the portfolio has not been subject to a spending freeze this financial year."</p>	Written		

	Support Division			<p>The Agency Additional Estimates Statements identify savings of \$1,664,000 for “Whole of Government Savings from Paused Grants Programs” and the affected Programs are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.1 Tackling Climate Change • 1.13 International Market Access • 2.2 Plant and Animal Health <p>1. What the specific grants programs were paused in each of these outcome areas and what is the saving from each of the paused grants programs?</p> <p>2. Have DAFF sought any assessment of the impact of these program pauses on agricultural and agricultural research, including loss of international funds and reputational damage?</p>			
127	Finance and Business Support Division	Colbeck	Levies Revenue Services	<p>What does the Levies Revenue Service cost industry as a percentage of the levies collected?</p>	Written		
128	Finance and Business Support Division	Colbeck	Employment and Workplace Relations Advice	<p>What factors have attributed to the increase in DAFF’s spend with the Australian Government Solicitor between 2009-10 and 2011-12?</p> <p>What were the main areas in which advice was sought?</p> <p>Was advice sought in connection to issues of bullying and harassment?</p>	Written		
129	Finance and Business Support Division	Colbeck	Agency Additional Estimates Statements	<p>The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service Special Account budget has increased by \$4.24 million from budget estimates. What is the justification for this increase?</p>	Written		
130	Finance and Business Support Division	Colbeck	Appropriation for Outcome 2	<p>The appropriation for Outcome 2 Departmental expenses has increased by \$4.99 million from budget estimates. What is the justification for this increase?</p>	Written		

131	Finance and Business Support Division	Colbeck	Efficiency dividend	Are there financial incentives for senior management to achieve the efficiency dividend?	Written		
132	Finance and Business Support Division	Colbeck	IER	<p>Figures provided at Additional Estimates indicated the IER has dropped from approximately \$24 million to \$10 million this financial year, and that the target figure is actually \$18 million.</p> <p>Specifically what has this money been spent on?</p> <p>Has industry been advised of the erosion of the reserve?</p> <p>Has industry approved the use of this money?</p> <p>What efficiencies is the division implementing to redress the ongoing use of the IER?</p> <p>What is the IER expected to be by the end of the current financial year?</p> <p>When will decisions be made on how to return the IER to the target of \$18 million?</p>	Written		
133	Finance and Business Support Division	Colbeck	Contractors	<p>How many contractors are currently employed in the Department and what is the average contract length?</p> <p>What is the longest contract length?</p> <p>What is the target for reducing the number of contractors used by the department?</p>	Written		
134	Finance and Business Support Division	Colbeck	Additional Estimates Statements	<p>The Additional Estimates underspend in R&D – is this due to reduced revenues from industry?</p> <p>The budget reduction of over \$1 million for the Forestry Marketing and Research and Development Services Act, what factors have contributed to this reduction?</p>	Written		

135	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Making the Public Service More Efficient	<p>Please provide an update of the savings achieved through pursuing further efficiencies in the way the public service operates (see media release by the Minister for Finance and Deregulation and the Special Minister of State of 25 September 2012 http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media/2012/mr_1982012.html).</p> <p>In addition, please provide the following detail:</p> <p>Can you quantify the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates for reductions in air travel?</p> <p>Has there been a reduction in business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?</p> <p>Has there been a reduction in the use of external consultants and contractors? Has this impacted on the Department/agency, and how? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?</p> <p>Provide an update of moving recruitment advertising online. Is any recruitment still in printed materials, and if yes, why? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?</p> <p>Has the department/agency reduced its printing costs? If no, why not? Have printing costs increased, and if yes why and how much? Has the five per cent savings target been achieved – if yes, how, or if it will not, why not? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?</p>	Written		
136	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Printing Costs	<p>How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed this financial year to date? How many of these printed documents were also published online?</p>	Written		
137	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Hospitality and Entertainment	<p>What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p>	Written		

				<p>For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved and what are the estimated savings over each year of the forward estimates?</p>			
138	Finance and Business	Heffernan	Meeting Costs	<p>What is the Department/Agency's meeting spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events,</p>	Written		

	Support Division			<p>including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total meeting spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>What meeting spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what meeting spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.</p>			
139	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Program Launch Costs	<p>What is the Department/Agency's program launch spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total program launch spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>What program launch spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what program launch spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>What is the Department/Agency's program launch spend for 2011-12? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total program launch spend for 2011-12. Detail date, location,</p>	Written		

				purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.			
140	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Consultancies	<p>How many consultancies have been undertaken this financial year to date? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.</p> <p>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.</p>	Written		
141	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Staff Amenities	What amenities are provided to staff? Provide a list.	Written		
142	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Coffee Machines	<p>Has the department/agency purchased coffee machines for staff useage? If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased.</p> <p>Why were coffee machines purchased?</p> <p>Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were purchased? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?</p> <p>Where did the funding for the coffee machines come from?</p> <p>Who has access?</p> <p>Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance in this financial year to date,</p>	Written		

				<p>include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?</p> <p>What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee?</p> <p>Does the department/agency rent coffee machines for staff useage? If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased.</p> <p>Why are coffee machines rented?</p>			
143	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Grants	<p>Could the department/agency provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for this financial year to date? Please provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.</p> <p>Have all grant agreement details been published on its website within the required timeframe? If not, provide details.</p> <p>Provide a list of grants that your department/agency administers that had uncommitted grants funding reduced as per the statement by the Finance Minister on 22 October 2012 (see http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media/2012/mr_2102012.html). How much was funding reduced for grant?</p>	Written		
144	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Government Payments of Accounts	<p>For this financial year to date, has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e.within 30 days)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If not, why not? Provide details, including what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached) • For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on 	Written		

				<p>overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined? 			
145	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Media Subscriptions	<p>What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please provide a list of what channels and the reason for each channel. • What is the cost for this financial year to date? <p>What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each. • What is the cost for this financial year to date? <p>What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each. • What is the cost for this financial year to date? 	Written		
146	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Travel Costs	<p>For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).</p> <p>For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.</p> <p>What travel is planned for the rest of this financial year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.</p>	Written		

				<p>What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.</p> <p>Are the Government's Lowest Practical Fare travel policy for Domestic Air Travel (Finance Circular No. 2009/10) and Best Fare of the Day for International Air Travel (Finance Circular No. 2009/11) guidelines being followed? How is the department/agency following the advice? How is this monitored? If the guidelines are not being followed, please explain why.</p> <p>Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the total costs of the lounge memberships.</p> <p>When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as an Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel.</p> <p>Does the department/agency elect to offset emissions for employees work related travel? If yes, what is the cost?</p>			
147	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Legal costs	<p>What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.</p> <p>What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.</p> <p>What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.</p> <p>What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal</p>	Written		

				services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.			
148	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Paid Parental Leave	<p>Please list how many staff in each department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme?</p> <p>For this financial year to date list which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff and their classification are in receipt of these payments.</p> <p>What is the paid parental scheme offered by each department and agency? How many staff have used the scheme this financial year to date.</p>	Written		
149	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Corporate Cars	<p>How cars are owned by each department/agency?</p> <p>Where is the car/s located?</p> <p>What is the car/s used for?</p> <p>What is the cost of each car for this financial year to date?</p> <p>How far did each car travel this financial year to date?</p>	Written		
150	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Taxi Costs	<p>How much did each department/agency spend on taxis this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.</p> <p>What are the reasons for taxi costs?</p>	Written		
151	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Hire Cars	<p>How much did each department/agency spend on hire cars this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.</p> <p>What are the reasons for hire car costs?</p>	Written		
152	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Credit Cards	<p>Provide a breakdown for each employment classification that has a corporate credit card.</p> <p>Please update details of the following?</p>	Written		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused? • How is corporate credit card use monitored? • What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered? • Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken. <p>What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?</p>			
153	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Electricity Purchasing	<p>What are the details of the department/agency electricity purchasing agreement?</p> <p>What are the department/agency electricity costs for this financial year to date?</p>	Written		
154	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Shredders	<p>Has the department/agencies purchased any shredders this financial year? If yes, provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.</p>	Written		
155	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Office Locations	<p>1. Please provide a list of all office locations for all departments and agencies within the portfolio by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Department/Agency; b. Location; c. Leased or Owned; d. Size; e. Number of Staff at each location and classification; f. If rented, the amount and breakdown of rent per square metre; g. If owned, the value of the building; h. Depreciation of buildings that are owned; i. Type of functions and work undertaken. 	Written		
156	Finance and Business Support Division	Heffernan	Contractors	<p>For this financial year to date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). 	Written		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has the department/agency ever employed Shannon’s Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon’s Way? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). • 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 (including the work undertaken and the cost). • Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). • Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). • Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). • Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). • Has the department/agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). • Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details. • What contractors have been employed by the department/agency? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). 			
157	Food Division	Colbeck	Verification of the National Residue Survey Data	<p>Senator COLBECK: I understand so, too, so we are on the same page. What are the implications for horticulture industries that participate in the National Residue Survey given that we have</p>	049		

				<p>access to that direct information on the FreshTest database? Can the National Residue Survey use those FrestTest results to provide government to government assurances? My perspective is looking at this in the context of gathering all of this data at farm level as part of our quality assurance systems. I think it is good that the government is now accessing the information. Is there a possibility for a positive cost implication in utilising data that is there anyway rather than having another process that overlays it again?</p> <p>Mr Read: I understand the question. The element that I will need to take on notice is in regard to the verification of that data and whether the sorts of assurances we are providing government to government can be met from that industry dataset. Where you can take that dataset and verify the integrity of the testing and the methodology sitting around that, and also the international standards relating to the reporting of the residues and they meet those requirements, I would imagine that that sort of approach could be applied, but I need to check that specifically in this context.</p>			
158	Food Division	Colbeck	Quality Assurance Schemes	<p>Senator COLBECK: But aren't we almost talking about duplicating stuff that is already out there potentially? You look at FreshTest, which basically rounds up data from third-party certified labs, the NATA certified labs that we have just been talking about. That collects all that data, and my understanding is that up until very recently the government had not subscribed to that information and so was not aware of it or what was there.</p> <p>Again, rather than using the data that is there, which from my looking at it could provide a lot of quality information to a whole range of people, whether it is our markets and our government's oversight of that, whether it is the ag and vet chemical companies who look to check on efficacy use, failure rates or otherwise of application—all those sorts of things. There is a whole heap of information that is basically sitting there and is not being used for a number of things that it could be used for. Rather than find new ways to collect and test it, we could utilise that. It is not necessarily an industry-run scheme. It is funded by industry but, as Mr Read has said, the issue is having confidence in the efficacy of that information and data. If you have a quality assurance system sitting behind it—a GLOBALG.A.P or whatever the scheme might be—</p>	051-52		

				<p>surely we ought to be trying to reduce the number of these interventions rather than increase them.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: As Mr Read said, neither of us knows enough about the detail of how that works. We have agreed to come back on notice on that specific question. I was trying to say that we agree with the principle of what you are doing. We are trying to find the least cost way of providing that certainty to both the governments in Australia and the countries we export to.</p>			
159	Food Division	Heffernan	China's Imported Food Quality	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. China appears in the International Media a lot more than Australia for adulterated food/meat, can DAFF guarantee China's imported food quality? Is that the role of BioSecurity Food or AQIS? 2. Can DAFF list out all the approved food products coming in from China? – can we have a list please? 3. Are the Chinese processed meat factories operating at a level of hygiene acceptable to AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS? Who checks these factories and how often, please provide details of inspections since 2010? 4. Can DAFF identify all of the processed meat factories? If so, can we have a list? 5. How many of these processed meat factories has DAFF staff inspected since 2010? 6. Why does New Zealand MAFF have a system based Veterinary protocol in place commencing June of this year (including tripes) and yet Australia is nowhere near getting a systems based Protocol in place with China? Is DAFF looking at the NZ model, if not, why not? 7. Does DAFF send officials to NZ to inspect NZ meat factories? 8. Do you believe accessing market for Australian meat and agricultural products is all about veterinary and health standards Protocols. 9. Why is it that some Australian meat exporters have managed to get approvals for certain countries when DAFF has failed? - Examples of this are beef plants for Egypt, Kangaroo meat into Russia , etc,etc. 	Written		

160	Food Division	Rhiannon	Microbial Testing of Kangaroo	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In answer to my request from October 2012 Supplementary Budget Estimates asking for a copy of the data and results of microbial testing on kangaroo carcasses, I was provided with a graph showing the median E.coli counts: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What was the range of the counts? b. What was the E.coli count of each of the kangaroo carcasses tested, and the corresponding days of age of the carcasses. c. May I please have a copy of the Salmonella testing results for each of the kangaroo carcasses tested. 2. Answer 4 advised the purpose of the study was not directly related to the safety of the kangaroo meat, but to verify that 14 days was an acceptable interval between the shooting of kangaroos and processing. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the average interval in the industry between shooting and processing? b. What does “acceptable interval” relate to, if not safety of the kangaroo meat? c. May I please have a copy of the response to the Russian authorities of which this survey played a part. d. How is the safety of kangaroo meat tested if not by these tests? 3. Given that this survey play a part of the response to the Russian authorities’ concern over microbial loads of kangaroo meat, and Answer 5b stated that the on-site DAFF veterinarian ensured only carcasses passed as fit for processing for human consumption were sampled: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is an on-site veterinarian always present in processing establishments to ensure carcasses processed are always fit for human consumption? b. How many carcasses are rejected as unfit for human consumption per year? 4. In answer 7, it was stated that Salmonella spp and Toxoplasma gondii are food-borne zoonotic agents known to cause disease in humans and also present in kangaroos, but that FSANZ do not require the testing of raw meat for food-borne pathogens: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please confirm that this means kangaroo carcasses sold for meat are not tested for either of these two diseases? 5. Papers like Tenter et al (2011) and Parameswaran et al (2009) 	Written		
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				<p>state that that kangaroo is highly susceptible to T.gondii. They also identify the growing kangaroo meat trade as a public health significance which has the potential of a new source of infection for European customers given that as a lean meat it is usually served undercooked.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Given that T.gondii may cause abortion or congenital disease in its intermediate hosts, what safety warnings are being given to consumers and importers of kangaroo meat? b. Are importing countries advised of the risks of T.gondii on human health; the significant problem of T.gondii in kangaroos; and that kangaroo carcasses are not routinely tested for T.gondii and other food-borne zoonotic diseases? <p>6. If not, why not? Is there expectation of importing countries to be made aware of food safety risks in kangaroo meat?</p>			
161	Food Division	Colbeck	Reform of Australia's Export Certification Services	If New Zealand is the only country that fully recovers costs of export inspection and certification, what is the range of support provided to exporters in other countries, particularly our major competitors?	Written		
162	Food Division	Colbeck	National Residue Survey	In response to QON 196 October 2012, the budget deficits were reported to be due to "new projects relating to residue management". What were these "new projects" and what did they cost?	Written		
163	Governance Division	Colbeck	CDDA Claim	<p>Mr Aldred: There is no real set time. With the CDDA claim, they cannot be dealt with until legal avenues have been examined or exhausted. They do depend quite substantially on interacting with the applicant and toing and froing on information. Obviously we try to do them as expeditiously as we can, but some of them take quite some time.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Once you have got all the information, how long would it normally take?</p> <p>Mr Aldred: It is variable. It depends on the complexity of the matter. They do range from relatively simple matters through to exceedingly complex ones.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: So when the Ombudsman's office or the department of finance both confirm that a four- to six-week time</p>	006		

				<p>frame should be taken to complete a report, where would they get that from?</p> <p>Mr Aldred: It would be our intent to try and do things as expeditiously as possible, but it is highly variable.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Do you have any stats on what sort of time frame it might take? Do you have any benchmarks?</p> <p>Mr Aldred: I have not got specific stats with me but I can give you an indication on notice of our general time line.</p>			
164	Governance	Macdonald	Events Management	<p>In answer to Question On Notice 5 from Supplementary Estimates in October the Department indicated that its Events Management department, which consists of seven-eight people, conducted 13 events ranging from single day events to year-long programs of information seminars.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Can the department detail the wages/personnel costs of operating the Event Management division? b. Can the department detail the operating costs of the 13 events listed in the answer to QON 5? 	Written		
165	Governance Division	Macdonald	Disaster Recovery and Relief Arrangements	<p>Rural Communities across five states have been impacted by natural disasters in recent months. Rural communities and primary producers may be eligible for a variety of State and Federal assistance packages.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is the Department actively monitoring affected properties? b. Is the Department providing assistance of advice to affected properties and property managers? c. Is the department reaching out to rural communities to provide advice on what assistance may be available? d. Is the department maintaining a database of the number of affected properties and the number of applications that have been received for disaster recovery payments? e. Is the department providing relief and or assistance to small businesses and farming operations? 	Written		
166	Governance Division	Colbeck	Communications and Advertising	<p>Provide an update on the advertising and communications spend for the year to date, by division and program, and the business providing the communications services.</p>	Written		

				<p>What activities have occurred as part of Carbon Farming Communication Strategy?</p> <p>How does the Government prioritise communications spending?</p> <p>Given the potential impact of biosecurity breaches to Australia, why was the spend on biosecurity communications, as reported in QON 83 October 2012, about one fifth of the spend on Carbon Farming Initiative?</p>			
167	Governance Division	Colbeck	Freedom of Information	<p>What is the updated advice provided to the Department regarding response to FOI requests?</p> <p>How will this impact those making requests?</p> <p>Is the total cost of processing FOI requests cost recovered?</p> <p>If not how is the balance between cost recovery / appropriated funds determined?</p>	Written		
168	Governance Division	Colbeck	Animal Welfare Class Action – Temporary Suspension of Live Trade to Indonesia	<p>Has a class action been filed in any court?</p> <p>If so, what are the details and claimed losses?</p>	Written		
169	Governance Division	Heffernan	Advertising costs	<p>What was the total cost of all advertising for the financial year to date?</p> <p>Is the advertising campaign or non-campaign advertising? Provide details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.</p> <p>Has the Department of Finance and Deregulation provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.</p>	Written		

				<p>Has the Peer Review Group (PRG) and/or Independent Communications Committee (ICC) provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.</p> <p>Did the Advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies? Provide the details for each advertising item.</p> <p>Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services.</p> <p>What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – and other communications programs is the Department/Agency undertaking, or are planning to undertake?</p>			
170	Governance Division	Heffernan	Board Appointments	<p>List all of the boards within this portfolio, including: board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members.</p> <p>What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?</p> <p>Please detail any board appointments for this financial year to date.</p>	Written		
171	Governance Division	Heffernan	Freedom of Information requests	<p>Has the department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests?</p> <p>What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?</p> <p>How many FOI requests has the Department received for this financial year to date? How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted? Has the department failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many and why? Do any of these requests remain outstanding? If so, how many and why?</p>	Written		
172	Governance Division	Heffernan	Community Cabinet Meetings	<p>How many Community Cabinet meetings has the Minister attended this financial year to date? List date and location.</p>	Written		

				<p>How many Departmental Officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? List travel type, accommodate and any other expenses. Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Departmental Officers attend? List date and location.</p> <p>What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date?</p>			
173	Governance Division	Heffernan	Reviews	<p>For this financial year to date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many Reviews are being undertaken? • What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be concluded? • Which of these reviews has been provided to Government? • When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed? • Has the Government responded to all reviews within the timeframe? If not, why not? • What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews? • What reviews are planned? • When will each of these reviews be concluded? 	Written		
174	Governance Division	Heffernan	Media Monitoring	<p>What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for this financial year to date?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which agency or agencies provided these services? • What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13? • What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date? <p>What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for this financial year to date?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which agency or agencies provided these services? • What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13? 	Written		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date? 			
175	Governance Division	Heffernan	Social Media	<p>Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and useage of Youtube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since May 2012 Budget Estimates? If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issue.</p> <p>Does the department/agency monitor usage of social media?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If yes, provide details of the useage (for example details could include average hours per employee, hours when useage peaks). • Has there been a change to the department/agency protocols due to staff useage? • If no, why not? Will the department/agency monitor useage in the future? <p>Does social media impact on employee productivity? Provide details (details could include increased internet usage in general or increased internet usage in standard business hours)</p>	Written		
176	Governance Division	Heffernan	Commissioned Reports	<p>How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your department/agency this financial year to date? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level? <p>What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?</p>	Written		
177	Governance Division	Heffernan	Stationery Requirements	<p>How much was spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. paper, envelopes, with compliments slips) this financial year to date?</p>	Written		

				What are the department/agency's stationery costs for the financial year to date?			
178	Governance Division	Heffernan	Media Training	<p>In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Total spending on these services 2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification 3. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) 4. The names of all service providers engaged <p>For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The name and nature of the service purchased b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) d. The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) e. The total amount spent on the service f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package) <p>Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The location used ii. The number of employees who took part on each occasion iii. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) iv. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location 	Written		

179	Governance Division	Heffernan	Training for Portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries	<p>For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for.</p> <p>For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for staff of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for.</p> <p>For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for designed to better suit the needs of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for, and how many employees attended and their classification.</p>	Written		
180	Governance Division	Heffernan	Briefings for the Australian Greens and Independents	<p>Have any briefings and/or provision of information s been provided to the Australian Greens? If yes, please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are briefings requests commissioned? • What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing. • Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information. • Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed. • How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification. <p>Have any briefings and/or provision of information been provided to Independents? If yes, please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are briefings requests commissioned? • What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing. • Provide details of what information has been provided and a 	Written		

				<p>copy of the information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed. • How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Independents? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification. <p>Which Independents have requested briefings and/or information?</p>			
181	Governance Division	Heffernan	Protective Security Policy Framework	Provide an update for your department/agency, including what is your current compliance level, what are you doing to manage risk, what is being done to comply with the mandatory requirements and details of any department/agency specific policies and procedures.	Written		
182	Governance Division	Heffernan	Communications Staff	<p>1. For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:</p> <p>a. By Department or agency:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location. ii. How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location iii. How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location iv. How many are graphic designers? v. How many are media managers? vi. How many organise events? <p>2. Do any departments/agencies have independent media studios? If yes, why? When was it established? What is the set up cost? What is the ongoing cost? How many staff work there and what are their classifications?</p>	Written		
183	Information Services Division	Colbeck	Allocation of electronic equipment	Now that the department has electronic records of the allocation of electronic equipment (advised in response to QON 160 October 2012) please provide details of staff classifications and divisions that have received electronic equipment (ipad, laptop, wireless card,	Written		

				vasco token, blackberry, iphone, mobile phone).			
184	Information Services Division	Heffernan	Internet Issues	Has the Department experienced any internet problems, such as but not limited to slow internet, or internet blackouts? If yes, what was the reason for this? Did it impact the Minister's office?	Written		
185	Information Services Division	Heffernan	Provision of Equipment	<p>For departments/agencies that provide mobile phones to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what type of mobile phone is provided and the costs?</p> <p>For departments/agencies that provide electronic equipment to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what are the ongoing costs for this financial year to date?</p> <p>Is electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive) provided to department/agency staff? If yes provide details of what is provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it.</p> <p>Does the department/agency provide their Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices with any electronic equipment? If yes, provide details of what is provided, the cost and to who it is provided.</p>	Written		
186	Live Animal Exports Division	Rhiannon	Investigations of Regulatory Programs	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Considering the distress this caused the wider Australian public, considering the challenge that the industry has and considering your own workload, which is obviously very relevant here, can you give us some more information about how these are being conducted? You have said they are all priorities. The five of them sound like a lot of work. Is there one that you are concentrating on more? Would not the advice from one help inform the others? Could you give us some more advice please?</p> <p>Ms Irwin: The department does have an investigations and enforcement division to conduct investigations across any of its regulatory programs. That division plays a key role in advising any program across the department on compliance and enforcement</p>	063		

				<p>action. Specifically in relation to the way investigations are undertaken in the live animal export program, there are a range of areas in the department that provide expert advice to assist in the completion of investigations. For example, my own division will provide regulatory advice for the regulatory framework that we work under. The animal biosecurity division will provide expert advice for animal health issues that may arise, including advice from the CVO on occasions. The animal welfare branch will provide advice on animal welfare standards. As you can appreciate, there is a range of areas of expertise that may need to be called on depending on what the particular issues are in any investigation on foot.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Has any of this investigation or advice work been outsourced or has it all been done within the department?</p> <p>Ms Irwin: To the best of my knowledge, it is all being done within the department.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Do you want to take that on notice if you are not sure?</p> <p>Mr Metcalfe: We will correct the record or add to the answer if there is anything more to say.</p>			
187	Live Animal Exports Division	Rhiannon	LiveCorp Review of ESCAS Export Standards	<p>Senator RHIANNON: When will the review be finished and released?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: We are fairly close. I will probably have to take it on notice, but I would think in the next couple of months.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Would you take it on notice, please?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Yes.</p>	073		
188	Live Animal Exports Division	Williams	Export of Live Sheep to Egypt	<p>Senator WILLIAMS: I understand the Egyptian veterinary officials from GOVS have communicated with the department on at least one occasion in the past 12 months that they would like to begin negotiating a MOU on a health protocol to enable an export of live Australian sheep to Egypt. Would you please advise us what you are doing to pursue this market opportunity as a matter of urgency?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: I am not familiar with the real detail of that. I am aware that we have had an approach from Egypt and that they have had a long-running interest in sheep. The exact status of where we are up</p>	118		

				<p>to and the nature of the exchange is something that would be best answered by our animal biosecurity division who appeared earlier. But I am more than happy to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator WILLIAMS: Take it on notice and see where it is up to because obviously they are keen to buy from us. The issue is that the mutton market has dropped significantly as has the lamb market. Since the implementation of ESCAS, how many new markets has your department assisted in opening for the livestock export industry?</p> <p>Ms Evans: We might have to take that on notice. The livestock export industry includes a number of different types of animals—breeder animals, slaughter animals, as well as cattle, sheep and goats et cetera—so I would like to take it on notice to make sure we give you an accurate answer.</p>			
189	Live Animal Exports Division	Rhiannon	Breaches of ESCAS	<p>Senator RHIANNON: It has been reported that Australian sheep are being sold to unaccredited livestock markets in Kuwait's Al Rai livestock market, in the Friday local market. Do you have details of your investigation of this latest breach of the export rules? I am after any information about who did this and how this happened.</p> <p>Mr Metcalfe: Chair, Senator, this really should have come up under the live animal export discussion we had earlier this afternoon. Mr Glyde is Deputy Secretary. He may be able to assist, but I doubt if we will have any other officers at this stage of the proceedings.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: The Secretary is right. The people who have the detailed knowledge about the particular investigations were in the live animal export division. What I do know is that we have received two complaints from Animals Australia in relation to animals being in this particular market in Kuwait. I do not recall the exact date that we received the first one, but we also received a second allegation in January this year—I forget the specific date—and we have commenced an investigation into that second incident.</p> <p>Mr Metcalfe: I think it was addressed to me, and so it was very recent.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Yes, it was extremely recently. I probably have it here in the briefing, but it is probably safer for me to give you the precise timing as to when we received both of those allegations on notice, if that is okay.</p>	119		

190	Live Animal Exports Division	Rhiannon	Breaches of ESCAS	<p>Senator RHIANNON: I will put the questions in on notice. I am sorry about that; I am still working that out. I want to ask a fairly general question: as you are aware, a number of animal groups have often alerted you to the issues of animal cruelty. Apart from animal groups alerting you, have you been informed by any other groups or individuals not associated with animal welfare groups?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: We receive information about non-compliances essentially from three resources. The first source is our auditing system of both initial audits and performance audits. They come through as a result of the ESCAS. The second source of information we have is from the exporters themselves. We have had a number of incidents where the exporters have declared noncompliances that they have become aware of. The third source of information is from third parties, and to date the third party information has come from animal welfare groups or from people reporting through the Australian animal welfare groups.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Do you have a breakdown for those three? What percentage of the reporting comes from those three different groupings?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Yes, we can provide that. I do not have the exact information to hand, but we can provide that classified by our hierarchy of critical, major and minor noncompliances by the source from where they have come. The vast majority of the noncompliances tend to relate to documentation, but we can give you that breakdown. In looking around for that, I have found the dates for those two investigations, if that would help.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Yes.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: The original complaint in Kuwait was received by us on 30 August, alleging that Australian sourced sheep were being offered for sale and slaughter outside of the approved supply chain in Kuwait. We received a second complaint, as the Secretary said, on 30 January with the same allegation—that is, the animals were being offered for sale and slaughter outside an approved supply chain. But I will also provide the specifics about our sources of information in relation to noncompliances.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Thank you. Chair, I will put my questions on notice and get them into the right group.</p>	119-120		
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191	Live Animal Exports Division	Rhiannon	Sheep in Kuwait	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It has been reported that Australian sheep are being sold at two unaccredited livestock markets in Kuwait's al-Rai livestock market and the Friday local market on January 17-18. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What resources and personnel have been allocated to this investigation? b. How and when and to whom was notification given of these incidents? 2. Is there an existing investigation into the cruel and inhumane treatment of sheep that occurred at one of the same markets last year? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so where is that investigation up to; when and how did the the breach occur? b. Why is that existing investigation still continuing some 5 months after the report of the breach? 3. What resources are needed to expedite such investigations to avoid continuing breaches of the ESCAS? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What procedures and safeguards are supposed to be in place during investigations to safeguard against more sheep making it into those unaccredited markets that are already being investigated? b. Who is responsible for ensuring these safeguards work? 	Written		
192	Live Animal Exports Division	Williams	Trade and Market Access	Since the implementation of ESCAS, how many new markets has your Department assisted in opening for the livestock export industry? (If they claim Vietnam, much of the work was done by the NT Government except for the health protocol issues – so the answer should be none).	Written		
193	Live Animal Export Division	Williams	Trade and Market Access	Do you understand that by failing to help the livestock export industry to open new markets that you are effectively driving down sheep and cattle prices and lowering farm incomes to thousands of producers around the country?	Written		
194	Live Animal Exports Division	Rhiannon	Mauritius Cattle	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did MLA know that the method to be used to slaughter cattle exported to Mauritius last year would involve the roping method outlawed following the response to the Indonesian live export controversy? 2. Is there an existing investigation into the recent cruel and 	Written		

				<p>inhumane treatment of cattle in Mauritius?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so where is that investigation up to? b. Why is that existing investigation still continuing some 5 months after the report of the breach? <p>3. What resources are needed to expedite such investigations to avoid continuing breaches of the ESCAS?</p>			
195	Live Animal Exports Division	Rhiannon	Barkly Pearl Shipment of Cattle to Mauritius	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regarding the shipment of cattle from Geraldton to Mauritius on the Barkly Pearl in October 2012. It has been reported that all cattle certified by a veterinarian as spayed and therefore not pregnant, yet two cows birthed during the voyage and many were found to be pregnant on arrival? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What are the details of this incident, and details of any investigation? b. Is this a regular occurrence? c. What proof is required to support claims of spayed cattle? d. What precautions are being taken to ensure this does not happen again? e. What is the process to address false or wrong reporting from supervising vets? f. Where are the gaps in the live export process that can allow this to happen, and what is being done to address those shortfalls? 2. There were a reported 18 deaths during the voyage, yet a complaint has been made that the captain's documentation stated no mortalities occurred. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Who is undertaking that investigation, and where is that investigation up to? 3. What is the process available to make complaint about false and misleading information provided by a livestock ship's captain in relation to their shipments of Australian live exports? 	Written		
196	Live Animal Exports Division	Rhiannon	ESCAS Investigations	<p>Considering a cornerstone of why the ESCAS was implemented is to prevent Australian livestock being sold into notoriously cruel markets, what are the specific responsibilities of the government agencies involved in investigating and/or implementing the process supposed to prevent these breaches, and how do they interact with each other?</p>	Written		

197	Live Animal Exports Division	Colbeck	Live Exports Dip in 2013	<p>What are the prospects of live sheep exports to other countries to alleviate the impact of the forecast drop to Saudi Arabia and Bahrain?</p> <p>What are the hurdles in finalising the approval of supply chains to Saudi Arabia?</p> <p>What are the expected consequences of the reduction in live export for sheep and cattle, as reported by the Kondinin Group 29 January 2013?</p> <p>What actions are the Department taking to address these consequences?</p>	Written		
198	Live Animal Exports/Live Corp	Rhiannon	Animal Welfare Improvements Under ESCAS	<p>In LiveCorp's role in working with the industry and considering their compliance with ESCAS are you confident that there have been improvements in animal welfare standards as a result?</p> <p>a. What evidence can you provide to the committee that that is the case?</p>	Written		
199	People and Business Support Division	Colbeck	BICON	<p>What is the current status of BICON development and roll out?</p> <p>When is it expected to be finished?</p> <p>Is this on time and on budget?</p> <p>What is the current cost and expected final cost and how does that compare to initial budget?</p> <p>What was the original costing?</p> <p>Where is the extra money coming from?</p> <p>Is the IER being used for the shortfall?</p>	Written		
200	People and Service Delivery	Colbeck	Entitlement of Sick Days	<p>Senator COLBECK: What is the entitlement of sick days a year under the workplace agreement?</p> <p>Ms O'Brien: The provision in the enterprise agreement is up to 20</p>	011		

	Division			<p>days which relates to sick leave, carer's leave and a range of personal leave factors. There are also no certification requirements on our staff at this time under the enterprise agreement.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: So they do not need any certificates?</p> <p>Ms O'Brien: They do not require certificates unless in particular instances to secretary can exercise his discretion to require certificates in particular cases.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Were you aware that veterans affairs sought to cap the number of sick days without certificates in the last agreement?. I will leave the descriptor out so that I do not upset Senator Sterle.</p> <p>Ms O'Brien: We did as well. We went through a period of protracted industrial action during the negotiation period around our enterprise agreement and one of the management initiated changes that we took off the table in order to reach resolution around the agreement was the requirement for the certification of sick leave and personal leave.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: What is the financial cost to the department of this?</p> <p>Ms O'Brien: I might need to take that on notice.</p>			
201	People and Service Delivery Division	Colbeck	0.6 reduction	<p>Senator COLBECK: Have you had a look at what the saving has been to the department of that 0.6 reduction?</p> <p>Ms O'Brien: Again, I will take that on notice.</p>	012		
202	People and Service Delivery Division	Colbeck	NRS Staffing levels	<p>Senator COLBECK: You can give me the following one on notice: current staffing levels and what it has been for the last three years.</p> <p>Mr Read: In regard to what?</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Current staffing level of the NRS.</p> <p>Mr Read: Yes.</p>	051		
203	People and Service Delivery Division	Colbeck	Cost of Redundancies	<p>QON 130 May 2012 highlighted 4 voluntary redundancies from the Information Services Division. What was the total cost of these redundancies?</p>	Written		

204	People and Service Delivery Division	Heffernan	Staffing	<p>How many ongoing staff recruited this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?</p> <p>How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?</p> <p>This financial year to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p>	Written		
205	People and Service Delivery Division	Heffernan	Staffing	<p>How many ongoing staff left the department/agency this financial year to date? What classification were these staff?</p> <p>How many non-ongoing staff left department/agency this financial year to date? What classification were these staff?</p> <p>How many contract staff left department/agency in the year this financial year to date? What classification were these staff?</p>	Written		
206	People and Service Delivery Division	Heffernan	Staffing	<p>Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut.</p> <p>If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.</p>	Written		
207	People and Service Delivery Division	Heffernan	Graduate Recruitment	<p>How much has been spent on 2014 Graduate Recruitment to date? Please itemise and detail costs.</p> <p>Has any travel been incurred for 2014 Graduate Recruitment? Please itemise and detail costs.</p>	Written		
208	People and Service Delivery Division	Heffernan	Graduate Training Costs	<p>How much was spent on 2013 Graduate Training? Provide details of what training was provided, why and the estimated cost for each.</p>	Written		

209	People and Service Delivery Division	Heffernan	Education Expenses	<p>What is the department/agency's guidelines on study?</p> <p>For this financial year to date, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, the employment classification of each participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). Also include the reason for the study and how it is beneficial for the department/agency.</p>	Written		
210	People and Service Delivery Division	Heffernan	Executive Coaching and Leadership Training	<p>In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Total spending on these services 2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification 3. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) 4. The names of all service providers engaged <p>For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The name and nature of the service purchased b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification d. The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) e. The total amount spent on the service f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package) <p>Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> v. The location used 	Written		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> vi. The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) vii. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) viii. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location 			
211	People and Service Delivery Division	Colbeck	Staffing Levels	<p>Has there been an increase in the percentage of non-ongoing employees and contractors?</p> <p>If so, what is the rationale for this?</p> <p>Is this part of the strategy for achieving the 4% efficiency dividend?</p>	Written		
212	People and Service Delivery Division	Colbeck	Staffing Levels and Staff Movements	<p>For the last 3 years, provide a breakdown of staffing levels by sub-division for Border Compliance Division and the now defunct Quarantine Operations Division.</p> <p>Provide details of any staff movements between sub-divisions / programs for the last 5 years.</p>	Written		
213	People and Service Delivery Division	Colbeck	Executive Coaching and Leadership Training	<p>QON 118 October 2012 highlighted one-on-one leadership training that cost \$2640 for a three hour course. How is this expense justified?</p> <p>What impact does the efficiency dividend have on this sort of training activity?</p>	Written		
214	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Colbeck	Seafish Tasmania—Communication from the Tasmanian Premier on Proposal	<p>Dr Rayns: Yes, there was information sought on the previous process about vessels that had fished in the fishery, catches, our arrangements in terms of sea bird mitigation, dolphin and seal mitigation and those sorts of things. But, as I have said, sometimes the department comes back and asks some more specific questions about specific issues. For example, they might ask us about what large vessels have fished in the fishery previously and they might then ask us for the exact sizes of some of those vessels and perhaps</p>	082-83		

				<p>the gear they use. So we get into a lot more detail.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Minister, have you had any communication from the Tasmanian Premier on this particular proposal?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: Not that I recall, not. I will check the record just to be on the safe side.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: No. I can confirm that there have been none into our office. I cannot speak for the department independently as to whether or not any correspondence has been forwarded, but they can check their records accordingly.</p> <p>Mr Tucker: We can check, but there has been nothing to the recollection of officers here. We do not know if they made a submission through the submission process, but we have not seen anything. We can check that.</p>			
215	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Whish-Wilson	Fisheries Management Review	<p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: I have a question that is very similar to one of Senator Colbeck's questions. With the public submissions you have received, was there any process for ranking them at all, or sorting them?</p> <p>Dr Findlay: Yes, there is. We are still going through that.</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: That was the only question I had.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: Chair, just on this question by Senator Whish-Wilson: it looks like it got overtaken by events, but we will take it on notice just to make sure that we give you an answer. The last paragraph of the review starts by saying that it will be completed, so that was done. It looks like events overtook that. That would be from recollection. But to make sure, we will take it on notice and provide you with the answer I have just given or a correction of that answer.</p>	089		
216	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Edwards	Feral Camels	<p>Senator EDWARDS: We have spent \$19 million and we have still got more camels out there than we know what to do with.</p> <p>Mr Tucker: Part of the reason is that the weather conditions improved substantially and they were able to spread right across the landscape, as we have said before. Now that it is warming and drying again, they will come back into those locations and they will be easier to manage.</p> <p>Ms Lauder: One of the other things we have done with this project is build the capacity and skills of other land managers in the areas</p>	096		

				<p>where there are camels. We never expected with \$19 million that we would eradicate camels from Australia. As you say, the problem is too large. So we were targeting specific biological communities that we were trying to protect and, as Mr Tucker said, we have got reports that the vegetation is recovering extremely well. But what we have done is build the skills in the Indigenous communities and in some of the government agencies to continue culling operations into the future beyond the life of this—</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: What is the recruitment rate of camels?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: We would have to take that on notice</p>			
217	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Edwards	Feral Pigs	<p>Senator EDWARDS: I refer to South Australia Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resource Management, Working with landholders to reduce feral pig numbers in the Riverland, South Australia, and the completion of an accredited feral pig training program—another one of these, as you said, on-the-ground outcomes issues. What outcomes have been achieved?</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: So there are no numbers that we are looking to target. We are not falling into that trap, we are just looking to manage it. When they come onto your property, you manage.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: Or we would assist people where there is a group of landholders who are being hit by feral pigs. There might be assistance given by a regional body to take coordinated action to clean them out of an area so that they keep them at bay for an extended period of time.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: With this particular program, how much does that cost?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: I would have to take that on notice. That money is coming through what we call our base funding to regional bodies in the main.</p>	097		
218	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Williams	Certification Schemes of Environmental Groups on Aust. Primary Industries.	<p>Are you aware that environmental non-government organisations are attempting to force primary producers to sign up to expensive third-party certification schemes auditing the sustainability of their production methods, most prominently to date in forestry and fisheries but also potentially in a wide range of other commodities?</p>	Written		

219	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Williams	Certification Schemes of Environmental Groups on Aust. Primary industries.	<p>Given the fact that Australian primary producers are world leaders in sustainable production, are you prepared to stand up for Australian primary producers and publicly state that such third-party certification is unnecessary?</p> <p>Are you prepared to make such a statement?</p>	Written		
220	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Colbeck	Caring for our Country funding	<p>Where is Caring for our Country (Phase 2) up to? Are all rounds / programs for 2012/13 now open?</p> <p>Provide details of all programs under Caring for our Country, including opening date, closing date, total amount of money available per program and maximum amount of money that can be applied for. For any allocations from Caring for our Country that are not being made by open tender or application, provide details of the different projects/programs being funded including Last advice was that program planning was still underway but expectations were for rounds to be open in 2012/13.</p> <p>How have Caring for our Country funds have been allocated so far this financial year? (trying to find out if C4oC funds have been used to support things like MPA and IGA)</p>	Written		
221	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Colbeck	Statutory Fishing Rights Allocation Review Panel	<p>Are there still 10 people on the Statutory Fishing Rights Allocation Review Panel?</p> <p>Have Barbara Yeoh and Nicoletta Ciffolilli been replaced or had their term extended?</p> <p>What role does this panel have in the annual establishment of SFRs?</p>	Written		
222	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Colbeck	Borthwick Review	What was the final cost of the Borthwick Review?	Written		
223	Sustainable Resource	Colbeck	Review of Commonwealth	How much extra has been spent or is anticipated to be spent on the harvest strategy review and on the bycatch review?	Written		

	Management Division		Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines and Review of Commonwealth Policy on Fisheries Bycatch	<p>What was the nature of the additional scientific and technical work required?</p> <p>Was this additional work put out to open tender?</p> <p>Both these reviews are due to complete in March 2013. Is this still the anticipated end date?</p>			
224	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Colbeck	Refugee Boats Sunk in SBT Spawning Ground	<p>Given Minister Albanese increased penalties for polluting the ocean from a maximum of \$2 million to a maximum of \$11 million per offence, should the government be paying fines for the pollution resulting from the burning and sinking of refugee vessels?</p> <p>What assessment has been undertaken on the likelihood that this action may have negative impacts on a Southern Blue Fin Tuna, an endangered species?</p>	Written		
225	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Colbeck	Caring for Our Country and Fishing	<p>How much of the Caring for Our Country budget will be allocated to fishing related activities?</p> <p>How much of the Caring for Our Country budget will be allocated to the fishing industry?</p> <p>One of the stated aims of the increased funding is to reduce the impact of fisheries on the resource base. What level of reduction of impact of fisheries on the resource base is planned through this Caring for Our Country funding?</p> <p>How will the funding be delivered to fishers?</p>	Written		
226	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Colbeck	Caring for Our Country	<p>Has the financial oversight of Caring for Our Country highlighted any significant differences between the performance of different regional NRM bodies?</p> <p>Has Caring for Our Country been subject to independent review by the ANAO in its own right, not as part of a review of the Department's performance?</p>	Written		

227	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Colbeck	Community Landcare Grants	<p>What progress has been made this year so far in meeting the key performance indicators of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • >8400 land managers, primary producers and fishers to have improved their knowledge and skills in natural resource management and adoption of sustainable management practices. • >1675 primary producers to have adopted activities that contribute to the conservation and protection of biodiversity • >85 commercial fishers who have improved practices to optimise sustainability? <p>Recently there was a call for more Panel Members to assess Community Landcare Grants. Is this a regular occurrence?</p> <p>What is the budget for the assessment process?</p> <p>What percentage of the budget is being spent on administration compared to that being allocated to community groups?</p>	Written		
228	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Colbeck	Splitting Caring for Our Country	<p>What proportion of the \$34.6 million in the May 2012-13 budget has been allocated to the Sustainable Agriculture stream of Caring for our Country?</p> <p>What proportion has been allocated to the Sustainable Environment stream?</p> <p>What are the expected administrative costs for the Sustainable Agriculture stream of Caring for our Country?</p> <p>How do these administration costs compare to last year?</p> <p>How are projects that cross the Agriculture / Environment divide handled now that there is no longer a joint management team?</p> <p>Does this result in a double up of assessment and administration?</p>	Written		
229	Sustainable Resource Management	Edwards	Camel Cull	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many camels have been culled since 31 October 2012? (refer to answer to QoN 37 from October Estimates) 2. Answer to QoN 37 from October 2012 states that the project is 	Written		

	Division			<p>on track to report end-of-project densities at or below target levels at approximately 50% of the identified biological reguia and high conservation sites. Does the Department consider 50% a good success rate?</p> <p>3. Given that the project funding ends on 30 June 2013 what plans does the Department have in place to deal with the feral camel population long term?</p> <p>4. If you don't have plans how does the Department expect to continue to protect sensitive ecological sites?</p>			
230	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	CDDA Claim	<p>Senator COLBECK: I have not done it deliberately, because I do not want to identify the person, but I have asked questions about it at estimates before and, in response to my questions on the specific case, the department has answered. I am under no illusion that you do not know what I am talking about.</p> <p>Mr Aldred: I believe I know what case you are talking about, Senator, but I would definitely want to check the timeline of events as you have stated them. They do sound more complex and to have more people involved than I understood was the case. I am happy to follow up and provide details of the activities on notice.</p>	008		
231	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Williams	Purchasing Norfolk Island's Statutory Fishing Rights	<p>Senator WILLIAMS: So they cannot fish those fish around Norfolk Island?</p> <p>Dr Rayns: They can if they buy the rights to do so?</p> <p>Senator WILLIAMS: Buy the rights?</p> <p>Dr Rayns: Yes. They are tradeable statutory fishing rights.</p> <p>Senator WILLIAMS: How much does it cost to buy the rights?</p> <p>Dr Rayns: I am not sure; I would have to take that on notice.</p>	076		
232	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Macdonald	Figures on the Coral Sea Element of Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fisheries	<p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: I am going to ask you about that. The Coral Sea is useful. You used to give me figures on the Coral Sea element of the eastern tuna and billfish fisheries. Do you have current figures on that?</p> <p>Dr Rayns: Apologies, I do not. I have to take that on notice and provide those to you.</p>	077		

233	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	Seafish Tasmania Submission - Transshipment at Sea	<p>Senator COLBECK: How many of those are form letters or electronically generated and how many of them are what you would call perhaps substantive? I am not trying denigrate anybody; I am just saying form letters versus a substantial submission.</p> <p>Dr Findlay: I am not sure we have those figures available now. We are still going through that analysis. It is quite a large volume. I do not have that material available. I am happy to take it on notice, but I certainly do not have it available today.</p>	081		
234	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	Environmental Impacts of Freezer Vessel	<p>Senator COLBECK: Okay. This is more to AFMA, I think, than to you, Minister: are you aware of SEWPaC's assessment of the likely negative environmental impacts of the vessel, signed on 3 September 2012, that it is unlikely that dolphins, seals or seabirds would be negatively affected and also that it is unlikely that the vessel would cause localised depletions or disrupt the feeding patterns of dependant predatory species? Have you sighted the advice to Minister Burke that that is the view of the department?</p> <p>Dr Findlay: I would have to check.</p> <p>Dr Rayns: I do recall something of that nature on the SEWPaC website but, as Dr Findlay says, we would need to check that.</p>	083		
235	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Siewert	Gillnet fishing - Dolphin and Sea Lion Interactions & Mortalities	<p>Dr Rayns: It was during changing the arrangements, so we brought in the tidal arrangements which took effect from January 2012. There were several mortalities and those six that occurred after that—I would have to check if they triggered the closures of the areas. We have three areas now closed to gillnet fishing for ASL protection.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Okay, so those mortalities were prior to the closures being put in place?</p> <p>Dr Rayns: I would have to check. I think they occurred mainly during the first quarter of 2012, and the new arrangements</p>	088		
236	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries	Colbeck	Management of Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery	<p>Mr Thompson: There are a whole lot of things to discuss at meetings about these things—timings about quotas and the like. We have no commitment to move to stereo video, and the Japanese keep holding us to that commitment. The AFMA commission makes the actual decision about whether to apply stereo video or not and whether the capacity to do it is there. I think, as you said, the AFMA</p>	100		

	Management Authority			<p>commission did make the decision to move to stereo video; they did actually call a tender but they did not actually let it at this point in time. That is why as an interim step we are doing the 100-fish sample while some of those technical details and cost details, in particular of stereo video, are still sorted through.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: So it has not let a contract yet?</p> <p>Mr Neil: I understand they have let the contract. They have a company identified and a contract was let recently. But I would like to confirm that; it is an AFMA contract.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: I would like to confirm it too. How can we move to something where the technology is not there yet?</p>			
237	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck/Macdonald	Southern Bluefin Tuna—Toxic Waste Spill Off Christmas Island	<p>Senator COLBECK: Has any work been done on the sinking of refugee vessels in the waters off Christmas Island, with the alleged spilling of up to 20,000 tonnes of toxic waste into the only known spawning ground of the SBT?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: I would have to take that on notice. I am not aware of any work on that.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Minister, are you aware of that?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: Sorry?</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Are you aware of that allegation?</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: What I am not clear on is: why didn't you ask AFMA when they were here?</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Because this is not just about fisheries. Fisheries is part of the portfolio as well. We have just been talking about the management of the southern bluefin tuna fishery—</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: Just to be clear then, the premise of your question is that there are vessels which are being sunk in the spawning area of southern bluefin tuna?</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Correct. With the resultant spilling of—the allegation is 20,000 tonnes of toxic waste.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: This is what I am trying to establish. It is an allegation. From where?</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: That is where the SBT spawn—</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: and that is where they sink the vessels.</p> <p>CHAIR: The minister has said, 'Where has the allegation come from?', and I think that is a fair question.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: I have one source of that being an article in</p>	100-101		

				<p>the <i>Geraldton Guardian</i> dated 1 February this year.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: I am sorry if I have not read the <i>Geraldton Guardian</i>. I am sure it is an important newspaper.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: I am asking the department—</p> <p>Mr Thompson: We had not heard those allegations. It is news to us.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: If that is the area where they are sinking the vessels, it is the spawning ground of SBT—</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: I was not being facetious. The two parts I was getting to are: is it a fact that they are sinking them in a known location and is that known location a spawning ground for the southern bluefin tuna?</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Fisheries ought to know where spawning is.</p> <p>Senator Ludwig: They may know the second fact, but they may not know the first fact. The allegation may not be—</p> <p>Senator COLBECK: Rather than fight over that, I ask you to take that on notice for me please.</p>			
238	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	Woolworths and MSC certification	<p>Has there been any communication with Woolworths regarding the Fishery status reports 2011 as a means of demonstrating the sustainability of Australia’s fisheries?</p> <p>Has there been any communication with Woolworths regarding their new program (to, by 2015, only sell wild caught fish that is MSC certified) “which aims to improve marine conservation in Australia”? What in particular needs improving?</p>	Written		
239	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	SBT Quota Calculation	<p>What is the cost in 2013/14 of the proposed new stereo video system?</p> <p>What is the 2012/13 cost of the current system?</p> <p>What is the difference in costs from 2012/13 to 2013/14?</p> <p>Has the Government determined if this cost difference meets the requirements under Commonwealth fisheries legislation for a new measure to be cost effective?</p>	Written		

				<p>Provide details of this assessment.</p> <p>DAFF stated at Additional Estimates on 11 February 2013 on the question of automating the stereo video that: “We know that it is part of the contract and that, with the company that is providing it, part of the undertaking is to move to an automated system as quickly as possible.”</p> <p>Outline exactly what the contract says about automation of the equipment, particularly to give it the capacity to provide real time average weight?</p> <p>Provide all information held by DAFF regarding the time it would take to automate the equipment to give it the capacity to provide real time average weight.</p> <p>DAFF stated in Additional Estimates on 11 February 2013 that other tuna farming countries: “...are moving towards stereo video as well.”</p> <p>Outline the timetable these other countries, including Japan, have given to moving to stereo video.</p> <p>Provide details of the exact discussions on how they will achieve this.</p> <p>Currently before the Parliament is a proposed amendment to the SBT Management Plan. The Explanatory Memorandum to that amendment states (page 2) that: “The Plan is further being amended to give effect to a CCSBT Resolution requiring the adoption of stereo video technology to verify the count of SBT when transfers of fish from tow cages to farms occur.”</p> <p>Provide the reference for the CCSBT Resolution which requires the adoption of stereo video technology to verify the count of SBT when transferring from tow cages to farms.</p>			
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				<p>In Additional Estimates hearing on 11 February 2013 DAFF noted that: “The requirement under the wildlife trade operation is to move to stereo video.”</p> <p>This appears to be under Condition 6 of the 2010 WTO, which states: “if the commercial trials of stereo video in ‘i)’ are successful , and stereo video technology can be implemented in a manner that is cost-effective, practical and delivers estimates of average weight of fish within an appropriate timeframe, implement stereo video by the start of the 2012 fishing season.” (Condition 6 of the August 2010 WTO approval).</p> <p>Provide information on how these words were developed, and the analysis showing that the unautomated stereo video meets these criteria.</p> <p>Provide details of what “appropriate timeframe” means?</p> <p>In the 2011 Report of the Stereo Video Working Group, the experts from DAFF Fisheries, AFMA, ABARES and industry unanimously concluded that:</p> <p>“Stereo video provides estimates of the weight of fish transferred retrospectively. This could potentially lead to overstocking or understocking farm cages. Overstocking farm pontoons exposes industry to breaches of South Australian aquaculture legislation on stocking rates and environmental impact. Further, overstocking causes major fish health concerns, reduces growth rates, and increases mortalities. Understocking results in the need to use more farm pontoons than would otherwise be necessary, causing substantial additional costs to the industry.”</p> <p>Provide the risk assessment which the Government would have done to estimate the risk and cost to industry of these agreed problems.</p>			
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				<p>Would automation of the stereo video equipment overcome these problems?</p> <p>Provide details of the contacts with the SA Government on how the overstocking resulting from stereo video can be dealt with by the SA legislation.</p> <p>In Australia any dead SBT which are discarded have to be counted against the quota.</p> <p>Does Japan count dead discards against its quota?</p> <p>If not, what data has Japan provided on the number and weight of SBT which are discarded?</p>			
240	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	Northern Shark Industry Alliance	<p>What is the current status of negotiations regarding Was Northern Shark Fisheries?</p> <p>Have there been any representations for the JANSF to return to Commonwealth management?</p>	Written		
241	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	AFMA Advice to Ministers	<p>Why are the documents referred to in DAFF QON 207 (advice given by AFMA to Ministers Ludwig and Burke) are only accessible by specific request?</p>	Written		
242	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian	Colbeck	Seafish Application to use FV Abel Tasman as Factory Vessel	<p>Subsequent to Additional Estimates, 11 February 2013, has DSEWPaC sought any advice regarding this application from AFMA?</p> <p>What is the impact of Minister Burke's announcement of 12</p>	Written		

	Fisheries Management Authority			February 2013 on the AFMA approval process?			
243	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	7000 submissions re Seafish Transshipment Plan	<p>What issues were raised through the submissions?</p> <p>Will the submissions be publicly available – or at least a summary of them?</p> <p>What was the outcome of consultations up to with 15 stakeholder groups regarding the Seafish transshipment plan?</p> <p>What issues remain unresolved?</p>	Written		
244	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	Comments by Jon Bryan	<p>Has a retraction been made by Mr Bryan since the Additional Estimates hearing 11 February 2013?</p> <p>What actions does AFMA have in place, or is planning to put in place, to prevent members of advisory groups and committees misusing their positions and spreading untruths that fuel public misconceptions?</p>	Written		
245	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	Committee and Advisory Group Governance	<p>What are the selection criteria for members of AFMA committees / advisory groups?</p> <p>What are the roles and responsibilities of committee / advisory group members?</p> <p>Where are these documented?</p> <p>Are there procedures or protocols for dealing with conflict within committees / advisory groups?</p> <p>Where are these documented?</p> <p>What are the decision making processes for committees / advisory groups?</p>	Written		

				<p>Where is this documented?</p> <p>What are the internal opportunities to appeal decisions made by a committee / advisory group?</p> <p>Where is this documented?</p> <p>Is there an induction process that is undertaken for committee / advisory group members to ensure they are aware of the governance issues surrounding their position?</p> <p>Where is this documented?</p>			
246	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	SPF Harvest Strategy	<p>Were there concerns amongst AFMA advisory groups and committees during the development of the SPF Harvest Strategy?</p> <p>AFMA week ahead and week past documents from May 2008 indicated that “further work to refine the HS over the next 12-18 months” was required. What was the work required? Was this work undertaken? Did the Harvest Strategy change because of this extra work?</p> <p>If so, what were the changes?</p> <p>The week ahead document for 16 June – 26 June 2008 indicates there was “high likelihood of legal action arising from the allocation decision”. What was the legal action suspected to be about and did it occur?</p> <p>Was this high likelihood of legal action related to the sorts of issues that came to the fore during the “supertrawler” debate.</p> <p>What actions were taken to address the high likelihood of legal action?</p> <p>What was communicated to the relevant Ministers and what direction did they give regarding this issue?</p>	Written		

				<p>Given the concerns raised during the establishment of the SPF Harvest Strategy, did AFMA believe there was a risk of additional requirements being needed to protect endangered and protected species?</p> <p>Would the last accreditation of the SPF by the Environment Minister (6 January 2010) have been an opportunity to include any additional requirements needed to protect endangered and protected species?</p> <p>Did the Environment Minister or DSEWPaC request any additional research be undertaken during the accreditation or re-accreditation processes?</p> <p>If no such request was made, did AFMA believe that the activities of the fishery did not pose any environmental uncertainty?</p>			
247	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	Further Research	<p>Are there any plans for AFMA to request / commission / be involved in research to assess the risk of a vessel such as the FV Abel Tasman disrupting the feeding behaviour of dependent predatory species – as recommended by DSEWPaC to Minister Burke in September 2012?</p> <p>If a survey of biomass is required, is the maximum Government funding available only 20%?</p> <p>Does the fact that the Minister has effectively shut down the fishery in the interests of public good mean that more Government funding should be made available?</p>	Written		
248	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management	Colbeck	SESSF Boat SFRs	<p>As the SESSF boat SFR has dropped by 87% to just under \$2000 from just over \$14,000, is there any opportunity to reinstate the boat SFRs surrendered last year when the price of a boat SFR increased by around 100%?</p> <p>What would need to be done to be able to reinstate boat SFRs surrendered in such circumstances and then reversed?</p>	Written		

	Authority			Do these dramatic changes in boat SFR give grounds for compensation to be sought?			
249	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	SESSF Levies	<p>The AFMA “Guide to Levy Arrangements for 2012-13” states the decrease in levy “is due to the fishery independent survey not proceeding for 2011-12 and reducing the occurrence of the survey to every second year.” (p10)</p> <p>If the independent survey in the Great Australian Bight Sector of the SESSF did not go ahead in 2011-12 and the boat SFRs had been increased by over 100% to cover expected costs, what was the extent of the financial windfall for AFMA?</p> <p>How is this money accounted?</p> <p>Is this money quarantined for the use in the SESSF?</p> <p>Should this money be repaid to the fishers or to compensate those that surrendered their boat SFRs because of the dramatic price hike in 2011-12?</p>	Written		
250	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	Impact of New Shark Levies	In addition to last year’s increases, some shark fishers are struggling with an increase in quota levies by over 50%. How was the increase in cost of the shark quota determined?	Written		

251	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	SBT quota calculation	<p>What is the anticipated increase in revenue due to increase in the levy for the SBT fishery?</p> <p>What is the anticipated cost of implementing the requirements of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna? What are these requirements?</p> <p>How much was the unbudgeted expenditure in the Northern Prawn Fishery?</p> <p>What research was undertaken in this fishery and what is the timeframe for completion?</p>	Written		
252	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	Observer Coverage of SSEF	<p>Is the increased observer coverage having a positive effect in the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery?</p> <p>Is this expected to be an ongoing requirement?</p> <p>What are the procedures around observer allocation to vessels?</p> <p>How are personality clashes handled?</p> <p>What recourse do fishers have if boat cannot leave port because an acceptable observer is not available?</p>	Written		
253	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	SPF Fishery	<p>What is the expected revenue from the SPF fishery given the intervention of Minster Burke regarding the FV Abel Tasman?</p> <p>If there is an under recovery compared to budget forecasts, does this affect other fisheries?</p>	Written		
254	Sustainable Resource Management	Colbeck	Squid, Scallops, Trident and Seismic Testing	How is the impact of seismic testing taken into account in the annual stock assessments for squid and scallops?	Written		

	Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority			Is mortality of scallops and squid and mortality of squid eggs and scallop larvae from seismic testing taken into consideration when setting TACs?			
255	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Colbeck	Complaints	<p>How common are complaints against AFMA Compliance staff?</p> <p>What is the screening and selection process for observers and Authorised AFMA Representatives?</p> <p>How is it that it appears AFMA have employed people who have failed private company drugs policies and drug tests?</p> <p>How well are AFMA representatives trained, particularly regarding the requirement to show proof of their position when boarding vessels for inspections?</p> <p>What are the processes for reviewing paperwork and issues related to crimes for minor recording errors or uncertainties?</p>	Written		
256	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Birmingham	Illegal Foreign Fishing Vessels (IFFVs)	What involvement has the Department and/or portfolio agencies (e.g. DAFF Biosecurity and the Australian Fisheries Management Authority) had in the scuttling, destruction, sinking and/or dumping of illegal foreign fishing vessels (IFFVs) or suspected illegal entry vessels (SIEVs)?	Written		
257	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Birmingham	Illegal Foreign Fishing Vessels (IFFVs)	How many vessels have been dealt with in this way in the current and previous financial years? Please detail numbers by location.	Written		

258	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Birmingham	IFFVs - Environmental Approvals and Analysis	What environmental (e.g. under EPBC Act or Sea Dumping Act) or other approvals have been sought? What consideration has been given to fish breeding grounds, including for Southern Bluefin Tuna, in the conduct of these activities? What analysis has been undertaken before and/or after these activities in relation to pollution and any other risks?	Written		
259	Trade and Market Access Division	Williams	Live Exports to Vietnam	<p>Senator WILLIAMS: Do you know offhand if Vietnam has been one of those countries?</p> <p>Ms Evans: We have previously had shipments of live animals to Vietnam so I would have to look at the statistics about whether there has been a shift, since ESCAS, in the species or type of animals we have been exporting there.</p> <p>Senator BACK: I do not think we have had any at all.</p> <p>Ms Evans: We have had at least one shipment of cattle to Vietnam.</p> <p>Senator BACK: No—excluding Vietnam. In answer to Senator Williams, I cannot think of any at all since ESCAS was introduced.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: I think it is safe to say that our focus has been trying to maintain our access to existing markets under the new regulatory regime. It is hard work for exporters to develop ESCAS supply chains. But, to be sure, I would like to double-check what we have done and what the history has been over the last few years.</p>	118		
260	Trade and Market Access Division	Fawcett	Tariffs on Horticultural Produce Exports	<p>Senator FAWCETT: Ausveg were reporting last year that India had tariffs of up to 100 per cent on horticultural produce coming out of Australia. Is that correct?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I do not have with me the specific list of tariffs for the horticultural products but I would not be surprised if that is true. I can confirm it on notice if you like.</p>	120		
261	Trade and Market Access Division	Back	Consignments of Beef on Wharf in Jakarta	<p>Senator BACK: In terms of that beef I appreciate the role the minister has played in assisting that process, but can you tell me what consignments of Australian beef are still sitting on the wharf in Jakarta?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I cannot give you the exact numbers. There are still some containers of Australian beef sitting on the wharf. I can take it</p>	121		

				on notice to see if we can find out, but it may not be possible to give a precise figure. For some to the containers there have not been any applications to re-export them, so we are not quite sure what people want to do with them. I will take it on notice to see if we can find out, but it might not be possible.			
262	Trade and Market Access Division	Nash	South Korea–Self-propelled Howitzer Program	Senator NASH: If you would not mind taking on notice to provide information on those processes that are in place to pick up this type of issue and with this particular issue provide on notice whether information of that nature will not affect the beef trade. As a farmer—and I do not do beef; I do sheep—I would be very interested in any information the department can provide to the committee.	124		
263	Trade and Market Access Division	Nash	South Korea-Australia Free Trade Agreement	Senator NASH: Could you take on notice to provide an update on the status of the free trade agreement with South Korea? There is obviously some concern that that is not going to go ahead. Ms Evans: I am happy to take that on notice.	125		
264	Trade and Market Access Division	Williams	Trade and Market Access	Would you please advise how many Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) are under negotiation by your Department with trading partners to open markets for the export of livestock and which countries are you negotiating with?	Written		
265	Trade and Market Access Division	Williams	Trade and Market Access	Has the Department put a hold on negotiating or concluding MOUs while it undertakes a review of MOUs for the livestock export industry? If so, why is this necessary and what consultation have you undertaken with industry in relation to this review?	Written		
266	Trade and Market Access Division	Nash	Japan and US Beef	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I refer to a Weekly Times article published on January 29th 2013 “Japan re- opened US beef” by Nicola Bell are you aware or read this article? (http://www.weeklytimesnow.com.au/article/2013/01/29/558115_print_friendly_article.htm) 2. Has the department done any costings or analysis on the US beef industry entering the Japanese market what the potential impacts it would have on the Australian beef export industry? 3. The article states “<i>according to MLA projections released last</i> 	Written		

				<p><i>week, Japan's share of Australia's global beef trade fell from 36 per cent in 2011. To 32 per cent last year and is forecasted to fall to 31 per cent this year" would the department say these figures are accurate?</i></p> <p>4. If Australia's beef export to Japan was to fall to 31 per cent, what fiscal outcome would that mean for Australian beef exports to Japan?</p> <p>5. Has the department been in communication with the foreign affairs and trade department on this issue of declining beef exports to Japan?</p> <p>6. To your knowledge has the department, Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries or the Minister for Trade met with any Japanese officials to discuss the declining export of Australian beef?</p>			
267	Trade and Market Access Division	Colbeck	Renaming AQIS	<p>What feedback has been received from our trading partners regarding the name change?</p> <p>What, if any, sorts of questions and queries have been directed to Australian Embassies?</p> <p>Have there been any unexpected delays or issues with the rollout of the name change?</p>	Written		
268	Trade and Market Access Division	Colbeck	Carbon Tax and Exports	<p>The recent ABARES report into the vegetable industry showed that around 80% of vegetable growers believed development of export markets was too difficult or time consuming. Inadequate prices for exported vegetables, shipping costs and insufficient farm infrastructure were also commonly stated as impediments to developing export markets.</p> <p>How is this going to help Australia become the Asian food bowl?</p> <p>Is this a common trend across agriculture and fisheries?</p> <p>Has the Trade and Market Access division got any similar data or evidence of primary producer attitudes towards exporting?</p>	Written		

				<p>What is this division doing to specifically address these concerns?</p> <p>What strategies does DAFF have to help overcome this perception / situation?</p> <p>What has the government been doing to help Australia's vegetable growers access international markets and address their concerns that these markets are too difficult and time consuming to crack</p>			
269	Trade and Market Access Division	Colbeck	Korean Free Trade Agreement	<p>What is the current state of play of the Australia – Korean Free Trade Agreement?</p> <p>Is there an impasse related to the incorporation of an Investor State Dispute Settlement mechanism?</p> <p>What are the key arguments for / against including this mechanism?</p> <p>When is this expected to be resolved?</p> <p>In the meantime, Australian beef producers risk losing market share to the USA and are losing money. What is the cost benefit of prolonging negotiations over the ISDS compared to the market impacts for Australian beef producers?</p>	Written		
270	Trade and Market Access Division	Colbeck	Comparison of Resources Spent on Imports and Exports	<p>What expertise does the department have in negotiating new market access for our agricultural produce?</p> <p>What resources is the department putting into this area?</p> <p>Has the department undertaken any analysis of the resources allocated to importing produce compared to the resources allocated to exporting produce?</p> <p>What resources and support are provided to small, niche producers trying to access international markets?</p> <p>Is there a point where the department does not consider the potential market worth allocating resources too?</p>	Written		

				If so, what is that point and how is it assessed?			
271	Trade and Market Access Division	Colbeck	Tomato Imports	<p>Has any examination of import of tomatoes from Italy been undertaken?</p> <p>Do Italian tomatoes receive unfair assistance which effectively gives them an unfair advantage in the Australian market?</p>	Written		