

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

Questions on Notice Additional Budget Estimates 2013-2014, Tuesday 25 February 2014

Agriculture Portfolio

Senate no.	Program/ Division or Agency	Senator	Broad topic	Question	Proof Hansard page & hearing date or Written question	Date received
1	ABARES	Senator Back	Modelling on impact to Australian producers and exporters	<p>Senator BACK: Did the department undertake any modelling that might have suggested what the impact might be on Australian producers and exporters as a result of the ESCAS to be introduced?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: ABARES undertook a study at the time to do their best to try and pull together the impact that would occur on both exporters and producers as a result the suspension of the trade. I will have to again go back and check what analysis, if any, was done in relation to the introduction of ESCAS itself, but there were certainly some economic studies about the impact of the suspension of the trade in 2011.</p> <p>Senator BACK: Is that information publicly available or can it be made available to the committee?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: As far as I am aware, the ABARES report is publicly available.</p> <p>Senator BACK: And that was produced when? 2011-12?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: 2011. As I said, I will take that on notice and provide the material if it is not available or if it has been taken down from our website.</p> <p>Senator BACK: I also wonder whether there has</p>	43	

				<p>been any update or review subsequent to the original ABARES report that we could have a look at to see whether their predictions were accurate or whether, in fact, the impact was more or less.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: I do not think so. I think the only thing that would have been published by ABARES would have been its routine reports in terms of what it does for its quarterly and annual forecasts in terms of commodity outlooks, but I will double-check that to make sure. We may well have done some specific work, possibly internally, for the live animal trade.</p>		
2	ABARES	Senator Sterle	Funding arrangements for ABARES	Can you update the committee on current funding arrangement for ABARES, breakdown of funding?	Written	
3	ABARES	Senator Sterle	Research relating to drought issues	Is ABARES undertaking any research relating to drought issues e.g. the effectiveness of drought assistance, whether projections and forecasting.	Written	
4	Agricultural Adaptation and Forestry Division	Senator Gallacher	Farm Household Allowance	<p>Senator GALLACHER: Can you advise the committee when you undertook those discussions?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: They have been ongoing for quite some time. There have been discussions with the Department of Human Services on the implementation of those arrangements for some time.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Was it prior to 6 February?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: If you are talking about the specific timing, I think the officers this evening have already indicated that in relation to the timing of</p>	113-114	

				<p>provision of advice we would have to take that on notice to find the specific times in which we had discussions. We have certainly been undertaking discussions with the Department of Human Services.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Can you take that on notice?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: We can take timing on notice, yes.</p>		
5	Agricultural Adaptation and Forestry Division	Senator O'Sullivan	Number of applications	<p>Senator O'SULLIVAN: I better get parochial for Queensland or I will not get a lift home. Would it be fair to assume, Ms Freeman, that the first round would soak up the largest number of applications subject only to circumstances deteriorating or applicants becoming ineligible through progression of drought or something to that effect? So in the case of Queensland there were 104 applications in round 1. Would you anticipate round 2, 3 or 4—however this rolls out—that there ought to be a diminishing number, that anyone who can has made an application?</p> <p>Ms Freeman: I would have to check with my colleague Ms Willock, but I do not think the 104 just applies to round 1. We may have to take that on notice, Senator.</p>	105	
6	Agricultural Adaptation and Forestry Division	Senator Back	Debt restructuring and productivity enhancement	<p>Senator BACK: Rather than take the time now, could somebody source it. I understood you to say that Tasmania and Western Australia have got those criteria but the other states and the Territory do not?</p> <p>Ms Freeman: Correct; at the decision of those state jurisdictions.</p> <p>Senator BACK: So they are sort of open slather? Anyone can apply?</p> <p>Ms Freeman: The Tasmanian government wish to have loans for debt restructuring and productivity enhancement. They are the only</p>	106	

				<p>jurisdiction that has made that call to have both of those.</p> <p>Senator BACK: Debt restructuring and productivity enhancement?</p> <p>Ms Freeman: Debt restructuring and productivity enhancement. Western Australia wanted their loans to be purely for productivity enhancement. And the list of eligible and ineligible activities are in the program guidelines which we can provide you with.</p> <p>Senator BACK: Would fertiliser constitute productivity enhancement?</p> <p>Ms Freeman: I would have to double-check but, under the guidelines for the existing program, I would say no.</p>		
7	Agricultural Adaptation and Forestry Division	Senator Farrell	Prime Minister statements	<p>Senator FARRELL: Was that done before or after the Prime Minister made his statements?</p> <p>Ms Anderson: It was done at various times. I would have to check the exact dates of when it went through, but it has been under discussion for a little while. I can provide that on notice.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: So the first comment by the Prime Minister was on 6 February. Do you think it was before or after that date that you provided your information?</p> <p>Mr Tucker: We would have to check.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: How easy is that to check?</p> <p>Mr Tucker: I do not know. It is probably the officers here who will have to check and while they are here they cannot check their own records in the office.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Fair enough, but you will provide us with that information.</p>	109	
8	Agricultural Adaptation and Forestry Division	Senator Back	Terms of reference	<p>Ms Gaglia: There is a review that is going to be undertaken to the renewable energy target. The terms of reference have recently been released.</p>	113	

				<p>That review will be undertaken by the Department of the Environment.</p> <p>Senator BACK: So forest residues will be considered under that review process?</p> <p>Ms Gaglia: It is part of the terms of reference, yes.</p> <p>Senator BACK: When did it open for review? Do you know?</p> <p>Ms Gaglia: The terms of reference have just been released.</p> <p>Senator BACK: Would you happen to know what the consultation period is?</p> <p>Ms Gaglia: No, I do not.</p> <p>Senator BACK: But we can find out from the Department of Environment?</p> <p>Mr Tucker: We can find that out for you and provide you with an answer on notice to that detail.</p>		
9	Agricultural Adaptation and Forestry Division	Senator Sterle	Farm Household Allowance	<p>According to the list of legislation proposed for introduction in the 2014 Autumn sittings which has been posted by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, there will be a Farm Household Support Bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To establish the Farm Household Allowance by introducing new legislation and making consequential amendments to related legislation and; • To repeal the Farm Household Support Act 1992 to remove redundant provisions <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When will the Bill be brought before the Parliament? 2. How will the allowance and any change to assets test be made possible without this Bill? 3. Is the Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP) being considered as an option to make payments to households? (the Disaster Recovery 	Written	

				Allowance (DRA) which was inserted into the Social Security Act by the Social Security Legislation Amendment (Disaster Recovery Allowance) Act 2013).		
10	Agricultural Adaptation and Forestry Division	Senator Sterle	Farm Household Allowance	<p>1. I refer to the Prime Minister's announcement on ABC Brisbane radio on 6 February 2014 and further reiterated in an interview with Fran Kelly on Breakfast, ABC Radio National 17 February 2014 that he would bring forward the Farm Household Allowance from the first of July to the first of March. The commonwealth's contribution under the National Drought Reform Package was signed under the former Labor Government in May 2013. Had the Department of Agriculture briefed the Prime Minister, his office or his department prior to 6 February or 17 February on the Farm Household Allowance?</p> <p>a. On what date was a brief provided to the PM, the PMO or PM&C?</p> <p>b. Was a brief provided through the Minister for Agriculture or his office prior to 6 February on the bringing forward of the Farm Household Allowance?</p> <p>c. Did the department provide a 'for decision' brief or a 'for noting' brief on the farm household allowance?</p> <p>d. On what date did the Minister or the Prime Minister make a decision to bring forward the Farm Household Allowance? By what means did the Minister or Prime Minister make that decision?</p> <p>e. What is the expected cost of bringing forward the payment?</p> <p>2. The 2013-14 budget allocated \$99.4 million to the Allowance, has this figure been revised?</p> <p>a. If so, what are the revised costs?</p>	Written	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Is so, where will the additional funds come from? c. If so, on what date did treasury or finance model the budget impact on the revised start date of the Allowance? d. If so, did the department of agriculture provide data to the treasury or finance departments for the purpose of remodelling the fiscal impact on the new start date of the farm household allowance? When? <p>3. Did Prime Minister and Cabinet or did the Department of Agriculture inform, engage or brief Centrelink and the Department of Human Services about the decision to bring forward the Farm Household Allowance?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. On what date, was it before or after 6 February? <p>4. What is the expected start date of the new farm household allowance?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Will the website, payment process, call centre, program and payment be fully ready on that date? <p>5. Has the department revised its modelling on the expected take up rate of the payment, given the changed start date, changed conditions and high level of public interest?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, when was this work done? b. What is the revised figure of expected payments? 		
11	Agricultural Adaptation and Forestry Division	Senator Sterle	Concessional Loans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How has the Minister determined that an extra \$280 million dollars is needed on top of the \$420 million dollars? 2. Did the Minister seek advice from his department regarding the \$280 million? 3. Was the Minister provided advice from his department regarding extra funding for the Debt relief farm finance scheme. 	Written	

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. The Minister refers to the \$420 million dollars with regards to the farm finance scheme, however the Minister has taken 40 million dollars away from this scheme, was this done on the advice from the department. 5. When will the Minister return the 40 million dollars to the farm finance scheme, allowing farmers to access the funding immediately? 6. Has the Minister sought advice on how the extra \$280 million would be allocated to the states and territory? 7. When will the Government release its support package for farmers impacted by the drought? 		
12	Agricultural Adaptation and Forestry Division	Senator Sterle	Drought Program Reform	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Senator Gallacher asked for an update on action undertaken after the election regarding the drought reform program and was told that there is not a drought reform program (pg 96, Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee Hansard, 19/11/13) Yet on the Department of Agriculture website which was updated on 7 November 2013, there is information about the National Drought program reform. I think it is reasonable to conclude that this was what Senator Gallacher was asking about at the previous estimate hearings. I am puzzled as to why the department did not offer information regarding this program when obviously the order of the words was slightly wrong. Are you able to provide an explanation as to why Senator Gallacher was not provided with this information? 2. Could you please update the committee on work undertaken to progress the National Drought Program Reform. 	Written	

13	Agricultural Adaptation and Forestry Division	Senator Sterle	Forestry excluded from the Agricultural competitiveness white paper	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you provide detail as to why Forestry was excluded from the Agricultural Competitiveness white paper when the key point in the then coalition's policy paper was that the nation's forestry sector should be competitive and sustainable? 2. Can you provide detail how the Department of Agriculture is ensuring that the Australian Forestry Industry will be competitive and sustainable. 3. Can you confirm if the following commitments to the forestry industry have been undertaken? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Investing 15million over three years to implement a National Bushfire Mitigation Programme b. Establishing an industry advisory council for the forestry sector? 	Written	
14	Agricultural Adaptation and Forestry Division	Senator Sterle	National Drought Program Reform	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you provide detail how the Department of Agriculture will continue to meet with state counterparts to discuss issues such as the National Drought program reform, intergovernmental biosecurity agreements, a foot and mouth disease action plan? 2. I refer to the Minister Joyce's comments that an extra \$280 million would be needed on top of the \$420 million farm finance scheme. How was this figure generated? 3. With regards to Ms Freeman's response at the previous estimates hearings - that there is still \$40 million remaining for 2014-15 in case the need emerges in WA or in any of those other states. If there are additional funds required, there is money available. If those jurisdictions can demonstrate the need, there will be additional funds made available (pg 100, Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and 	Written	

				<p>Transport Legislation Committee Hansard, 19/11/13).</p> <p>a. Has the Department provided advice to the Minister that this money should/could be used in the wake of the drought emergency currently facing farmers?</p> <p>4. With regards to the Minister's drought tour with the Prime Minister 16-17 February 2014</p> <p>a. Did departmental staff accompany the Minister, can you please state which departmental officers attended.</p>		
15	Agricultural Adaptation and Forestry Division	Senator Sterle	Interim Farm Household Allowance	<p>1. When did the Prime Minister and Cabinet or did the Department of Agriculture inform, engage or brief Centrelink and the Department of Human Services about the decision to implement the Interim Farm Household Allowance (Interim FHA)?</p> <p>2. In the Fact Sheet – Drought support for farmers, released by the Department of Agriculture on Wednesday, 26 February 2014 it states:</p> <p>a. The interim payment will have a different asset test so that more farmers, including those affected by drought, will be able to access income support when they need it.</p> <p>i. Can you detail what the asset test is for farmers to access income support?</p> <p>ii. Will the payment be able to be accessed by farmers not affected by drought?</p> <p>3. Payments under the Interim FHA commence from 3 March 2014 for new applicants, has the department began processing applicants and will payments commence on 3 March as stated in the Fact Sheet.</p> <p>4. How many new applications has the Department received?</p> <p>5. I understand that some type of Centrelink</p>	Written	

				<p>payments have been available for a decade or more, is that correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. If so, which agency or department processed and delivered these payments? 7. (if the answer is an agency other than Centrelink, the question is seeking confirmation), so Centrelink has never processed or delivered these payments before? 8. Is Centrelink confident that it has the resources, capacity and technology to process and deliver these payments? 9. Under what instrument does Centrelink derive the authority to deliver the interim FHA payments? 10. When did the Prime Minister and Cabinet or did the Department of Agriculture inform, engage or brief the Department of Social Services about the decision to provide up to \$10.7 million dollars to increase the delivery of social services in drought-affected areas? 11. In the Fact Sheet – Drought support for farmers, released by the Department of Agriculture on Wednesday, 26 February 2014 it states: Social Support Recognising that hardships like drought can have significant impacts on the mental health and wellbeing of farmers, farm families and communities, the Australian Government is providing up to \$10.7 million to increase the delivery of social support services in drought-affected areas. Phone: 1300 653 227 Web: dss.gov.au/familysupportprogram and dss.gov.au/Targetedcommunitycare <p>a. Can you detail what services will be</p>		
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				<p>provided for farmers to access?</p> <p>b. How will these services be provided? Financial arrangements, staffing numbers.</p> <p>c. When will these services be made available? Please provide a date.</p> <p>d. How will the department determine if the applicant for the service is to be deemed drought affected?</p>		
16	Agricultural Adaptation and Forestry Division	Senator Siewert	Drought Package	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please outline the new asset test? 2. What are the eligibility criteria for the Interim Farm Household Allowance? 3. Will these be the same for the Permanent Farm Household Allowance? 4. If not, why not and what will they be? 5. What are the obligations and/or activity requirements of recipients? 6. Who will be responsible for monitoring compliance? 7. Who makes the decision on the application? 	Written	
17	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Edwards	Naming of Australian Grape and Wine Authority	<p>Senator EDWARDS: You are to be known as the AGWA. What research process was undertaken to establish the new agency's name? Was it market tested in our international markets? The Australian Grape and Wine Authority—pretty sexy, not. You are a marketing organisation. Was it tested? Was anybody asked how the branding of this would be perceived in China, America, Sweden, the UK or India?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: I cannot answer that question at the moment. I do not know whether there are any officers who can. I do not know whether we can add any—</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: So nobody knows how we</p>	25-26	

				<p>came about this name?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: Otherwise, we would have to take it on notice. Mr Ottesen will see if he can give us any further information on that specific question.</p> <p>Mr Ottesen: There was no market testing of the name. It is the name of a statutory body and it has a number of—</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: Which carries out marketing functions all over the world.</p> <p>Mr Ottesen: One would assume that it would develop marketing programs with marketing messages attached to those.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: The marketing and branding may be quite different to the name of an authority.</p> <p>CHAIR: You are talking in dream talk. Put it on notice.</p>		
18	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Siewert	Certification process for genetically modified	<p>Senator SIEWERT: It would be appreciated if you could. I want to follow up on the issue of certification. Does the department have any involvement in the certification process? The heart of the previous question went to the certification process for organic produce and products. I thought that was up to the industry responsible for it. Do you have any involvement there at all?</p> <p>Mr Koval: The Organic Industry Standards and Certification Council is made up of organic certification bodies and the organics industry. We provide the secretariat and assist in that because it is quite often the standard that we use for the export of organics. It is managed by the organics industry.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Is there any federal legislation around that process?</p> <p>Mr Koval: I am not aware. I will have to take it on notice.</p>	35-36	

				<p>Senator SIEWERT: I did not think there was. I would be interested to know if there was.</p> <p>Mr Aldred: We do certify GMO-free for some export markets. I will take the detail of that on notice, along with Mr Koval, and come back to you.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: That would be appreciated. That links to what is the standard for those. Could you take on notice what particular produce is certified in that process?</p> <p>Mr Aldred: Yes, we can do that.</p>		
19	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Rhiannon	Partnerships between workers and trainees for East Timor and North-Western Australian Communities	<p>Senator RHIANNON: In recent years there have been partnerships between workers and trainees for East Timor and north-western Australian communities. We have received some representation about this. I am interested to know about any efforts to extend these partnerships to grow the domestic abattoirs in the north-west and to meet the need for Labor in that industry. Have there been any discussions to advance these proposals? Are you aware of them?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: I am personally not aware of any. That does not mean that there have not been discussions. We may have to take that on notice unless there is an officer here who can provide further assistance to you now.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: I am not familiar with those partnerships. You are saying that they were between East Timor and northern Australian beef interests?</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Yes—around the abattoirs and finding Labor for the industry in north-west Australia.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: I will confirm this, but as far as I am aware we have not been involved in those partnership discussions.</p>	9	

20	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Farrell	Community food grants	<p>Senator FARRELL: What advice did you provide the minister on the closure of this program?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: That goes to a policy question. The officer would not be in a position to provide any assistance on that this morning.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: I am simply asking, Dr Grimes, what advice the department provided to the minister.</p> <p>Dr Grimes: The department would advise the minister but, as to the details, that is a policy question.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: So the minister sought the advice of the department in respect of this matter?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: Departmental advice was provided in relation to this matter.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: When was that advice sought, Dr Grimes?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: I would have to take those details on notice.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Mr Koval, you do not know when that advice was sought?</p> <p>Mr Koval: Off the top of my head, I do not; I will have to take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Can we work back a little bit? You advised the potential applicants on 31 January. Do you think it was this year or last year that—</p> <p>Dr Grimes: Senator, these were matters considered as part of the proper budget process, so they would have been considered as part of the budget processes at the end of last year. As to precise timing, we would have to take that on notice.</p>	13	
21	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Farrell	Community Food Grants	<p>Senator FARRELL: So you sent out a letter on the 31st of January to all of these 364 people?</p> <p>Mr Koval: That is correct.</p>	14	

				<p>Senator FARRELL: Has there been any response from any of those applicants?</p> <p>Mr Koval: I am not aware of anyone responding to that, but I will take that on notice and check that for you.</p>		
22	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Back	Surplus of cattle in domestic market	<p>Senator BACK: Can you tell me Secretary, or officers who were in the department at the time, whether the department explored any other options and solutions to the ongoing surplus of cattle in the domestic market, which we knew would inevitably flow from the cessation of exports from the north?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: Again, I think we are going into the same territory. We will take it on notice and see if there is anything we can provide.</p> <p>Senator BACK: I am not asking you what advice you might have given to the minister at the time. I am asking if the department addressed its mind to that issue.</p> <p>Dr Grimes: I am unable to answer that question at the moment. We could take the matter on notice and provide you with information.</p>	17	
23	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Back	Animal industry sector	<p>Senator BACK: I have a number of questions on agricultural productivity, starting with the live animal export ban. I will put on the record that it will go down as one of the most disastrous and ill-judged decisions on any animal industry sector. I foreshadowed at the time what the economic and animal welfare impacts of this would be into the longer term, with or without drought, and we now see them.</p> <p>Firstly, did the previous government instruct the department to look into any other means, besides the establishment of the farm finance package, to attempt to address the economic impacts on the domestic beef industry resulting from the ban?</p>	17	

				<p>Dr Grimes: That question actually goes to the provision of policy advice to a previous government. As you would appreciate we are even constrained in our capacity to comment on policy advice to the current government. We could take the matter on notice and see if there is anything we can provide for you, but we are not in a position to be able to talk about our policy advice to a previous government.</p>		
24	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Back	Tasmanian fruit and vegetable growers	<p>Mr Koval: In terms of direct assistance to Tasmanian fruit and vegetable growers, I am not aware of anything bar what we have more generally available to assist producers. Regarding the Tassie taskforce—horticulture taskforce—we are in the process of finalising the members of that, the terms of reference and everything else, with government. That will commence shortly. But in terms of assistance provided specifically to Tasmanian fruit and vegetable growers, I am not aware of anything. I would have to take that on notice—</p> <p>Senator BACK: Could you do that, because I am obviously anxious to know just what assistance the government is offering to fruit and vegetable growers—</p> <p>Mr Tucker: Vegetable growers can access the farm finance arrangements that have been in place in Tasmania. The part of the department that can provide those details is coming on later this evening. We will be able to give you a breakdown at that stage of where access to the farm finance arrangements for Tasmanian producers is in terms of productivity enhancement loans.</p>	18	
25	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Back	Additional funding for Rural Research and Development	<p>Senator BACK: Thank you. I am aware that other senators probably have questions, so I want to keep moving to research and development. It is</p>	19	

				<p>my understanding that the coalition has committed \$100 million of additional funding for rural research and development from 2014-15. Is that correct?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: The government has an election commitment for the implementation of another \$100 million in additional funding for research and development yes.</p> <p>Senator BACK: So what will that bring it up to?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: I have not got the precise figures with me. Mr Koval might have them.</p> <p>Mr Koval: In general terms we divide matching funds to research and development corporations and RIRDC worth about \$250 million a year.</p> <p>Senator BACK: And how much does industry provide?</p> <p>Mr Koval: I would have to look at the exact numbers, but they provide probably another 300-odd million. I would have to get the exact numbers for you. They provide additional money because of the caps and marketing. So the \$100 million is in addition to that \$250 million.</p> <p>Senator BACK: I wonder if, in providing that advice on notice, you could give us a 10-year perspective?</p> <p>Mr Koval: As in backward looking?</p> <p>Senator BACK: That is correct. I want to see what the trend has been in both government and industry support over that period of time.</p> <p>Mr Koval: Certainly we can provide a breakdown for you.</p>		
26	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Back	Expenditure in the agricultural Research & Development sector compares with other industries and the	<p>Senator BACK: I wonder if you could also tell me either now or on notice how expenditure in the agricultural R&D sector compares with other industries and the rest of the Australian economy. Are we at the same level? Are we declining over time? Where does agricultural R&D fit?</p>	19	

			rest of the Australian economy	Mr Koval: In long-term trends I think research and development is probably declining across the economy full stop, but I would have to go have a look and see what numbers we have. I think the Productivity Commission might have put something in their report. I will go pull it out for you and provide it on notice.		
27	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Back	Funding freed up from Land and Water Australia being abolished	Senator BACK: If you cannot advise me now, can you take on notice the funding that was freed up as a result of Land and Water Australia being abolished? Did it remain in the R&D sphere for agriculture; and, if so, where did it go? Or did it actually go back into consolidated revenue? Mr Koval: I would have to take that one on notice. I do not recall where the funding went and whether it was reallocated or absorbed into the system at the time.	20	
28	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Back	Funding saving from the abolishment of Land and Water Australia	Senator BACK: Sure. I just want to establish the accuracy of the figures I have been given. I was told it was abolished in 2009-10, with a saving of \$46 million over four years. I wanted to establish whether that was accurate and what the fate of those dollars was. Mr Koval: The numbers do sound about right, but I will have to take it on notice.	20	
29	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Siewert	Community Food Grants	Senator SIEWERT: Thank you. I go back to the food community grants. You said that there were 364 applications. What was the total value of those applications? Mr Koval: I would have to take that on notice. I do not have that number with me, but I can get it for you.	20	
30	Agricultural Productivity	Senator Siewert	Community Food Grants	Senator SIEWERT: I am not asking for policy advice; I am asking for the process that was	21	

	Division			<p>undertaken. Why were these projects chosen? Were they already underway? Were they seen to be more important to have priority given to them?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: I appreciate that the question you are asking is around process, and we can answer questions around process. We have taken on notice the precise dates on which advice was provided. I gave an indication of the general process that was undertaken at the end of last year. We are probably not in a position to provide you with much more information at the moment, but we can certainly take details on notice.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Thank you.</p>		
31	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Edwards	Chairs Committee meeting	<p>Mr A Clark: I will give you the numbers shortly. I will have to give you later the precise date the chairs committee last met but there is a meeting coming up, scheduled for 25 March. That is for the chairs of both of the statutory authorities and the two peak industry bodies.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: Is there an agenda for that meeting?</p> <p>Mr A Clark: The department will be putting forward the agenda. I have not seen it as yet.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: Could you table it with this committee when it becomes available?</p> <p>Mr Koval: Certainly.</p>	23	
32	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Farrell	Genetically modified organisms	<p>Senator FARRELL: I am aware that there is a case in Western Australia involving cross-pollution in respect of genetic modification. Are you aware of that case?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: We are certainly aware of the court case that is currently underway.</p> <p>Mr Aldred: This is not the correct division under which to ask about genetically modified organisms.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Where should we ask those</p>	30	

				<p>questions? Mr Aldred: My belief that it is our Agriculture Productivity division. But we can take that on notice.</p>		
33	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Farrell	Genetically modified product	<p>Senator FARRELL: Can imports into Australia that are certified organic contain any threshold of genetically modified product? Mr Koval: I am not aware of the rules around definitions. I will have to look into that for you, Senator. Senator FARRELL: Can you do that. Thank you. Dr Grimes: We will take it on notice. Senator FARRELL: Did you happen to know the answer, Dr Grimes? Dr Grimes: I do not know the precise answer off the top of my head. We will ensure that the officers who are able to answer that question do answer it for you on notice. Senator FARRELL: Thank you. They are all the questions that I have. I appreciate you coming back, gentleman.</p>	35	
34	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Siewert	Analysis of what it would mean should GM plants become endemic in all crops.	<p>Senator SIEWERT: I will try to be quick. I want to follow up and just clarify the issue. I totally understand the issues around state decision making. But looking at the big picture in terms of productivity—and I suspect I am coming from a slightly different angle to the line of questioning from ALP senators—from a liability point of view, my understanding is that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator is not, in fact, responsible once liability and following up contamination of crops gets past a certain point. Are you saying that you have not done any work looking at the consequences for agriculture of this becoming a very significant issue across</p>	35	

				<p>Australia? I am not talking about individual state management. I am talking about the big picture liability that could be taken on by the spread of GMOs into conventional crops. I just want to be really clear about it.</p> <p>Mr Koval: The issue of containment, coexistence and segregation, which goes to the heart of the question, is managed by state and territory governments' industry protocols. Have we done an analysis of what it would mean should GM plants become endemic in all crops situations? I am not aware of us having done a detailed analysis of that, but I will check and get back to you.</p>		
35	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Lines	Department meeting with WA Minister Baston's office to discuss fenthion	<p>Senator LINES: Has your department met with WA Minister Baston's office to discuss fenthion?</p> <p>Mr Koval: I am not aware of us as a department meeting with officials or members of the minister's office.</p> <p>Senator LINES: Is that a 'no' or do you need to check?</p> <p>Mr Koval: I will check to make sure, but I am not aware of us doing so. We have spoken to Western Australian departmental officials.</p> <p>Senator LINES: About fenthion?</p> <p>Mr Koval: About fenthion and fruit fly management and those types of things.</p> <p>Senator LINES: What did those discussions go to particularly?</p> <p>Mr Koval: We talked about the circumstances in these regions, the need for extension and communication and those types of things.</p> <p>Senator LINES: When you say 'regions', do you mean the various regions that exist within WA and indeed across the country?</p> <p>Mr Koval: That is correct.</p> <p>Senator LINES: To what extent? What was said?</p>	72	

				Mr Koval: I will have to go back and look at the individual notes.		
36	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Lines	WA Department of Agriculture area-wide management strategy is possible in the Perth Hills	<p>Senator LINES: So, the WA department of agriculture thinks that an area-wide management strategy is possible in the Perth Hills?</p> <p>Mr Koval: As far as I understand it, that is the case, yes.</p> <p>Senator LINES: Apart from the trial they are conducting at Jarrahdale are they conducting any other area-wide management trials that you are aware of?</p> <p>Mr Koval: I am not aware. We can ask them and get you the information on notice, if that is helpful.</p>	73	
37	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Lines	Briefings to the minister regarding ongoing issues and the impacts on growers	<p>Senator LINES: We have heard this afternoon from various senators and from APVMA. In light of those ongoing issues and the impacts on growers, has the department given the minister advice as to how this matter should be resolved?</p> <p>Mr Tucker: Yes, we have provided advice to the minister.</p> <p>Senator LINES: What did that advice go to?</p> <p>Mr Tucker: I do not think it is appropriate for us to talk about the details of our advice, but we have given advice to the minister.</p> <p>Senator LINES: Can you tell us why it is not appropriate?</p> <p>ACTING CHAIR: It should not be a secret. What if the growers want to know? What if the growers say, 'What is going on?' and the minister says, 'I'm not telling you'?</p> <p>Mr Tucker: The question was to me. The question was not to the minister. If you wish to put the question to the minister—</p> <p>Senator LINES: I want to know why you are saying it is not appropriate to give us the context</p>	74	

				<p>of that advice.</p> <p>Dr Grimes: The issue is going into the provision of policy advice. We can certainly indicate that we have provided advice.</p> <p>Senator LINES: What is your objection to not telling us the content of that advice?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: As a general rule, Senate estimate hearings do not traverse into policy matters. It is essentially that convention.</p> <p>Senator LINES: I know the general rule. Can you tell me specifically what the issue is about not giving us the content of that advice?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: As I have indicated to you, it is the convention of Senate estimates. We can take the matter on notice.</p> <p>Senator LINES: I am not accepting a convention. I want you to tell me what it is.</p> <p>Dr Grimes: We can certainly take the matter on notice and refer it to the minister.</p>		
38	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Lines	Advice sought from department by the minister	<p>Senator LINES: Thank you very much. You have told us that you have given advice to the minister. Has the minister sought advice back from the department around fenthion issues?</p> <p>Mr Koval: We have had a number of conversations with the minister around this issue.</p> <p>Senator LINES: Around which issue?</p> <p>Mr Koval: Fenthion, fruit fly and everything else.</p> <p>Senator LINES: What did those discussions go to?</p> <p>Mr Koval: The majority of the discussion has been around the current situation in terms of the status of the chemical, the growers and those types of things.</p> <p>Senator LINES: Can you give us some more information?</p> <p>Mr Koval: It is the work we are doing around research. Much of the work that Mr Aldred talked</p>	74	

				<p>about in terms of the chief plant protection officers and what they were doing around this issue and those types of matters.</p> <p>Senator LINES: When was that advice sought from the department?</p> <p>Senator LINES: When was that advice sought from the department?</p> <p>Mr Tucker: Almost the first day he became a minister. The other thing that I think is worth while covering is that we also covered the roles that we have talked about in this committee and others about the role of the APVMA, the state department, growers and Horticulture Australia Limited. We are helping to work through that little jigsaw of all the pieces in terms of the roles of the various players in chemical control and use.</p> <p>Senator LINES: Specifically what was the minister seeking from the department in relation to fenthion?</p> <p>Mr Tucker: I think we are getting into the realms of policy advice again and we have given our response in terms of our capacity to answer questions on policy advice.</p> <p>Senator LINES: In the same way I did not accept it before, I would like you to take that on notice and think about why you cannot supply the answers that I have asked for.</p> <p>Mr Tucker: We can take that on notice.</p>		
39	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator S Edwards	Wine Australia/Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation merger	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What steps including criteria have the Industry bodies instigated in the past to select highly qualified persons to sit on any Board selection panel? 2. What has been WAC/GWRDCs involvement to date? 3. What is the process being undertaken to establish the Board? 4. What has been WAC/GWRDCs involvement 	Written	

				<p>to date?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. What consultation has been carried out with WFA/WGGA? What was their response? 6. How will conflicts of interest be managed on the Board? 7. How will AGWA report? Will it be similar to how WAC/GWRDC currently report? 8. How would WAC/GWRDC like AGWA to report? 9. How would you alter the reporting of AGWA in light of the deficiencies of WAC/GWRDC reporting? 10. The term 'synergies' was a selling point for the merger. how will this be quantified, leveraged and reported on? 11. How do we encourage a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship at AGWA? 		
40	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Sterle	White Paper	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Comparing the Agricultural Competitiveness Issues Paper and the work undertaken by the Agricultural Productivity division, it is reasonable to say that the White Paper is very much focused on this division. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is the White Paper on Agricultural Competitiveness impacting on the work being undertaken in Agricultural Productivity division? b. Can you explain to the committee the rational for having the White Paper developed by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet rather than the Agricultural Division? c. Is there a cost to the Department of Agriculture for the development of the White Paper? d. Which division is responsible for this cost? e. How much is this cost? f. Are any programs with in the Agricultural 	Written	

				<p>Productivity division on hold until the completion of the White Paper?</p> <p>g. Is the division contributing to the development of the White Paper? Is so how?</p> <p>h. On the Agricultural Competitiveness White paper website, it states that the taskforce will hold roundtables in rural and regional centres with invited farmers and other agricultural representatives? Was the department consulted on how and who would be invited to meet with the taskforce?</p>		
41	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Sterle	Growers in the Perth Hills	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the Department confirm that area-wide management strategies took into consideration the environmental conditions faced by the various growers in the Perth Hills? 2. Have departmental officials inspected the orchards in the Perth Hills to fully understand what the growers are facing. 3. Particularly, those who are in close proximity to urban residential areas. 	Written	
42	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Sterle	Department met with Ken Baston's office	Has the Department of Agriculture met with Ken Baston's office to discuss the restricted use of fenthion?	Written	
43	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Sterle	Ongoing issues and impacts on growers	In light that this has been an ongoing issues and greatly impacts on growers, has the Minister been given advice as to how this matter should be resolved.	Written	
44	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Sterle	Cross-pollution of Genetic modification crops	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I refer to the current court case in Western Australia regarding cross-pollution of Genetic Modification crops with organic crops, having made that reference, I want to set that case aside because I don't want you to dismiss the 	Written	

				<p>question on the basis that the matter is before the courts, so my question is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What planning is the department doing in readiness of the real possibility that at some point someone is likely to be successful in seeking compensation due to a cross-pollination event. b. And if no planning is being done, aren't we facing the real possibility that GM is going to be considerably constrained. c. Is it true that Australia imports certified organic food which may contain a threshold amount of genetically modified organisms? 		
45	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Ludwig	Barry O'Sullivan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. While not being formally employed by the department, was Mr O'Sullivan involved in any formal or informal manner in the development of the Agriculture White Paper before being sworn in by the Australian Senate as a Senator? 2. Did Mr O'Sullivan meet with the Prime Minister or the Minister before being sworn in as a Senator for Queensland to discuss the Agriculture White Paper? 3. Did Mr O'Sullivan provide or was provided with any documentation from the department concerning the Agriculture White paper? 4. Did Mr O'Sullivan have any contact with the department at all, concerning the White Paper – including, but not limited to, phone calls or emails, concerning the white paper and any travel or meetings Mr O'Sullivan held before being appointed as a Queensland Senator? 5. Did the department provide any travel support to Mr O'Sullivan, including but not limited to the provision of travel briefs through the office of the Minister or directly to Mr 	Written	

				O'Sullivan; the arranging meetings for Mr O'Sullivan; or any other form of support?		
46	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Ludwig	Boards (for Departments or agencies with boards)	<p>Since September 7th 2013;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. how often has each board met, break down by board name; b. what travel expenses are provided; c. what is the average attendance at board meetings; d. how does the board deal with conflict of interest; e. what conflicts of interest have been registered; f. what remuneration is provided to board members; g. how does the board dismiss board members who do not meet attendance standards? h. Have any requests been made to ministers to dismiss board members since September 7, 2013? i. Please list board members who have attended less than 51% of meetings j. what have catering costs been for the board meetings held this year; is alcohol served; 	Written	
47	Agricultural Productivity Division	Senator Sterle	Farmer Markets	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did Clunes Farmers Market receive Department of Agriculture funding for a feasibility study into a Farmers Market? 2. If so, with the cut to Farmers Market funding will any other funding be made available to Clunes Farmers Market for planned projects? 3. Will any funding be provided to the Regional Development of Victoria in relation to Farmers Markets? 	Written	

48	Agricultural Productivity Division/Australia Pesticide and Veterinary Medicine Authority	Senator Lines	Information supplied by Fruitwest	<p>Ms Arthy: That was raised in a private briefing that we had last year. At the time, I just gave an undertaking to contact Fruitwest to see if they had the information, because as the APVMA we have got no powers to request that information. I think I sent the request just after Christmas. I have been away for a couple of weeks; this is my first day back. From what I understand, Fruitwest got in contact with some of our officers and said that they had supplied the information directly to the committee. I think all I can do is to go back to Fruitwest with my original request and just check, because I have not seen the Fruitwest submission into the inquiry, but I can follow it up.</p>	66	
49	Agricultural Productivity Division/Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Authority	Senator Ruston	Fenthion	<p>Senator RUSTON: What transpired from 1998 to 2012 where it became more obvious that something was not right? That is an awfully long period of time.</p> <p>Dr Bhula: Because fenthion is used across horticultural products as well as veterinary products and bird repellent products, we broke the review into two parts. We looked at the non-food producing components of the fenthion first and then we looked at the horticultural products. In that first round of looking at the non-food uses we also looked at a human health and toxicology assessment. That was published in 2005, so that would have been the first trigger for people looking at the horticultural products that the health standards had changed. We completed our review of the bird repellent products, which I would have to take on notice but I think it was about 2009-2010.</p>	67	

50	Agricultural Productivity Division/Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicine Authority	Senator Back	Chemicals becoming generic	<p>Senator BACK: Does it change the dialogue in any way once that chemical becomes a generic and is out of patent? Does that make the process easier for all concerned or does it have no effect on it?</p> <p>Ms Arthy: I would have to think that one through, because the issue does come down to commercial-in-confidence information.</p> <p>Senator BACK: It does.</p> <p>Ms Arthy: We can talk it through and come back to you separately, if you would like more information.</p> <p>Senator BACK: I am happy for you to take it on notice and advise the committee in due course.</p> <p>Ms Arthy: We will take it on notice.</p>	70	
51	Agricultural Productivity Division/Australia Pesticide and Veterinary Medicine Authority	Senator Sterle	Fenthion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do you acknowledge that there are deficiencies in the communication processes within the APVMA when dealing with stakeholders? I believe the only answer must be yes. 2. Work regarding the safe use of fenthion has been ongoing since 1998, can you inform the committee if fenthion will be permanently banned/restricted and detail if this will be across the board on all horticultural products? 3. One of the key responsibilities of the APVMA is providing timely services and managing issues related to assessing applications to register or permit use of pesticides, what procedures and processes has the APVMA undertaken to achieve this with regards to fenthion? 4. Has the APVMA met its responsibility with regards to providing a timely service and managing the issues related with fenthion? 5. Is the APVMA considering phase out for fenthion rather than a straight out ban? 	Written	

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Will you confirm that the data regarding fenthion toxicity is that it breaks down into six products and can you provide detail as to which of the 6 breakdown products are most toxic? 7. Are there other products currently used in Fruit fly pest management that have any of these breakdown products? 8. Since the APVMA is limited in its role by its legal powers, can the Department detail the communication process with stakeholders when a chemical is restricted, but an effective alternative product is not available? 9. Can you confirm that it is not part of the APVMA's role and responsibility to conduct research or to generate any data? 10. Has the Minister sought advice on the fenthion issues 		
52	Agricultural Productivity Division/Australia Pesticide and Veterinary Medicine Authority	Senator Sterle	APVMA's call for public comment	Can you provide information to the committee regarding the APVMA's call for public comment for some proposed variations to the Food Standards Code, Schedule 1 to Standard 1.4.2 – Maximum Residue Limits	Written	
53	Agricultural Productivity Division/Australian Wool Innovation	Senator Sterle	Wild dogs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I refer to the release of the report "Social impacts of wild dogs: A review of literature" conducted by ABARES – a media report stated that: "Federal Agriculture Minister Barnaby Joyce said wild dogs cost the industry about \$66 million a year and "strong leadership and a coordinated on-the-ground effort" was required 2. Has the AWI met with Minister Joyce to 	Written	

				<p>discuss the findings in this report?</p> <p>3. Has the Minister been briefed on the report findings by departmental officials?</p> <p>4. As stated in the media report the Minister acknowledges the great expense wild dogs cost industry, does the Minister propose to provide any funding to deal with the wild dogs issue?</p> <p>5. Can you please provide clarification as to what the Minister meant when he stated “strong leadership and a coordinated on the ground effort” was required?</p>		
54	Agricultural Productivity Division/Grains Research and Development Corporation	Senator Siewert	Genetically modified funding	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Could you take on notice to provide me with an updated list of the GM work that you are currently funding?</p> <p>Mr Harvey: I certainly can.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Do you do an assessment of the uptake of GM crops amongst farmers?</p> <p>Mr Harvey: We have done some work looking at the uptake of canola and looking at the impact of GM canola, its benefits and its costs in a farming systems context.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: How long ago did you do that?</p> <p>Mr Harvey: That work has been done over a number of years and it is due for release Friday week, 7 March.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Have you done any other crops?</p> <p>Mr Harvey: Not to my knowledge. I would need to check and confirm that.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: If you could take that on notice it would be appreciated.</p>	58	

55	Agricultural Productivity Division/Grains Research and Development Corporation	Senator O'Sullivan	Water use efficiency initiative	<p>Senator O'SULLIVAN: Are you able to advise the committee on the outcome of that initiative?</p> <p>Mr Harvey: My understanding is that the initiative was working with grower groups right across Australia—researchers and growers. It looked at exploring a whole range in which growers could actually improve their profitability by improving their water use efficiency. The program had a very ambitious target of achieving a 10 per cent increase in water use efficiency. I believe that program is coming close to its conclusion. I would need to take on notice exactly whether we achieved that 10 per cent, but I know that we had very successful outcomes and very practical changes on-farm as a consequence of the practices that were developed by those growers and researchers in partnership.</p> <p>Senator O'SULLIVAN: When would you expect the final data to be available in terms of the assessment of the program?</p> <p>Mr Harvey: I would need to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator O'SULLIVAN: Could you do that?</p> <p>Mr Harvey: Yes.</p>	61	
56	Agricultural Productivity Division/Livecorp	Senator Sterle	Livecorp functions, structure, staff and performance review	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What exactly does LiveCorp do? 2. Detail your funding Structure? 3. What is your current staff numbers? 4. What are LiveCorp priorities for the year ahead? 5. Detail your performance review 	Written	
57	Agricultural Productivity	Senator O'Sullivan	Gross income for Meat and Livestock	<p>Senator O'SULLIVAN: Whilst a significant component of MLA's funding comes from levies</p>	44	

	Division/Meat and Livestock Australia	n	Australia	<p>on the sale and processing of livestock, can you advise the committee of details of any other source of funding, the value of that funding and the percentage that that funding represents relative to the gross income for MLA?</p> <p>Dr Barnard: I can give you a general answer on that and I will take the specifics on notice.</p>		
58	Agricultural Productivity Division/Meat and Livestock Australia	Senator Farrell	Staffing levels for Meat and Livestock Australia	<p>Senator FARRELL: What are your current staffing levels?</p> <p>Dr Barnard: It is about 250, but I would have to take that on notice. I just do not have that figure in my head.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: 250 full-time equivalents or—</p> <p>Dr Barnard: I think, but can I take it on notice?</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Sure.</p> <p>Dr Barnard: That is worldwide, because we have officers overseas as well as in Australia.</p> <p>Senator GALLACHER: Can we have the dollar value of that employment cost. It is 250, but how much does it cost out of your \$170 million?</p> <p>Dr Barnard: Can I take that on notice, too?</p>	46	
59	Agricultural Productivity Division/Meat and Livestock Australia	Senator Rhiannon	New markets for live export	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Through your research and development what new markets have you identified for the export of cattle, sheep and goats in the last and the current financial year? 2. Have you undertake research into identifying markets for live buffalo exports? 3. What work are you undertaking to help to re-establish live exports to Bahrain? 4. How much of your budget in the last and the current financial year has been allocated to helping to re-establish live exports to Bahrain? 	Written	

60	Agricultural Productivity Division/Meat and Livestock Australia	Rhiannon	Qatar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In relation to to last year's high mortality shipment on the Livestock Shipping Services vessel the Bader III whereby 4,179 sheep died – reportedly due to heat stress: May I have details of if and when MLA representatives where in Qatar in the period during and/or after this vessel arrived? 2. Did the MLA representative in Qatar at the time report back to MLA management (either officially or informally) that a further 7000 Australian sheep had died upon arrival in Qatar? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If not 7000, is MLA aware of additional deaths that occurred in the feedlot after arrival? 3. Regardless of whether MLA determined the information to be of a conclusive or inconclusive nature, is MLA or are any MLA consultants aware of suggestions that thousands of sheep from this shipment died subsequently in the Qatari feedlot? 	Written	
61	Agricultural Productivity Division/Meat and Livestock Australia	Senator Rhiannon	Meat and Livestock Australia consultant in Kuwait	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Was MLA consultant Geoffrey Beere in Kuwait either prior to or during the Festival of Sacrifice in October 2013? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What dates was Mr Beere in Kuwait? 2. Was MLA advised by Mr Beere of breaches of ESCAS occurring in Kuwait? 3. Was MLA made aware by any party of breaches of ESCAS occurring in Qatar during the Festival of Sacrifice? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, what information was provided to MLA and what action was subsequently taken? 	Written	

62	Agricultural Productivity Division/Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation	Senator Rhiannon	Kangaroo recipe book	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Did the RIRDC approve the recommendation, in the Kangaroo Industry Association of Australia's kangaroo recipe book called <i>Roocepies</i>, that kangaroo is best served undercooked or rare?</p> <p>Mr Burns: I am aware of that book which was published, but again that goes back some time and I do not have the details of the project. I can take that on notice though.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: It has been taken on notice before, and we did not get an answer. So will we get an answer—</p> <p>Mr Burns: Yes.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: in the required time?</p> <p>Mr Burns: As far as I know, we did answer that.</p> <p>Dr Grimes: We will do some checking, because my understanding is that all of your questions on notice were answered. We are a little concerned that you have not received it, so we will do some checking at our end and see what has happened.</p>	22	
63	Agricultural Productivity Division/Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation	Senator Rhiannon	Outbreak of toxoplasma gondii	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Is the RIRDC aware of predictions in the scientific literature that the next outbreak of toxoplasma gondii in Europe would most likely be linked to the consumption of kangaroo meat?</p> <p>Mr Burns: I am not aware of that, but I make the point that we currently only have one kangaroo project that is still active. Largely, our kangaroo work was done during the 2000s.</p> <p>CHAIR: It is mostly pet food, anyhow.</p> <p>Mr Burns: It is not an issue that is currently on our agenda.</p> <p>Senator RHIANNON: Could you take it on notice and provide details of that project that you currently have, please.</p> <p>Mr Burns: I can do that.</p>	22	

64	Agricultural Productivity Division/Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation	Senator Sterle	Measuring performance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does RIRDC have a template for measuring performance 2. What is this template, how do you measure research performance? 3. Can you provide information regarding the rural research priorities of the Government? 	Written	
65	Agricultural Productivity Division/Wine Australia Corporation	Senator S Edwards	Wine Australia performance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does WAC measure its success/achievements? 2. Have you considered using return on investment metrics? 3. What monitoring or evaluation is done following an event, for example Savour Australia, to evaluate its success and monitor its impact? 4. What measures do you envision AGWA using? What consideration will be given to measuring performance? 5. In terms of performance as measured by Industry enterprises do they do any form of 360 degree review with industry that tests relevance, impact and return? 6. Is WAC aware of any of the big four wine companies referencing the benefits of their investment in and activities with the corporations in, their annual reports? 7. What feedback have you received from the big four regarding the benefits they receive from the levies they pay? 	Written	
66	Agricultural Productivity Division/Wine Australia Corporation &	Senator S Edwards	Conflicts of interest	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How are conflicts of interest managed on the WAC/GWRDC Boards? 2. Is WAC/GWRDC aware that the current WGGGA was not the same WGGGA referred to in the PIERD Act? 	Written	

	Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation					
67	Australian Chief Plant Protection Officer	Senator Sterle	Chief Plant Protection Officer role	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you provide information regarding the roles and responsibilities of the Chief Plant Protection Officer 2. What key areas of work are currently being undertaken by the Chief Plant Protection officer? 3. Are you currently, working with overseas networks with regards to genetically modified standards? And the possibility of new legislation around property rights? 	Written	
68	Biosecurity Animal Division	Senator Rhiannon	Animal Welfare Codes of Practice & Standards	<p>Scoping Process</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms South said that the Animal Welfare Committee has engaged with a limited number of stakeholders to start to form a view around what the scope of this exercise might look like. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What stakeholders have been included in what Ms South says is a limited number? b. Can you explain the process you used to determine which stakeholders you would include? c. Can you explain why Range Farmers Association was not included in this? d. Can I ask specifically: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Why, given consumer demand for free-range poultry meat & eggs and given free-range eggs is the most 	Written	

				<p>rapidly growing section of the egg market, the Range Farmers Association has not been included in the process?</p> <p>ii. Why consumer expectations haven't been taken into account and why free-range producers aren't an equal part of the process as other industry representatives groups?</p> <p>Ducks</p> <p>2. Are the very separate <u>biological</u> (<i>access to clean pooled water</i>) and health needs of ducks and other water fowl going to be addressed by the review of the Poultry Code of Practice?</p> <p>a. If not, why not? Where and when will these very different welfare needs be addressed?</p> <p>3. The very painful and debilitating debilling of ducks is not widely practiced but is still legal in Australia, will issues like this be open for discussion and change within the drafting stage of the standards and guidelines? How?</p> <p>4. An animal welfare group has recently published a report on the welfare concerns in duck farming- is this report being used as part of the consideration? Is there anyone in particular that I may forward this report to for the scoping process?</p> <p>5. Which individuals or groups will be involved in the writing and reference groups specifically for ducks?</p> <p>Process</p> <p>6. Has the writing group for the Poultry Code been established yet?</p> <p>a. When will it be established?</p> <p>b. If not, given 'appropriate industry representation' is to makeup the writing group, will the industry producers</p>		
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				<p>representing true free-range producers be invited as members</p> <p>c. If not, will animal welfare organisations be invited? Which ones? What is process for being considered as a member of the Writing Group?</p> <p>d. If yes, who are the members of the group? Who was invited ?</p> <p>e. If yes, where is the first draft and technical issues paper up to?</p> <p>7. Mr Chapman outlined that the Animal welfare committee agreed to a review of the poultry code as a priority. On 10 December the members of the AWC agreed in principle the scope of that review.</p> <p>a. Is there an action plan for this poultry code review?</p> <p>b. May I have specific dates for each step of the review process as per the Animal Welfare Standards & Guidelines Development Business Plan</p> <p>c. If you do not yet have a plan, when will you have one?</p> <p>d. Will you make public the plan and when?</p> <p>8. The Writing Group is supposed to refer to scientific literature and community expectations to "support an evidence-based approach" in preparation of its first draft.</p> <p>a. Are there any animal welfare group representatives on the Writing Group?</p> <p>b. If not, why not? How can it be put on the agenda for consideration? Who determines the makeup of the Writing Group?</p> <p>c. What sort of guarantee that the current science on animal welfare issues and needs will be referred to?</p> <p>d. Please <u>detail</u> how community expectations for true free-range and cruelty-free will be</p>		
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				<p>incorporated?</p> <p>9. What is the process to ensure animal welfare organisations and experts in this area have the opportunity to be included in the Reference Group, which addresses the issues presented by the Writing Group and endorses the first draft?</p> <p>10. Please detail how public input in the public consultation stage informs the final Standards and Guidelines?</p>		
69	Biosecurity Animal Division	Senator Rhiannon	Crustaceans and animal welfare standards	<p>1. Do crustaceans have any protection under any industry Codes or Practice?</p> <p>2. Will crustaceans be considered within the ongoing development of the new Standards and Guidelines?</p> <p>a. Is this already taking place?</p> <p>b. What process is available to ensure crustaceans are considered in the development of the new Standards and Guidelines?</p>	Written	
70	Biosecurity Plant Division	Senator Ruston	Fruit Fly Strategy	<p>Mr Aldred: The responsibility for the on-ground management of fruit fly rests with states and with industry. The Commonwealth's responsibility on fruit fly is as part of our export certification arrangements. In that respect, we overwhelmingly rely on the systems and arrangements in place in each of the jurisdictions, upon which our inspectors are able to certify produce for export.</p> <p>Senator RUSTON: On that basis, obviously with the protocols that are in place for some fairly significant export markets, what role can we hope to see being played by your department in assisting in that area alone? This has ended up</p>	31-32	

				<p>being the most frustrating exercise.</p> <p>Mr Aldred: I understand the frustration. If we go back a few years and look at where a substantial amount of funding for the National Fruit Fly Strategy and so on came from, it came from the Commonwealth. That was not necessarily done under a direct responsibility, but it was a reflection of trying to bring the parties together to have a strategy. A number of the elements of that are still being carried forward, as Mr Fraser advised at last estimates, so there is work being done. The Fruit Fly Strategy is a relevant document in that work.</p> <p>Senator RUSTON: Could you maybe point out some of the things that are actually on foot?</p> <p>Mr Aldred: I will take it on notice and give you a more comprehensive rundown. There are about 20 recommendations in the Fruit Fly Strategy and we can run through those. A range of it related to the coordination of R&D and the nature of whether or not sterile fruit fly strategies could be examined. There are quite a range of things. Some of them require funding, so the communications and engagement component requires funding to do some of those things. In trying to coordinate that, we would obviously like to see the implementation group get up.</p>		
71	Biosecurity Plant Division	Senator Ruston	Money spent on Fruit fly	<p>Senator RUSTON: You can probably take this question on notice. One of the things that has become extraordinarily apparent in this whole thing is that there are all of these silos of various activities undertaken. A huge amount of money is being spent in relation to fruit fly across Australia. Has there been any attempt, either through your organisation or through organisations that you are aware of, to try and coordinate and consolidate the research and the activities and actions of fruit</p>	32	

				fly? Mr Aldred: Yes.		
72	Biosecurity Plant Division	Senator Siewert	Export market wants GM-free	<p>Senator SIEWERT: It is just for if a particular export market wants GM-free.</p> <p>Ms Calhoun: We provide non-GMO certification to markets that require it, but the certification is based on information that we get from the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Could you provide on notice the details of the process that you go through to do that.</p> <p>Ms Calhoun: Yes.</p>	36	
73	Biosecurity Plant Division	Senator Lines	Strategies other than area-wide management strategy	<p>Senator LINES: Have you suggested strategies other than an area-wide management strategy?</p> <p>Mr Aldred: To add to the context, there was a recognition of the review process going on with fenthion and there was a range of activities run through the plant health committee, and in particular a subcommittee of that. The plant health committee consists of the senior plant health specialists of all jurisdictions. There was an arrangement through the plant health committee. There was also a government and industry arrangement that was established to try to get ahead of the game. That was done to look at the reviews of fenthion but also dimethoate. A whole range of strategies were looked at by that group, and a range of R&D that was funded through Horticulture Australia Limited and so on.</p> <p>Senator LINES: Can you tell us when all of this took place?</p> <p>Mr Aldred: It probably kicked off from about 2007. There was a range of meetings about different components of this that stretched out from about 2007 through to 2011-2012. That included more general awareness raising of the</p>	73	

				<p>issue as well as some specific sessions that were held on alternative strategies.</p> <p>Mr Tucker: My recollection is that we covered this detail in our submission to the specific inquiry on fenthion. I am looking for confirmation from my colleagues, but I think we have laid out quite a bit of detail in that document.</p> <p>Mr Aldred: That is correct.</p> <p>Senator LINES: I think you have. Since the change of government—since September 2013—has that dialogue continued to the intensity that you were undertaking it earlier?</p> <p>Mr Aldred: In some respects a range of things have been done, in particular dimethoate. A lot of focus on that came to pass in newer radiation arrangements that were agreed with New Zealand. A range of projects have come to fruition. I would have to take on notice the level of detailed discussion over the last couple of months. There have been meetings of the Domestic Quarantine and Market Access Working Group that I referred to under the plant health committee, but I would need to take on notice the specifics.</p>		
74	Biosecurity Plant Division	Senator Siewert	Crops that have the certificate	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Are you able to tell me if crops or exports are certified through the GM process as GM free?</p> <p>Ms Calhoun: At the moment we certify when an importing country requires us to provide some additional certification about non-GMO product. We put that on what we call a certificate of condition, which is an additional certificate we provide in addition to a phytosanitary certificate. We base that certification on information that we get from the Office of Gene Technology. They will inform us as to what crops we can provide that certification for and if we do not have that on our list we will go back and consult with them.</p>	87-88	

				<p>We are merely providing the certificate as to condition based on advice that they have provided us.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: It is not on any field work?</p> <p>Ms Calhoun: No.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: What crops at the moment have that certificate?</p> <p>Ms Calhoun: I would have to take that on notice, because I do not have a comprehensive list with me today.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Would it include canola?</p> <p>Ms Calhoun: No. I believe at the moment we do not do any non-GMO certification for canola.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: If you could take that on notice, that would be appreciated. Are you aware whether the importing country tests that?</p>		
75	Biosecurity Policy Division	Senator Siewert	Timeline for Biosecurity Legislation	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Maybe I could ask the parliamentary secretary what the government's time line is for biosecurity legislation.</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: We do not have a time line at this point in time. As Ms Mellor said, the department is briefing us on the legislation. In fact I think I had a briefing last week or the week before. We are looking at a lot of the issues that were raised during the inquiry. We are taking notice of the evidence that was received from the inquiry and looking at how that might work in the context of the legislation, and then it will work into the legislative flow of the government. It needs to find a slot within the legislative program. They will be part of the process when it comes up as well.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Are we looking at within the next 12 months or further out?</p>	28	

				<p>Senator Colbeck: I am sorry, I do not have the detail on that at this point in time. I could take that on notice for you.</p>		
76	Biosecurity Policy Division	Senator Farrell	Biosecurity Bill and the Inspector General position	<p>Senator FARRELL: The parliamentary secretary is here so he must have been involved in the discussions. Can you tell us precisely where the legislation is to establish this position?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: As we discussed this morning, the government is reconsidering the bill. There were some criticisms of the bill as part of the committee process that this committee undertook prior to the election. We are taking that on board. We are reconsidering that. Then we will bring the bill back as part of our legislative program, which is exactly what I said this morning.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Is it your intention to come forward with legislation in this area? Is that your intention?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: We are reconsidering the biosecurity bill at the moment and we are taking into account evidence that was given to this committee in its incomplete inquiry before the election. I cannot give you a time frame on it because I do not have one. That is an active consideration by the government at the moment. As Senator Sterle has just indicated—and I am happy to agree with him—it is an important piece of legislation.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: So it is the intention of the government to come forward with a piece of legislation covering this area? Am I clear on that?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: Biosecurity, yes.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: And the creation of an inspector general position?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: The detail of that question I cannot answer yet. I will have to take that on notice.</p>	62	

77	Biosecurity Policy Division	Senator Sterle	Key area activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you update the committee on work undertaken by the Department in the three key areas identified by the then Opposition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Establishing a Biosecurity Flying Squad as a first response unit for urgent biosecurity issues o Strengthening biosecurity and quarantine containment o Focussing on import risk analysis and quarantine arrangements that better integrate science in quarantine decisions and minimise the risk of exotic pest and disease incursions. 2. Has the government provided the addition 20 million dollars and is so how has this money been distributed. 	Written	
78	Biosecurity Policy Division	Senator Sterle	Biosecurity Legislation	<p>On the Department of Agriculture Website under Biosecurity Legislation it states that there is work being undertaken to the developing new biosecurity legislation to replace the existing Quarantine Act 1908. Is this building on the work undertaken by the Labor Government with the Biosecurity Bill 2012 and the Inspector General of Biosecurity Bill 2012 (Both were introduced into the Parliament on 28 November 2012 and referred to the RART Committee on 29/11/2012 and the report was due by 27/11/2013, but the Parliament was dissolved and there the Bills lapsed</p>	Written	
79	Border Compliance Division	Senator Siewert	Cruise ship onshore process	<p>Ms Mellor: We operate quarantine services in Tasmania under a service level agreement with the Department of Primary Industries in Tasmania. That has been in place for a number of</p>	92	

			<p>years. That service level agreement, or MOU, memorandum of understanding, is coming to a conclusion in June this year. Over the course of the last two years we have been having a look at the level of service required in Tasmania. It is diminishing quite substantially. An example might be that we have changed the way that we do certain kinds of inspections or the need for certain inspections. We have been in very close discussion with senior staff from the Department of Primary Industries in Tasmania for the last two years. Yes, it is going to diminish, because the need for the service diminishes.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: I understand that one of the issues that is causing some significant concern about the reduction of services is cruise ships. One of the thoughts is that cruise ships are inspected in Sydney and therefore do not have to be inspected in Tasmania; is that correct?</p> <p>Ms Mellor: The first point of entry is the place where we do quarantine services into Australia.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: So the point that is being made to me is that there are problems when those ships arrive in Tasmania.</p> <p>Ms Mellor: I am not aware of any particular problem. The normal process, no matter where the ship tranships around, is the first point of entry; what we are looking for is the entry into Australia.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Are you saying that none of those ships is inspected in Tasmania, anyway?</p> <p>Ms Mellor: No, they would not be. If they have been inspected in Sydney or if they have been inspected in Brisbane they have been inspected in their first point of entry into Australia.</p> <p>Mr Hunter: We have had a practice in the past where we have done what they call day tripper surveillance, but on the basis of some risk</p>		
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			<p>assessments that we have done we have almost dismissed that as a function. There is no biosecurity effective outcome for us to be able to do that.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Do you mean people who are going from the cruise ship onshore?</p> <p>Mr Hunter: Onto the mainland, yes. They might have first boarded in Melbourne and then have gone to Tasmania and then they day trip in Tasmania.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Up until when have you done that process?</p> <p>Mr Hunter: I would have to take that on notice. The bottom line is that we have done a lot of work with the cruise lines and the shipping agents in relation to ensuring that the provisioning of food, which is where the risk is, is not to be taken off board by those day tripping passengers. We have done surveys. There is pretty sound science around all of that that there is no biosecurity outcome for us to continue to do that.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Even though where they can go is within easy reach of orchards?</p> <p>Mr Hunter: As I said, there is a lot of surveying and scientific analysis that we have behind all of that; it suggests there is no effective biosecurity outcome.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: You are aware that there is an example of a dog escaping from a cruise ship in Tasmania?</p> <p>Mr Hunter: No. That has not been brought to my attention.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Perhaps I can provide that information to you. I have been told that there is an example where a dog escaped from a cruise ship.</p> <p>Ms Mellor: We would welcome you providing that to us.</p>		
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				<p>ACTING CHAIR: Did they find it? Senator SIEWERT: I am not sure. I am sorry? Ms Mellor: We would welcome that. Certainly our colleagues in Tasmania have not provided us with that information.</p>		
80	Border Compliance Division	Senator Xenophon	Carbendazim	<p>Although carbendazim is banned for use within Australia, imported oranges and frozen concentrate orange juice (FCOJ) may still contain carbendazim. As the main provider of orange juice imports, Brazil continues to export carbendazim contaminated FCOJ to the country without limit, while domestic suppliers must find alternative fungicides and bear the cost of their development.</p> <p>Given carbendazim contaminated FCOJ is cheaper than locally produced orange juice, these imports are putting pressure on local growers and threatening the future of the local industry. What testing programs are in place to detect levels of carbendazim in OJ imports? Can FSANZ provide detail on these programs?</p>	Written	
81	Border Compliance Division	Senator Xenophon	Carbendazim	<p>Although carbendazim is banned for use within Australia, imported oranges and frozen concentrate orange juice (FCOJ) may still contain carbendazim. As the main provider of orange juice imports, Brazil continues to export carbendazim contaminated FCOJ to the country without limit, while domestic suppliers must find alternative fungicides and bear the cost of their development.</p> <p>Given carbendazim contaminated FCOJ is cheaper than locally produced orange juice, these imports are putting pressure on local growers and threatening the future of the local industry. What percentage of imports are tested for safe levels of carbendazim?</p>	Written	

82	Border Compliance Division	Senator Xenophon	Chemicals in Imported Frozen Raspberries	<p>In December last year, tests by Today Tonight revealed banned chemicals in imported frozen raspberries. The majority of frozen raspberries in the supermarkets come from Chile or China, both countries without strict chemical regulations. Today Tonight found that a number of brands contained traces of a number of fungicides and pesticides, some of which are banned here in Australia for agricultural use due to their carcinogenic effects on the human body. The Today Tonight report stated only 5 per cent of these products are tested by authorities. Could you advise me of the current testing programs for imported raspberries? Has additional testing has taken place following the findings by Today Tonight?</p>	Written	
83	Border Compliance Division	Xenophon	Chemicals in Imported Frozen Raspberries	<p>In December last year, tests by Today Tonight revealed banned chemicals in imported frozen raspberries. The majority of frozen raspberries in the supermarkets come from Chile or China, both countries without strict chemical regulations. Today Tonight found that a number of brands contained traces of a number of fungicides and pesticides, some of which are banned here in Australia for agricultural use due to their carcinogenic effects on the human body. How many cases of imported frozen berries with violations against Australian regulations has the FSANZ identified in the past two years?</p> <p>a. What were the chemicals identified and levels of these chemicals in these cases?</p> <p>b. Have unsafe levels of chemicals been identified in any cases?</p>	Written	

84	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Edwards	Hospitality spent in the six months leading up to the election	<p>Senator EDWARDS: I will go to a question on spending, Ms Evans, and then I will move on. What was the department's hospitality spend in the six months leading up to the election?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: I suspect that will have to be taken on notice.</p> <p>Ms Evans: Yes, I think it will as well.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: Please detail the date, the location, the purpose and the cost of all events. That would be for each minister's parliamentary secretary's office and the detail of the spend prior to that date as well. Also include the date, location and cost of each.</p> <p>Ms Evans: We can provide that information.</p>	8	
85	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Edwards	Levy collection	<p>Senator EDWARDS: How much does it cost you, Mr Parker?</p> <p>Mr Parker: Our last figure was \$490,000 on a levies revenue of approximately \$11 million.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: Why is there a disproportionate amount? It costs you nearly half to collect twice as much. And you, Mr Clark, are obviously a troublesome person! It costs you \$726,000 to collect \$5.6 million.</p> <p>Dr Grimes: Senator, it may be that those questions which go to the costs incurred by the department may be more appropriate to refer to the department as to the costs of levy collections which, of course, is—</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: I will give it to you on notice, because it is not really where I want to go. The main point is: I want to understand why it costs so much to collect from one side and not the other and whether those costs have increased over the last 12 months beyond CPI.</p> <p>Dr Grimes: Would you like us to answer those at the moment, Senator?</p> <p>Senator Edwards: If you can work on those I</p>	24	

				will come back to them, because I am very conscious of time.		
86	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Edwards	Levy payers	<p>Senator EDWARDS: Do you have that information? Could you just give me the top 20 levy payers in their order at some stage, on notice, please?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I would have to take that on notice.</p>	25	
87	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Farrell	Average cost for a food export certification for a small exporter	<p>Senator FARRELL: Are you able to tell us what the average cost for a food export certification for a small exporter might be?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: We have that information. I think we would have to take it on notice. It varies across the various export sectors. There is different charging for different—</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: What are the variables?</p> <p>Mr Read: It is a registration charge. Registration charges apply to horticulture and a range of establishments within the red meat sector, such as cold stores, abattoirs and further processing, dairy establishments, seafood arrangements and so forth. Generally what you identify is where you have an establishment that is then required to have some form of regulated program attached to it—often they are an approved establishment or an approved program—connected with that typically has been a registration charge. Again, that rate will vary depending on the nature of that sector. Each of those sectors has different rates. There are different rates in horticulture I think ranging from maybe \$2,000 up to \$6,000 or \$8,000, depending on the sophistication of the markets the product is going to. I think cold stores are about \$10,000. Further processing abattoirs are about \$15,000 and so forth. All of that is transparency available in our fees and charges. You can refer to those.</p>	82	

				<p>Mr Glyde: I would certainly be happy to provide it on notice. I just do not have the detail with me.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: That is fine. I would appreciate your supplying that. What definition do you use for the purpose of defining a 'small exporter'?</p>		
88	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Travel costs - department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. From 7 September 2013, 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). 2. From 7 September 2013, 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. 3. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel. 	Written	
89	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Grants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants from the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date. Provide the recipients, amount, intended use of the grants, what locations have benefited from the grants and the electorate and state of those locations. 2. Update the status of each grant that was approved prior to 7 September 2013, but did not have financial contracts in place on 7 September 2013. Provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the 	Written	

				grants, what locations have benefited from the grants and the electorate and state of those grants.		
90	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Consultancies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many consultancies have been undertaken from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 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. 2. 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. 3. Have any consultancies not gone out for tender? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, which ones and why? 	Written	
91	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Credit cards	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide a breakdown for each employment classification that has a corporate credit card. 2. Please update details of the following? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused? b. How is corporate credit card use monitored? c. What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered? d. Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered since Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013? List staff classification 	Written	

				<p>and what the misuse was, and the action taken.</p> <p>e. What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?</p>		
92	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Land costs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much land (if any) does the Department/ agencies or authorities or Government corporation within each portfolio own or lease? 2. Please list by each individual land holding, the size of the piece of land, the location of that piece of land and the latest valuation of that piece of land, where that land is owned or leased by the Department/ agency or authority or Government Corporation within that portfolio? <i>(In regards to this question please ignore land upon which Australian Defence force bases are located. Non Defence Force base land is to be included)</i> 3. List the current assets, items or purse (buildings, facilities or other) on the land identified above. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the current occupancy level and occupant of the items identified in (3)? b. What is the value of the items identified in (3)? c. What contractual or other arrangements are in place for the items identified in (3)? 4. How many buildings (if any) does the Department /agencies or authorities or Government Corporation within each portfolio own or lease? 5. Please list by each building owned, its name, the size of the building in terms of square metres, the location of that of that building and the latest valuation of that building, where that building is owned by the 	Written	

				<p>Department/ agency or authority or Government corporation within that portfolio? <i>(In regards to this question please ignore buildings that are situated on Australian Defence force bases. Non Defence Force base buildings are to be included).</i></p> <p>6. In regards to any building identified in Q4, please also detail, the occupancy rate as expressed as a percentage of the building size. If occupancy is identified as less than 100%, for what is the remaining space used?</p>		
93	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Shared resources following MOG changes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Following the Machinery of Government changes does the department share any goods/services/accommodation with other departments? 2. What resources/services does the department share with other departments; are there plans to cease sharing the sharing of these resources/services? 3. What were the costs to the department prior to the Machinery of Government changes for these shared resources? What are the estimated costs after the ceasing of shared resource arrangements? 	Written	
94	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Diner's Club cards	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the arrangement with diners club for provision of credit cards for the Whole of Government Travel arrangements? 2. What is the cost of using diners club to the government, listed by government and agency in fees and other charges? 3. What are the criteria for staff receiving credit cards? Does the criteria vary between SES and other levels; do they require pre approval for certain classes of expenses? 4. Please detail the limits of the credit cards issued to departmental staff; the types of 	Written	

				cards; the card issuers; 5. Have any credit cards been issued to ministers or ministers staff?		
95	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Multiple tenders	List any tenders that were re-issued or issued multiple times since 7 September 2013 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Why were they re-issued or issued multiple times? b. Were any applicants received for the tenders before they were re-issued or repeatedly issued? c. Were those applicants asked to resubmit their tender proposal? 	Written	

96	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Government payments of accounts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. From Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date, what has been the average time period for the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors, consultants or others? 2. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in under 30 days? 3. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 30 and 60 days? 4. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 60 and 90 days? 5. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 90 and 120 days? 6. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in over 120 days? 7. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency since 7 September 2013? 8. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined? 	Written	
97	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Meeting costs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the Department/Agency's meeting spend from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs. 2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total meeting spend from Supplementary Budget Estimates 	Written	

				<p>in November 2013 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>3. 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>4. 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>		
98	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Hospitality and entertainment	<p>1. What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>3. What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>5. What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all</p>	Written	

				<p>events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>6. 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>7. 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>8. 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>9. Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved?</p>		
99	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Coffee machines	<p>1. Has the department/agency purchased coffee machines for staff useage since Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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? Why were coffee machines purchased? 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? Where did the funding for the coffee machines come from? Who has access? Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was 	Written	

				<p>spent on maintenance from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?</p> <p>h. What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee?</p> <p>2. Does the department/agency rent coffee machines for staff useage?</p> <p>a. 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>b. Why are coffee machines rented?</p> <p>c. Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were rented? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?</p> <p>d. Where does the funding for the coffee machines come from?</p> <p>e. Who has access?</p> <p>f. Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?</p> <p>g. What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee?</p>		
100	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Corporate cars	<p>1. How many cars are owned by each department/agency?</p> <p>2. Where is the car/s located?</p>	Written	

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. What is the car/s used for? 4. What is the cost of each car from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? 5. How far did each car travel from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? 6. How many cars are leased by each department/agency? 7. Where are the cars located? 8. What are the cars used for? 9. What is the cost of each car from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? 10. How far did each car travel from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? 		
101	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Taxi costs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency. 2. What are the reasons for taxi costs? 	Written	
102	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Hire cars	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much did each department/agency spend on hire cars from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency. 2. What are the reasons for hire car costs? 	Written	
103	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Building lease costs	<p>What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency/department since September 7, 2013?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased. Please detail by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Date the lease agreement is active 	Written	

				<p>from.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Date the lease agreement ends. iii. Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not? iv. Location of the building (City and state). v. Cost of the lease. vi. Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department. <p>b. Please provide a detailed list of each building that had a lease that was not renewed since September 7, 2013. Please detail by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Date from which the lease agreement was active. ii. Date the lease agreement ended. iii. Why was the lease not renewed? iv. Location of the building (City and state). v. Cost of the lease. vi. Why the building was necessary for the operations of the agency / department. <p>c. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months. Please detail by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Date the lease agreement is expected to become active. ii. Date the lease agreement is expected to end. iii. Expected location of the building (City and state). iv. Expected cost of the lease. v. Has this cost been allocated into the budget? vi. Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / 		
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				<p>department.</p> <p>d. For each building owned or leased by the department:</p> <p>i. What is the current occupancy rate for the building?</p> <p>ii. If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining being used for.</p>		
104	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Christmas party costs	<p>List what functions were held by the department/agency for either Christmas or end of calendar year since 7 September 2013</p> <p>a. What was the cost of each of these functions?</p> <p>b. How was the money identified?</p> <p>c. What was the location of these functions?</p> <p>d. Provide a table of food and alcohol purchased for the function</p>	Written	
105	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Departmental upgrades	<p>Since 7 September 2013 has the department/agency engaged in any new refurbishments, upgrades or changes to their building or facilities?</p> <p>a. If so, list these</p> <p>b. If so, list the total cost for these changes</p> <p>c. If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure</p> <p>d. If so, who conducted the works?</p> <p>e. If so, list the process for identifying who would conduct these works</p> <p>f. If so, when are the works expected to be completed?</p>	Written	
106	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Wine coolers/fridges	<p>Since 7 September 2013 has the department/agency purchased or leased any new wine coolers, or wine fridges or other devices for the purpose of housing alcohol beverages, including Eskies?</p>	Written	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, list these b. If so, list the total cost for these items c. If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure d. If so, where were these purchased e. If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased f. If so, what is the current location for these items? g. If so, what is the current stocking level for each of these items? 		
107	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Office plants	<p>Since 7 September 2013 has the department/agency purchased or leased any new office plants?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, list these b. If so, list the total cost for these items c. If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure d. If so, where were these purchased e. If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased f. If so, what is the current location for these items? 	Written	
108	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Office recreation facilities	<p>Since 7 September 2013 has the department/agency purchased or leased or constructed any office recreation facilities, activities or games (including but not limited to pool tables, table tennis tables or others)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, list these b. If so, list the total cost for these items c. If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure d. If so, where were these purchased e. If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased f. If so, what is the current location for 	Written	

				<p>these items?</p> <p>g. If so, what is the current usage for each of these items?</p>		
109	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Vending machines	<p>Since 7 September 2013 has the department/agency purchased or leased or taken under contract any vending machine facilities?</p> <p>a. If so, list these</p> <p>b. If so, list the total cost for these items</p> <p>c. If so, list the itemised cost for each item of expenditure</p> <p>d. If so, where were these purchased</p> <p>e. If so, list the process for identifying how they would be purchased</p> <p>f. If so, what is the current location for these items?</p> <p>g. If so, what is the current usage for each of these items?</p>	Written	
110	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Printing	<p>1. How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? How many of these printed documents were also published online?</p> <p>2. Did the Department/agency use external printing services for any print jobs since 7 September 2013?</p> <p>a. If so, what companies were used?</p> <p>b. How were they selected?</p> <p>c. What was the total cost of this printing?</p>	Written	
111	Finance and Business Support Division	Senator Ludwig	Media subscriptions	<p>1. What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have?</p> <p>a. Please provide a list of what channels and the reason for each channel.</p> <p>b. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date?</p>	Written	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What is the cost for this from 7 September 2013 to date? <p>2. What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each. b. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date? c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What is the cost for this from 7 September 2013 to date? <p>3. What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each. b. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date? c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What is the cost for this from 7 September 2013 to date? <p>4. What publications does your department/agency purchase?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please provide a list of publications purchased by the department and the reason for each. b. What is the cost from 7 September 2013 to date? c. What is provided to the Minister or their office? d. What is the cost for this from 7 September 2013 to date? 		

112	Food Division	Senator O'Sullivan	EU standards	<p>Senator O'SULLIVAN: Later on I am going to ask you to take it on notice to produce the documents that would show us that we made those changes in the honest but now mistaken belief that the EU had agreed that that was an approved process that met their standards.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Yes, and I am happy to take those questions on notice. But I would draw your attention to the EU audit report, which did not question the ability of the Australian Export Meat Inspection System to meet either the food safety outcomes or the product suitability requirements, nor did it question the competence of the people involved in doing the authorisation and assessments.</p>	37	
113	Food Division	Senator Farrell	Incidents	<p>Senator FARRELL: Are there any current ones that you are aware of?</p> <p>Mr Read: I would say there probably are, but the incidents are quite sparse in the last year. So we have not had that many. All up there are probably 10 or 11 in terms of about 1.8 million tonnes of product exported.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: So, a very small percentage?</p> <p>Mr Read: Very, very small.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Are you able to get us some information on that? Is that information available?</p> <p>Mr Read: Yes, we can provide that.</p>	51	
114	Food Division	Senator O'Sullivan	Correspondence describing the system to the European Union	<p>Senator O'SULLIVAN: You will need to take this on notice. Do we have correspondence from them or between us and them on that issue?</p> <p>Mr Read: We have correspondence of us describing that system to the European Union. The key point—</p> <p>Senator O'SULLIVAN: I am sorry, Mr Read.</p>	89	

				<p>On the very question of governance with respect to—</p> <p>Mr Read: Company meat inspections is the reference you are making. Connected with company meat inspection, can they fulfil official auxiliary roles? That has to be in the context of conflict of interest.</p> <p>Senator O'SULLIVAN: Yes.</p> <p>Mr Read: We designed that system to mitigate that risk of conflict of interest over those years of discussion with the EU to bring about a range of deeds, checks and balances in our system to ensure that it stood up to scrutiny against our and their current—expressed in meetings—overview of their directives. As I said, even at the exit meeting that certainly was not even expressed as a concern. What has transpired is a policy interpretation within the EU of what is considered to be an official auxiliary. That is what happened in March 2013, and that interpretation has caused us difficulties with the current company employed inspectors being able to continue to provide inspection into the European Union.</p> <p>ACTING CHAIR: This is the last one, Senator O'Sullivan, and I would ask that the answer be nice and brief and to the point, if I may.</p> <p>Senator O'SULLIVAN: Would you take it on notice to provide us with any correspondence between yourself and them in relation to this particular issue?</p> <p>Mr Read: We will have to look at that as well.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: We will have to check with the Europeans.</p> <p>Dr Grimes: We can take it on notice and then consider what issues there may be.</p>		
115	Food Division	Senator Sterle	Port of entry issues	Are there any current reports on port of entry issues with detections of microbiological	Written	

				contamination and macroscopic contamination?		
116	Food Division	Senator Sterle	Export Certification registration cost	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Government's pre-election Policy for a Competitive Agriculture Sector, August 2013, states "to support export growth, we will commit \$15 million to provide rebates to small exporters for Export Certification registration costs?" 2. Has this money been made available? 3. What is the average cost for a Food Export Certification for a small exporter? 4. What constitutes a small exporter? 5. Will this be on-going funding? 6. Is the Department currently working on changing the legislative requirement for food export certification? 	Written	
117	Food Division	Senator Sterle	European Commission	<p>The European Commission released a report on 5 November 2013 that stated that Australian Export Meat Inspection System did not meet the European Union food safety regulations. The report particularly criticised the practice of company-paid inspectors examining animal carcasses, as this was seen to give rise to the potential for conflicts of interest.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What work has the department undertaken to address this issue b. Which markets for Australia could this impact on? 	Written	
118	Governance Division	Senator Edwards	Electorate level reports	Senator EDWARDS: Did the department prepare electorate-level reports for government ministers for the 2013 election?	7	

				<p>Mr Glyde: There were the usual activities where we produce information for particular visits and things like that, but I am not quite sure whether or not that material was prepared or when it was provided. I will have to take that on notice.....</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: How often would those reports be updated?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: The information is usually updated at the time the minister or the parliamentary secretary is visiting the region. A lot of that information would be updated on a regular basis. So, for example, the ABARES information is something that would be updated possibly quarterly or annually as well.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: Are those reports publicly available?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: I am not sure. I would have to take that on notice. I do not think they contain any information that would not be on the public record.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: Would you mind providing us with a copy of the latest reports?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Yes, but I will say that we do not have a standing set of regional reports. I know ABARES produces regional summaries and puts its data out at a regional level.</p>		
119	Governance Division	Senator Edwards	Department and portfolio agencies expenditure on advertising and marketing in six month prior to the election	<p>Senator EDWARDS: How much did the department and portfolio agencies spend on advertising and marketing in the six months prior to the election?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: I might have to ask Ms Evans to answer that question.</p> <p>Ms Evans: I would have to take that one on notice because it is a specific question.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: When you get that, can you put some commentary around the justification of that spending so that I get an understanding?</p>	8	

				<p>Ms Evans: Yes, we can.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: On the same answer, could the department provide a list of relevant contracts that led to that expenditure and indicate the rationale for each service provided and its intended use?</p> <p>Ms Evans: Yes, we can do that.</p>		
120	Governance Division	Senator Edwards	Community Cabinet	<p>Senator EDWARDS: This question is about the community cabinet. What was the cost of the Labor minister's travel and expenses for the community cabinet meetings held since budget estimates in 2010?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: We would have to take that on notice. I am afraid we do not have that information to hand.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: When you are doing that, could you include how many ministerial staff and department officers travelled with the minister for the community cabinet meetings?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Sure.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: Obviously, you will total that to give the total cost of travel and include the total cost to the department and the minister's office.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Yes.</p>	8	
121	Governance Division	Senator Edwards	New board of the combine Wine Australia Corporation and Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation	<p>Senator EDWARDS: If you can work on those I will come back to them, because I am very conscious of time. You would agree that the formation of the new board of this new combined body is going to be an important board to settle in the two marketing and research functions of the previous entities. Can you give me an update as to whether nominations for those board positions have been called, or when they will be called, and when they will close?</p> <p>Mr A Clark: I think it falls to the department to</p>	24	

				respond to that question.		
122	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Media training	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information from 7 September 2013 to date: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Total spending on these services b. an itemised cost breakdown of these services c. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification d. The number of employees who have utilised these services and their employment classification e. The names of all service providers engaged f. the location that this training was provided 2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (1), please provide: <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) 3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The location used 	Written	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. The number of employees who took part on each occasion c. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) d. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location 		
123	Governance Division	Senator Sterle	SCoPI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Was the National Drought Program Reform discussed at the Standing Committee on Primary Industries (SCoPI) meeting on the 6th December 2013? 2. Did the Minister seek advice from Departmental officials regarding the abolishment of (SCoPI)? 	Written	
124	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Travel costs - ministerial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. From 7 September 2013, detail all travel conducted by the Minister/parliamentary secretary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. List each location, method of travel, itinerary and purpose of trip; b. List the total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals), and; c. List the number of staff that accompanied the Minister/parliamentary secretary, listing the total costs per staff member, the class of airplane travelled, the classification of staff accompanying the Minister/parliamentary secretary. 2. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel. 	Written	
125	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Reviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Since the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013, how many new reviews 	Written	

				<p>(defined as review, inter-departmental group, inquiry, internal review or similar activity) have been commenced? Please list them including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the date they were ordered b. the date they commenced c. the minister responsible d. the department responsible e. the nature of the review f. their terms of reference g. the scope of the review h. Whom is conducting the review i. the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review j. the expected report date k. the budgeted, projected or expected costs l. If the report will be tabled in parliament or made public <p>2. For any review commenced or ordered since the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013, have any external people, companies or contractors being engaged to assist or conduct the review?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, please list them, including their name and/or trading name/s and any known alias or other trading names b. If so, please list their managing director and the board of directors or equivalent c. If yes, for each is the cost associated with their involvement, including a break down for each cost item d. If yes, for each, what is the nature of their involvement e. If yes, for each, are they on the lobbyist register, provide details. f. If yes, for each, what contact has the Minister or their office had with them 		
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				<p>g. If yes, for each, who selected them</p> <p>h. If yes, for each, did the minister or their office have any involvement in selecting them,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. If yes, please detail what involvement it was ii. If yes, did they see or provided input to a short list iii. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur iv. If yes, did this involve any verbal discussions with the department v. If yes, on what dates did this involvement occur <p>3. Since the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013, what reviews are on-going?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please list them. b. What is the current cost to date expended on the reviews? <p>4. Since the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013, have any reviews been stopped, paused or ceased? Please list them.</p> <p>5. Since the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013, what reviews have concluded? Please list them.</p> <p>6. Since the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013, how many reviews have been provided to Government? Please list them and the date they were provided.</p> <p>7. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?</p> <p>8. What reviews are planned?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. When will each planned review be commenced? b. When will each of these reviews be concluded? c. When will government respond to each 		
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				<p>review?</p> <p>d. Will the government release each review?</p> <p>i. If so, when?</p> <p>ii. If not, why not?</p>		
126	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Briefings for other parties	<p>1. Have any briefings and/or provision of information been provided to Non-Government parties other than the Australian Labor Party? If yes, please include:</p> <p>a. How are briefings requests commissioned?</p> <p>b. What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.</p> <p>c. Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information.</p> <p>d. Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed.</p> <p>e. 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> <p>f. Which Non-Government Parties or Independents, excluding the Australian Labor Party have requested briefings and/or information?</p>	Written	
127	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Appointments	<p>1. Please detail any board appointments made from the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date.</p> <p>2. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?</p>	Written	

128	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Stationery requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much was spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers / Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio from the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Detail the items provided to the minister's office 2. How much was spent on departmental stationery requirements from the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date. 	Written	
129	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Electronic equipment	<p>Other than phones, ipads or computers – please list the electronic equipment provided to the Minister's office since 7 September 2013.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. List the items b. List the items location or normal location c. List if the item is in the possession of the office or an individual staff member of minister, if with an individual list their employment classification level d. List the total cost of the items e. List an itemised cost breakdown of these items f. List the date they were provided to the office g. Note if the items were requested by the office or proactively provided by the department 	Written	
130	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Senate estimates briefing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many officers were responsible for preparing the department, agency, Minister or representing Minister's briefing pack for the purposes of senate estimates? 2. How many officer hours were spent on preparing that information? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please break down the hours by officer 	Written	

				<p>APS classification</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Were drafts shown to the Minister or their office before senate estimates? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, when did this occur? b. How many versions of this information were shown to the minister or their office? 4. Did the minister or their office make any contributions, edits or suggestions for departmental changes to this information? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, when did this occur? b. What officer hours were spent on making these edits? Please break down the hours by officer APS classification. c. When were the changes made? 5. Provide each of the contents page of the Department/Minister/representing Minister's Senate Estimates folder prepared by the department for the Additional Estimates hearings in February 2014. 		
131	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Question time	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many officers are responsible for preparing the department, agency, Minister or representing Minister's briefing pack for the purposes of Question Time? 2. How many officer hours are spent each sitting day on preparing that information? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please break down the hours by officer APS classification 3. Are drafts shown to the Minister or their office before Question Time? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, when does this occur? b. How many versions of this information are shown to the minister or their office? 4. Does the minister or their office make any contributions, edits or suggestions for departmental changes to this information? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, when does this occur? 	Written	

				<p>b. What officer hours were spent on making these edits? Please break down the hours by officer APS classification.</p> <p>5. Provide each of the contents page of the Minister and representing Minister's Question Time folder prepared by the department for the week of 11 February 2014.</p>		
132	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Functions	<p>1. Provide a list of all formal functions or forms of hospitality conducted for the Minister. Include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The guest list of each function The party or individual who initiated the request for the function The menu, program or list of proceedings of the function A list of drinks consumed at the function <p>2. Provide a list of the current wine, beer or other alcoholic beverages in stock or on order in the Minister's office</p>	Written	
133	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Red tape reduction	<p>1. Please detail what structures, officials, offices, units, taskforce or other processes has the department dedicated to meeting the government's red tape reduction targets?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What is the progress of that red tape reduction target <p>2. How many officers have been placed in those units and at what level?</p> <p>3. How have they been recruited?</p> <p>4. What process was used for their appointment?</p> <p>5. What is the total cost of this unit?</p> <p>6. Do members of the unit have access to cabinet documents?</p> <p>7. Please list the security classification and date the classification was issued for each officer, broken down by APS or SES level, in the red tape reduction unit or similar body.</p>	Written	

				8. What is the formal name given to this unit/taskforce/team/workgroup or agency within the department?		
134	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Official residences	<p>1. Provide a list of all formal functions conducted at any of the Official Residences, or for the Prime Minister's office or Prime Minister's Dining Room where it has been used in place of the official residences. Include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The guest list of each function, including if any ministerial staff attended The party or individual who initiated the request for the function The menu, program or list of proceedings of the function A list of drinks consumed at the function <p>2. Provide a list of the current wine, beer or other alcoholic beverages in stock or on order at any of the official residences, or venues or offices acting as official residences.</p>	Written	
135	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Ministerial staff code	<p>1. Have there been any identified breaches of the Ministerial Staff Code of Conduct by the Minister, their office or the department?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> If so, list the breaches identified, broken by staffing classification level If so, what remedy was put in place to manage the breach? If no remedy has been put in place, why not? If so, when was the breach identified? By whom? When was the Minister made aware? <p>2. Can the Minister confirm that all ministerial and electorate officers in their office comply fully with the ministerial staff code of conduct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> If not, how many staff don't comply, 	Written	

				<p>broken down by classification level?</p> <p>b. How long have they worked for the Minister?</p> <p>3. Can you confirm they all complied with the code on the date of their employment?</p> <p>a. If not, on what date did they comply?</p> <p>4. Can you confirm that all disclosures as required by the code were made to the government staffing committee?</p> <p>a. If so, on what date were those disclosure made?</p> <p>5. By position title list the date each staff member was approved by government staff committee</p> <p>6. Can you confirm all staff have divested themselves of any and all relevant shares as of the date of their appointment</p> <p>7. Can you list by number if any staff have been granted exception by the SMOS to remain a director of a company as allowed by the Ministerial Staff Code of Conduct, break down by position level</p>		
136	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Ministerial Leave	<p>Was the minister on leave at any point during the Christmas break (between the last sitting of parliament in 2013 and the first sitting in 2014)?</p> <p>If so:</p> <p>a. Please table a schedule of the ministers leave. Please include:</p> <p>i. The dates the minister was on leave.</p> <p>ii. The dates the minister was out of the country (if applicable).</p> <p>b. Who was acting in the minister's place?</p> <p>i. What date was it decided to have this person act in the minister's place?</p> <p>ii. What was the process for selecting this person?</p> <p>iii. Who was involved in making this</p>	Written	

				<p>decision?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">c. Were there any matters with which the department needed to make contact with the minister during this time? If so:<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Please provide a list of these matters and the date they occurredii. Please provide a copy of any correspondence, emails, notes etc between the minister and the department during this time.iii. Were there any times that the department was aware that it would be unable to communicate with the minister?iv. Were there any times that the department tried to contact the minister but were unable?d. Were there any matters with which the department needed to make contact with the acting minister during this time? If so:<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Please provide a list of these matters and the date they occurredii. Please provide a copy of any correspondence, emails, notes etc between the acting minister and the department during this time.iii. Were there any times that the department was aware that it would be unable to communicate with the acting minister?iv. Were there any times that the department tried to contact the acting minister but were unable?v. but were unable?e. Did the department contact the Minister or acting minister during this time? If so:<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Please provide a list of these matters and the date they occurred		
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				<p>ii. Please provide a copy of any correspondence, emails, notes etc between the minister and or acting minister and the department during this time.</p>		
137	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Ministerial Motor vehicle	<p>Has the minister been provided with a motor vehicle? If so:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the make and model? b. How much did it cost? c. When was it provided? d. Was the entire cost met by the department? If not, how was the cost met? e. What, if any, have been the ongoing costs associated with this motor vehicle? Please include costs such as maintenance and fuel. f. Are these costs met by the department? If not, how are these costs met? g. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine if a minister is entitled to a motor vehicle. h. Have these guidelines changed since September 7, 2013? If so, please detail. i. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine how a minister is to use a motor vehicle they have been provided with. Please include details such as whether the motor vehicle can be used for personal uses. j. Have these guidelines changed since September 7, 2013? If so, please detail. 	Written	

138	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Ministerial Staff vehicles (non-MoPS)	<p>Outside of MoPS Act entitlements, have any of the Minister's staff been provided with a motor vehicle? If so:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the make and model? b. How much did it cost? c. When was it provided? d. Was the entire cost met by the department? If not, how was the cost met? e. What, if any, have been the ongoing costs associated with this motor vehicle? Please include costs such as maintenance and fuel. f. Are these costs met by the department? If not, how are these costs met? g. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine this entitlement to a motor vehicle. h. Have these guidelines changed since September 7, 2013? If so, please detail. i. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine how a motor vehicle is to be used that they have been provided with. Please include details such as whether the motor vehicle can be used for personal uses. j. Have these guidelines changed since September 7, 2013? If so, please detail. 	Written	
139	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Ministerial Staff vehicles	<p>Have any of the Minister's staff been provided with a motor vehicle under the MoPS Act entitlements? If so:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the make and model? b. How much did it cost? c. When was it provided? d. Was the entire cost met by the department? If not, how was the cost met? 	Written	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. What, if any, have been the ongoing costs associated with this motor vehicle? Please include costs such as maintenance and fuel. f. Are these costs met by the department? If not, how are these costs met? g. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine this entitlement to a motor vehicle. h. Have these guidelines changed since September 7, 2013? If so, please detail. i. Please provide a copy of the guidelines that determine how a motor vehicle is to be used that they have been provided with. Please include details such as whether the motor vehicle can be used for personal uses. j. Have these guidelines changed since September 7, 2013? If so, please detail. 		
140	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Government advertising	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much has been spent on government advertising (including job ads) since 7 September 2013? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. List each item of expenditure and cost b. List the approving officer for each item c. Detail the outlets that were paid for the advertising 2. What government advertising is planned for the rest of the financial year? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. List the total expected cost b. List each item of expenditure and cost c. List the approving officer for each item d. Detail the outlets that have been or will be paid for the advertising 	Written	
141	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Ministerial website	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much has been spent on the Minister's website since 7 September 2013? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. List each item of expenditure and cost 	Written	

				<p>2. Who is responsible for uploading information to the Minister's website?</p> <p>a. Are any departmental staff required to work outside regular hours to maintain the Minister's website?</p>		
142	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Commissioned reports	<p>1. Since the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013, how many Reports (including paid external advice) have been commissioned by the Minister, department or agency? 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> <p>2. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental or external staff were involved in each report and at what level?</p> <p>3. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?</p>	Written	
143	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Media monitoring	<p>1. What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office from 7 September 2013 to date?</p> <p>a. Which agency or agencies provided these services?</p> <p>b. What has been spent providing these services from 7 September 2013 to date?</p> <p>c. Itemise these expenses.</p> <p>2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency from 7 September 2013 to date?</p> <p>a. Which agency or agencies provided these</p>	Written	

				<p>services?</p> <p>b. What has been spent providing these services from 7 September 2013 to date?</p> <p>c. Itemise these expenses</p>		
144	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Communications staff	<p>For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:</p> <p>a. How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.</p> <p>b. How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location</p> <p>c. How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location</p> <p>d. How many are graphic designers?</p> <p>e. How many are media managers?</p> <p>f. How many organise events?</p>	Written	
145	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Departmental rebranding	<p>Has the department/Agency undergone a name change or any other form of rebranding since September 7, 2013? If so:</p> <p>a. Please detail why this name change / rebrand were considered necessary and a justified use of departmental funds?</p> <p>i. Please provide a copy of any reports that were commissioned to study the benefits and costs associated with the rebranding.</p> <p>b. Please provide the total cost associated with this rebrand and then break down by amount spent replacing:</p> <p>i. Signage.</p> <p>ii. Stationery (please include details of existing stationery and how it was disposed of).</p>	Written	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. Logos iv. Consultancy v. Any relevant IT changes. vi. Office reconfiguration. <p>c. How was the decision reached to rename and/or rebrand the department?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Who was involved in reaching this decision? ii. Please provide a copy of any communication (including but not limited to emails, letters, memos, notes etc) from within the department, or between the department and the government regarding the rename/rebranding. 		
146	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Market research	<p>List any market research conducted by the department/agency since 7 September 2013.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. List the total cost of this research b. List each item of expenditure and cost, broken down by division and program c. Who conducted the research? d. How were they identified? e. Where was the research conducted? f. In what way was the research conducted? g. Were focus groups, round tables or other forms of research tools used? h. How were participants for these focus groups et al selected? 	Written	
147	Governance Division	Senator Ludwig	Australian Public Affairs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List all interactions between the department/agency with Australian Public Affairs since 7 September 2013. List the participants in the meeting, the topic of the discussion, who arranged or requested the meeting, the location of the meeting 2. List all interactions between the Minister/parliamentary Secretary and/or their 	Written	

				offices with Australian Public Affairs since 7 September 2013. List the participants in the meeting, the topic of the discussion, who arranged or requested the meeting, the location of the meeting		
148	Information Services Division	Senator Ludwig	Computers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List the current inventory of computers owned, leased, stored, or able to be accessed by the Ministers office as provided by the department, listing the equipment cost and location and employment classification of the staff member that is allocated the equipment, or if the equipment is currently not being used 2. List the current inventory of computers owned, leased, stored, or able to be accessed by the department, listing the equipment cost and location 3. Please detail the operating systems used by the departments computers, the contractual arrangements for operating software and the on-going costs 	Written	
149	Information Services Division	Senator Ludwig	Provision of equipment - departmental	<p>Other than desktop computers, list all electronic equipment provided to department/agency staff.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. List the items b. List the purchase cost c. List the ongoing cost d. List the staff and staff classification that receive the equipment. 	Written	
150	Information Services Division	Senator Ludwig	Provision of equipment - ministerial	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 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? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Itemise equipment and cost broken down 	Written	

				<p>by staff or minister classification</p> <p>2. 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 a list of what is provided across the department of agency, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives each item.</p>		
151	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Rhiannon	Economic assessment on Bahrain	<p>Senator RHIANNON: Considering Bahrain has completely replaced live Australian sheep imports with Australian chilled and frozen meat, has an economic assessment been done on where the greatest benefit comes to Australia?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Certainly the Live Animal Exports Division and the Australian Bureau of Agricultural Resource Economics and Sciences have not done any economic assessment. We might be in a position to describe what has happened to the trade. I think in your question earlier this morning you mentioned that as a result of the suspension of the live trade there had been a significant increase in the import of Australian boxed chilled and frozen lamb, and that is certainly the case. But we have not had an investigation into some of the other factors happening in that market. We also imagine that there would be some substitution of live animals from other exporting countries as well as importing animals for consumption. As you would be aware, there is considerable import of animals to do with particular religious festivals in the region, and those sorts of things do end up distorting the market. Ms Irwin might be in a</p>	38-39	

				position to give you the statistics if that would help, or perhaps we could take it on notice and supply what we know about the box trade and the live trade over the last three or four years.		
152	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Back	International animal welfare standards	<p>Senator BACK: No, you are not. Neither am I. Can you tell me whether you are aware of any other product or any other commodity exported from Australia or, indeed, from any other country that has something equivalent to ESCAS applied to it, where the exporter is liable for the performance of those in a supply chain remote from the country of origin of that product or commodity?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: I cannot be terribly specific about other regulatory systems, but I know that this sort of this system is rare. It is certainly the only system we have in the agricultural space that has this sort of requirement, and it is, as we have discussed already, a unique application. Obviously, the Australian government has no control over actions in another country; and so it is a unique circumstance where we require exporters to have commercially valid contracts with operators in another country to try to achieve our objectives of a trade that is consistent with international animal welfare standards.</p> <p>Senator BACK: Thank you. Prior to ESCAS being introduced, did the department avail itself of that information that you have just so kindly and correctly advised us of?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: No.</p> <p>Senator BACK: At what point in time did you become aware of that; and, obviously, at what point would the then minister have become aware of the information you have just supplied to us?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: I am sorry; I might have misunderstood your question. You are talking</p>	42-43	

				<p>about information on other arrangements that are similar to this, like, say, in the handling of nuclear waste?</p> <p>Senator BACK: That is correct—now applied to the export of animals, livestock, from Australia.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: I think I would have to take that on notice to refresh my memory about what might have been provided at that time.</p>		
153	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Back	Sale of sheep meat and beef to Saudi Arabia	<p>Senator BACK: Can you tell me what, if anything, has been the change in sales of sheep meat and beef to Saudi Arabia from Australia prior to and subsequent to the cessation of the live export trade?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: I would have to take that one on notice, but we would have those statistics.</p>	43	
154	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Back	Live export trade to Indonesia	<p>Senator BACK: In that case I will just ask one more question. What action did the department take subsequent to the banning of the live export trade to Indonesia in an attempt to re-establish the trade?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Is that with Indonesia?</p> <p>Senator BACK: Yes, in the relationship between Australia and Indonesia.</p> <p>Mr Glyde: There has been quite a lot of activity—ministerial-led and officials-led—both in the lead up to the suspension and then, following the suspension, during the re-establishment under ESCAS. There have been numerous meetings and numerous exchanges, so it is probably best if I take that on notice to give you the complete listing of the activities that have been undertaken both at the ministerial and official level.</p> <p>Senator BACK: As part of that, could you also tell me—and I am sure it is publicly available—how many visits, if any, the previous ministers for</p>	43	

				<p>agriculture under the last government and this government have made to Indonesia since 2011 as part of that process? Would you also then advise us of the number of cattle that have been exported from Australia to Indonesia, starting with 2009-10 through to your latest records?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Yes, no problem.</p>		
155	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Back	Number of cattle exported to Indonesia	<p>Senator BACK: We asked a question earlier about the number of cattle that have been exported to Indonesia. I wonder if it is possible for Mr Glyde to break those figures down for Queensland, the Northern Territory and Western Australia?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Yes, we can do that for you.</p>	48	
156	Live Animal Export Division	Senator Rhiannon	Boxed meat to Bahrain	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What have been the quantities of boxed sheep imports to Bahrain since 2012? 2. How does this compare with quantity/numbers of live exported sheep to Bahrain in the previous years leading up to the ban? 3. What has been the value of this replacement to the Australian economy, and how does it compare with the average yearly value of live exported sheep in the previous years leading up to the ban? 4. How stable and reliable a market is Bahrain, and what are chilled sheep meat prices currently compared to last year? 5. Can you update me on reasons why the shipment of Australian sheep was rejected by Bahrain in 2012? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Have the claims of 'scabby mouth' been borne out by any investigations? 6. How many sheep were exported to Bahrain in the three years before the ban? 7. Given Bahrain's already demonstrated lack of commitment to animal welfare in live exports; 	Written	

				<p>Bahrain's willingness to replace live sheep exports with chilled meat and the certainty of that trade; and the clear economic benefits to Australia of the chilled meat trade – why is the government considering reopening the live export trade?</p> <p>8. What loss to the chilled meat trade would the reopening of the live export trade to Bahrain represent? What modelling has been done?</p>		
157	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Sterle	Exporter Supply Chain Assurance System	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many non-compliance investigations is the Department currently undertaking? 2. Will the Department of Agriculture be undertaking a review into the ESCAS system? 3. What would be the most frequent non-compliance issue with the ESCAS system? 4. I refer to a media report by The Age on Monday 10/2/14, that Agriculture Minister Barnaby Joyce will soon visit the Middle East to restart the live export trade with Bahrain and Iran. Is this correct? 5. If so, what work has been undertaken to ensure that compliance with ESCAS will be undertaken. 6. Will the Minister be seeking a MOU with both Bahrain and Iran to manage some of the possible risks the government carries in reinstating the trade. 7. Can you update the committee with regards to the Gaza incident investigations? 	Written	
158	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Xenophon	Live exports in Bahrain & Iran	<p>In the Supplementary Budget Estimates in November last year, I asked and was given information about the current status of negotiations with Bahrain in regards to recommencing the live export trade. Last week Agriculture Minister Barnaby Joyce announced the Australian and Bahraini</p>	Written	

				<p>governments had reached an agreement on animal health protocols so the trade could resume.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Could you provide specific detail on the agreement on animal health protocols between Australia and Bahrain?2. Given the rejection by Bahrain and eventual cull in Pakistan of 20,000 sheep, what provisions has the Department negotiated to ensure that a similar rejection will not occur in the future if exports are recommenced?3. What research and advice on this matter has been provided to the Minister? <p>I have been provided information that Australia proposed health conditions for Bahrain to reflect current international standards set by the World Organisation for Animal Health, emphasising that many diseases, including scabby mouth are endemic worldwide.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">4. Have these conditions been agreed to by Bahrain?5. Were these conditions present in Australia's previous MOU with Bahrain in relation to the offloading of animals?6. What sanctions are proposed for non-compliance?7. Could you advise me of the current status of negotiations to recommence the livestock trade in Iran, including specific measures that have been taken by the department? Could you also outline what research and advice on this matter has been provided to the Minister?8. What is the progression of the animal health certification requirements for Iran?9. Given Australia's UNSC and autonomous sanctions against Iran, is the Department taking additional measures to ensure smooth negotiations with Iran? If so, what measures are being taken?		
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159	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Rhiannon	Recurring ESCAS breaches in Gaza	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you confirm the Department is currently investigating breaches of ESCAS in Gaza whereby Australian cattle were brutally slaughtered on the streets during the Eid al Adha in October 2013? 2. What immediate action did the Department take to safeguard the welfare of the remaining Australian animals in the market at the time? 3. Has the Department granted a further permit since October for the exporter – Livestock Shipping Services – to export cattle to Gaza? 4. How many Australian cattle have been exported to Gaza since October 2013? 5. I understand as part of this case, evidence was also provided to the Department of cruel slaughter practices in an ESCAS approved abattoir in Gaza – specifically the use of a full inversion restraint box which did not meet OIE or ESCAS guidelines: Given that when similar problems were exposed in an accredited abattoir in Egypt last year the Department sent officials to oversee the humane slaughter of the remaining animals, what action did the Department take in this case to ensure those Australian cattle still going through this abattoir in Gaza were slaughtered humanely? 6. What action did the Department take upon receipt of this evidence in November 2013 to ensure this restraint box is no longer being used? 7. I understand a further ESCAS complaint has been submitted to the Department of Agriculture relating to ongoing breaches in Gaza in January 2014 – concerning the cruel slaughter of Australian cattle both within and outside of the approved supply chain: In the approved abattoir - why were Australian cattle still being slaughtered in these restraint 	Written	
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				<p>boxes in January this year when months earlier it had been identified that they breach OIE and ESCAS guidelines?</p> <p>8. Considering there is only one ESCAS approved abattoir in Gaza, why are there four separate feedlots approved to hold Australian cattle?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What explanation has the exporter given as to why there is a need to have four feedlots approved which are not located near the approved abattoir? b. Is the Department aware that these feedlots feed animals directly into onsite abattoirs? c. Is it reasonable to expect that leakage into these non-approved abattoirs is a risk? d. Given the latest ESCAS breaches in Gaza has the Department suspended ESCAS approval for LSS's supply chain in Gaza (including the abattoir and all feedlots)? 		
160	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Rhiannon	Wellard high mortality shipment to Israel/Jordan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are exporters required to advise the Department of engine failures or malfunctions that impact on the performance of the ship being used to export live animals if those engine problems may then impact on the welfare of the animals? 2. In relation to the recent high mortality shipment between Australia and Israel/Jordan -- the exporter (Wellard) has publicly admitted that in the days after they received fodder in Djibouti, deaths reached the 2% threshold for a reportable incident and that the change in food was a contributing factor. Considering the pellets provided in Israeli feedlots are straight maize, do not meet ASEL standards and are unsuitable without the provision of other fodder - why was it not 	Written	

				<p>identified that providing these pellets would cause acidosis and the deaths of animals?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. In recognition that the onboard AQIS accredited veterinarian has a long standing relationship with Wellard and is being paid by the company, and considering the scale of problems this shipment faced and the subsequent mortalities, did the Department send a Departmental vet to Israel and Jordan to meet the ship and commence the investigation? 4. If a Departmental vet was not sent does that the Department will be reliant on a paper audit of documents provided by Wellard employees to determine what went wrong on this shipment? 5. Has the Department since approved further exports into Gaza? 		
161	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Rhiannon	Recurring ESCAS breaches in Jordan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is it correct that as the regulator, the Department can suspend an export licence while investigations into ESCAS breaches are underway and prior to the conclusion of any such investigations? 2. Given LSS is the subject of 5 investigations - 2 in Gaza and in 3 in Jordan - why does the Department continue to grant LSS export permits? 3. The Export Control Act states that an exporter's previous record of compliance must be considered before a permit to export is granted. Given LSS is the subject of 4 investigations including recurring breaches in Jordan, how can the Department be satisfied that animals placed into the care of LSS will be treated in accordance with ESCAS? 4. Given the additional conditions the Department placed on LSS in June didn't 	Written	

				<p>prevent the ongoing breaches exposed in October, and despite regulatory action prompted by October - animals remained outside of supply chains in January – at what point does the Department question this exporter’s willingness to comply with their regulatory obligations and refuse them a permit to export?</p> <p>a. Was there an expectation from the Department that after the October complaint that the exporter would address animals that remained outside of supply chains in Jordan?</p>		
162	Live Animal Exports Division	Senator Rhiannon	Exporter Supply Chain Assurance System	1. Have any discussions been had or request from government made to <u>reassess</u> the ESCAS?	Written	
163	Live Animals Export Division	Senator Rhiannon	Buffalo live exports	<p>1. Is the requirement for steady power supply to power electric stunners in the receiving country a requirement for live export of buffalo?</p> <p>2. Does the ESCAS process record and confirm this requirement?</p> <p>3. How many abattoirs in each of the receiving countries guarantee only the use of electric stunners in the slaughter of Australia's exported buffalo?</p> <p>4. How is Australia ensuring oversight of the appropriate stunning of buffalo and other minimum requirements of the ESCAS?</p> <p>a. What resources and staff are dedicated to ensuring adherence to the ESCAS, specifically relating to buffalo, in each receiving country?</p> <p>b. What training is provided to staff receive regarding handling buffaloes including the hours of training and course details?</p>	Written	

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Considering there have been concerns previously raised regarding the "potential loss of power supply" has this situation changed? 6. If the department is now confident that there will be a regular power supply what does it base this certainty about continuing power supply on? 7. Is the department confident that electric stunners can be relied on to operate in each of the receiving countries? 8. Can you supply the committee with any research or information done into the suitability of buffalo for long sea voyages? 		
164	Office of the General Counsel	Senator Ludwig	Freedom of Information	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the department please outline the process it under goes to access Freedom of Information requests? 2. Does the department consult or inform the Minister when it receives Freedom of Information requests? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, when? b. If so, how does this occur? 3. Does the department consult or inform other departments or agencies when it receives Freedom of Information requests? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, which departments or agencies? b. If so, when? c. If so, how does this occur? 4. Does the department consult or inform the Minister when or before it makes a decision on a Freedom of Information request? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, when? b. If so, how does this occur? 5. Does the department consult or inform other departments or agencies when or before it 	Written	

				<p>makes a decision on a Freedom of Information request?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. If so, which departments or agencies?b. If so, when?c. If so, how does this occur? <p>6. What resources does the department commit to its Freedom of Information team?</p> <p>7. List the staffing resources by APS level assigned solely to Freedom of Information requests</p> <p>8. List the staffing resources by APS level assigned indirectly to Freedom of Information requests</p> <p>9. Does the department ever second additional resources to processing Freedom of Information requests?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. If so, please detail those resources by APS level <p>10. How many officers are currently designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the department?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. How does this differ to the number of officers designated as at 6 September 2013? <p>11. How many officers are currently designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the Minister's office?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. How does this differ to the number of officers designated as at 6 September 2013? <p>12. Of the officers that are designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the Ministers office, how many are seconded officers from the department?</p> <p>13. What training does the department provide to designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act who work within</p>		
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				<p>the department?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Of the officers designated as decision makers within the department, how many have received formal training? b. Of the officers designated as decision makers within the department, how many have received informal training? c. How long after each officers appointment as a designated decision maker did they receive formal training? d. What did the training involve? e. How long was the training? f. By whom was the training conducted? <p>14. What training does the department provide to designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act who work within the Minister's office, excluding those officers on secondment from the department?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Of the officers designated as decision makers, how many have received formal training? b. Of the officers designated as decision makers, how many have received informal training? c. How long after each officers appointment as a designated decision maker did they receive formal training? d. What did the training involve? e. How long was the training? f. By whom was the training conducted? <p>15. Since 7 September 2013, how many Freedom of Information requests been shown or alerted to the Minister or their office?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. List those notified request b. How many instances were each of this requests brought to the office or the Minister's attention? c. How many of these items resulted in a 		
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				<p>separate formal brief being provided to the Minister?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">d. How many of these items resulted in a separate informal briefing (including by email) being provided to the Minister?e. How many requests have resulted in multiple formal briefs being provided to the Minister or their office?f. How many requests have resulted in multiple informal briefs (including by email) being provided to the Minister or their office? <p>16. Does the department provide FOI PDFs for download on their website?</p> <p>17. If not, what is the cost associated with staffing to require monitor email and collate and forward requested FOI documents?</p> <p>18. How does the department test it is complying with accessibility standards for its websites?</p> <p>19. Does the department comply with accessibility standards for all its websites?</p> <p>20. What would be the effect on the accessibility rating of the department's website if FOI PDFs were provided on the department websites?</p> <p>21. What accessibility testing of the website was done and what were the points of failure prior to this change in access for FOI documents?</p> <p>22. Have the website accessibility standards been solely or partly responsible for not putting FOI PDF documents on the department websites?</p> <p>23. How does the department facilitate anonymous access to the FOI disclosure files?</p> <p>24. How many times were the last 20 FOI requests PDFs which were made available on the website downloaded? How often have the FOI requests only available by email request</p>		
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				<p>been sent?</p> <p>25. How long does it take to requests for disclosed FOI files to be processed? What was the average turn around from request to sending of files in the last 3 months?</p> <p>26. What was the content of communications with other departments about the website accessibility standards and FOI PDFs?</p> <p>27. Where did advice concerning the website accessibility certification and provision of PDFs come from and what was the content of that advice?</p> <p>28. Does the department consider that not providing direct download of PDFs is more accessible for people with disabilities and the general public than providing the links?</p> <p>29. What efforts have been made to make FOI PDFs accessible to members of the public who have disabilities?</p> <p>30. Has advice from the information commissioner been sought regarding providing FOI requests available by email request only?</p> <p>31. Has any disability advice group or consultant been contacted regarding making the FOI requests accessible to people with disabilities?</p> <p>32. Is this compatible with the information commissioners guidelines- specifically that “published information should be accessible — in particular, it should comply with an agency’s obligation to meet the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (Version 2)“</p> <p>33. How does email PDF provision meet the information commissioner’s requirement that “13.124 Information that forms part of the IPS must be published ‘to members of the public generally’”?</p> <p>34. Is not providing the FOI PDFs on the website</p>		
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				<p>a means of avoiding not conforming to the WCAG 2.0 or other guidelines?</p> <p>35. Does the department have a separate email address or inbox for receiving and responding to FOI requests?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, list each email account b. List the officers who can assess and reply from those separate accounts, broken down by staffing classification level <p>36. Do FOI officers ever receive or respond to applicants from their individual email account as opposed to from a central account?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, how does the officer distinguish between communication related to their task as a decision maker and their primary work task ? <p>37. How do FOI decision makers that receive emails related to FOI decisions in their normal work capacity distinguish these emails from FOI decision emails?</p>		
165	Office of the General Counsel	Senator Ludwig	Legal costs	<p>List all legal costs incurred by the department/ agency since 7 September 2013</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. List the total cost for these items, broken down by source of legal advice, hours retained or taken to prepare the advice and the level of counsel used in preparing the advice, whether the advice was internal or external b. List cost spend briefing Counsel, broken down by hours spend briefing, whether it was direct or indirect briefing, the gender ratio of Counsel, how each Counsel was engaged (departmental, ministerial) c. How was each piece of advice procured? Detail the method of identifying legal advice 	Written	

166	People and Service Delivery Division	Senator Siewert	Voluntary redundancies in Border Compliance	<p>Senator SIEWERT: That is for the voluntary redundancy. But if you do not get the 180 voluntary redundancies, what process do you use?</p> <p>Ms Mellor: At this point we have had very heavy subscription for people putting up their hands to be considered for voluntary redundancies, and we have transition teams operating in each of the regions to match where the hand has gone up to where the needs might be. They are in pretty good alignment at the moment and we are fairly confident that we would not move beyond a voluntary redundancy process in relation to that 180.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: You said some are based in Canberra?</p> <p>Ms Mellor: Yes.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Where will the others be coming from? How many from Canberra and how many from elsewhere?</p> <p>Mr Hunter: Approximately 35 to 40 FTEs will be reduced in my division in Canberra, and the remainder will come from the regions.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: You do not know which?</p> <p>Mr Hunter: I would have to take that on notice.</p>	91	
167	People and Service Delivery Division	Senator Seselja	Staff reductions and redundancies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are your current and forward plans for staff reductions, including redundancies? 2. How many of these reductions and redundancies relate to efficiency dividends applied over the last three years? 3. How many of these reductions and redundancies relate to decisions made in the 2013 Budget, or earlier, to cease or terminate programs? 4. If redundancies have been offered, when was 	Written	

				the decision made to offer these redundancies?		
168	People and Service Delivery Division	Senator Ludwig	Staffing reductions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many staff reductions/voluntary redundancies have occurred from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? What was the reason for these reductions? 2. Were any of these reductions involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details. 3. Are there any plans for further staff reductions/voluntary redundancies? 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. 4. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening. 5. Are there any plans for involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details. 6. How many ongoing staff left the department/agency from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? What classification were these staff? 7. How many non-ongoing staff left department/agency from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? What classification were these staff? 	Written	
169	People and Service Delivery Division	Senator Ludwig	Staffing recruitment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many ongoing staff recruited from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? What classification are these staff? 2. How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? What classification are these staff? 3. From Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date, how many 	Written	

				employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?		
170	People and Service Delivery Division	Senator Ludwig	Workplace assessments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much has been spent on workplace ergonomic assessments since 7 September 2013? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. List each item of expenditure and cost 2. Have any assessments, not related to an existing disability, resulted in changes to workplace equipment or set up? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If so, list each item of expenditure and cost related to those changes 	Written	
171	People and Service Delivery Division	Senator Ludwig	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 from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 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 for each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide: <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 	Written	

				<p>employees(provide a breakdown for each employment classification)</p> <p>e. The total amount spent on the service</p> <p>f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)</p> <p>5. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:</p> <p>a. The location used</p> <p>b. The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)</p> <p>c. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)</p> <p>d. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location</p> <p>6. In relation to education/executive coaching and/or other leadership training services paid for by the department what agreements are made with employees in regards to continuing employment after training has been completed?</p> <p>7. For graduate or post graduate study, please breakdown each approved study leave by staffing allocation and degree or program title.</p>		
172	People and Service Delivery Division	Senator Ludwig	Staffing profile	<p>1. What is the current staffing profile of the department/agency?</p> <p>2. Provide a list of staffing numbers, broken down by classification level, division, home base location (including town/city and state)</p>	Written	
173	Sustainable Resource	Senator Sterle	Work currently undertaken which	Can you update the committee on key work currently being undertaken which will enhance	Written	

	Management Division		will enhance the natural resource base	the natural resource base on which the department's portfolio industries rely on		
174	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Senator Sterle	Bioregional Advisory Panels	Has the government established the Bioregional Advisory Panels for each of the five marine bioregions? And has the Advisory panel met? What were the topics discussed?	Written	
175	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Senator Sterle	Recreational Fishing Council	Has the Recreational Fishing council been established, if yes, please provide detail of the makeup of the council.	Written	
176	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Senator Siewert	Money spent on capping bores in the Great Artesian Basin	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Over a period of time there has been a lot of money spent capping bores in the GAB. Is this money being spent putting new bores down in that area and are there any restrictions on the use of that money where that previous funding has been spent?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: My understanding is the amount of money that is available for these activities would not be sufficient to put new bores into the Great Artesian Basin. It is being administered by Queensland; we have looked over it. My understanding is it is intended to be complementary to some of those activities which were about cleaning up old water supply schemes and capping those bores. It is not meant to be duplicative and nor is it intended to put a greater drain on the Great Artesian Basin.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: But you do not have a condition in place to ensure that requirement?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: I would have to take that on notice. I have not checked the guidelines, personally, for that.</p>	114-115	

177	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Senator Siewert	Job losses from departments programs	<p>Senator SIEWERT: I have a question about jobs, on two fronts in particular. In natural resource management, with the restructuring of the programs, are there going to be any job losses from the NRM/Landcare programs?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: We are currently in the process of working through our budget for 2014-15, and part of that will be looking at resourcing that can be applied to NRM programs through the National Landcare Program. There is no doubt that we are going to have to make staffing reductions across the department. We have a voluntary redundancy process underway at the moment. We are not in a position to give you any finalised numbers at this stage, because we are very much in the process of aligning our staffing with our budget for next year.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Presumably in budget estimates you will have that clear?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: Yes, we should have that clear or close to finalised by the budget estimates. The issue, of course, is that we finalise our budget immediately after the government has published its budget. There may be some details that we need to still work through in those couple of weeks after the budget. We will be well-advanced on our planning.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Have there been losses from those programs already?</p> <p>Dr Grimes: I would probably have to either take that on notice or answer the question when we have the officers from that program here later today. There may have been some minor adjustments in staffing levels over recent times, but in terms of our budgeting arrangements we are currently working through that process at the moment.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: I am never clear about</p>	8-9	
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				<p>where to ask about—</p> <p>Dr Grimes: I appreciate that. We are very happy to cover it off there; otherwise, we will make sure that that material is provided to you on notice.</p>		
178	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Senator Edwards	Funding for pest control	<p>Senator EDWARDS: In addition, did former ministers Ludwig or Fitzgibbon consider providing funds for farmers to control pests during the drought?</p> <p>Mr Tucker: I think we would have to take that on notice. Certainly respective governments over many years have provided grants for pest activity, but I cannot remember the exact timing.</p> <p>Senator EDWARDS: So you will let me know?</p> <p>Mr Tucker: We can take that on notice.</p>	98-99	
179	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Senator Madigan	Money allocated to findings	<p>Senator MADIGAN: Could you tell us who would be responsible for instituting your findings.</p> <p>Dr Hone: In the first instance I imagine that the primary responsibility would be with the Victorian government. It may be that there has been some funding provided by the Commonwealth in the past. I am not aware of any, but that may be a possibility through the Environment Department. We would have to check a detail like that, but responsibility would be fundamentally with the state government.</p> <p>Senator MADIGAN: Would you be able to take on notice to let us know if there has been money allocated?</p> <p>Dr Hone: We would be happy to take that on notice and, if necessary, liaise with the Environment Department on that question.</p>	80	
180	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Senator Back	OceanWatch	<p>Senator BACK: Can you give us any indication of the number of commercial fishers with whom OceanWatch would be interacting to try to make these improvements?</p>	117	

				<p>Mr Thompson: I would have to take on notice the numbers, but compared to agriculture fisheries is a much smaller space. There would not be quite the same number but there are an awful lot of recreational fishers, like five or six million, and OceanWatch have run some very successful campaigns in coastal areas. I think one of them is called Loaves and Fishes where, on Good Friday, they get together the coastal fishers and recreational fishers in the area to make peace. They do interact with quite a few people. My understanding, having looked at some of their previous reports, is that in the ports that they work at, like Ulladulla or Port Lincoln or Devonport or Hobart, they probably work with almost all the fishing boats coming in and out of that port. They have got very good links into the fishing industry. Because there are not thousands of people and they do tend to focus into a handful of ports, OceanWatch can have a very high penetration rate with a relatively low staff base.</p>		
181	Sustainable Resource Management Division	Senator O'Sullivan	Study on livestock travel to watering points	<p>Senator O'SULLIVAN: My question is probably a bit more specific. Do you know of any study that has established that livestock will not travel further than a particular distance from a watering point?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: I am not familiar with the particular studies, but I am aware that significant studies have been done about different livestock on different sorts of feed and how far they will travel from water over a day. I believe there is work on that. I would have to take on notice that detail.</p> <p>Senator O'SULLIVAN: Would you do that?</p> <p>Mr Thompson: Yes.</p> <p>Senator O'SULLIVAN: I just have a comment as I close. Some mapping data was shown to me</p>	121	

				<p>that, if it is accurate—and I think one of the big pastoral houses has been involved in the trial—would change my view of the patterns of what cattle do in a 24-hour period, based on my experiences.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: But we will have to take that on notice. I understand that there is some research around, but I am not familiar with the details of it.</p>		
182	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Senator Sterle	Appointments for the advisory committee Chair positions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update the Committee on the appointments for the advisory Committee Chair positions. 2. What process was undertaken to fill the position? 3. Was a selection panel established, who was on the panel? 4. Is the process complete? 	Written	
183	Sustainable Resource Management Division/Australian Fisheries Management Authority	Senator Sterle	AFMA believe that fisheries should be included in the White Paper	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the AFMA believe that Fisheries should be included in the White Paper, if yes, have you approached the Minister with your concerns, and what has been the advice given? 2. If no, why not? 	Written	
184	Trade and Market Access Division	Senator Sterle	Indonesia horticulture import regulations	Can you update the committee on Indonesia's horticulture import regulations and what products this may impact on.	Written	
185	Trade and Market Access Division	Senator Sterle	Free Trade Agreement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Was the department consulted in the formulation of the FTA, particularly: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the tariff reductions for a raft of Australian 	Written	

				<p>food exports, including apples, pears and honey, frozen pork, condensed milk?</p> <p>2. thresholds on the value above which Korean purchases will attract scrutiny from the Foreign Investment Review Board being cut from \$53 million to \$15m for farm land, and from \$248m to \$53m for agribusiness If so, what advice was provided on these matters?</p> <p>3. What feedback has the department been receiving on these matters from industry stakeholders?</p>		
186	Trade and Market Access Division	Senator Sterle	FTA negotiations with China	Update the Committee on FTA negotiations with China and whether the 12 month deadline for achieving the agreement will be possible?	Written	
187	Trade and Market Access Division	Senator Ruston	Skills looked for when employing someone	<p>Senator RUSTON: In the department how do you choose the people that you are going to have sitting at the table who obviously are there on behalf of Australia's agricultural sector, as that is what your purpose is? How do you decide who those people are? How do you decide what skills they need to have, given that we all know that negotiating skills are a very specific and honed set of skills? Do you have specialists that you employ for that process?</p> <p>Mr Murnane: In the Trade and Market Access Division we have people who are working on agricultural issues around specific countries. We organise ourselves around those geographic teams with some people dealing particularly with North-Asian countries and some people dealing particularly with South-East Asian countries so that we understand what those countries are likely to be bringing to the table.</p> <p>Senator RUSTON: That was not quite my question. My question was: what are the skills</p>	54-55	

			<p>that you look for when you employ someone like that? I understand what they do once they are there. If you were about to employ somebody to go on the Department of Agriculture Chinese protocol negotiating team on behalf of the table grape industry, how do you decide what skills that person has to go and negotiate?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: It varies a lot between each individual negotiation. If we are having a major discussion about access arrangements at a technical level, we will take a delegation that will have technical expertise, people who understand phytosanitary conditions and things like that, and people who understand the industry from within our organisation with their skills sets that they have built up by working with those industries over many years. Similarly, we have to have people who understand the bilateral relationships, what it is that the other country might want and what sort of things that might drive them. When it is a major negotiation we might take a delegation of the right skill set sometimes accompanied by industry experts as well to help bolster the Australian side. In other cases it might be where we need someone who is very senior in order to be able to open a door to a more senior person to resolve a log jamb. Choosing depends on the nature of the incident or the issue that we are negotiating. There is a range of skill sets that we have to bring to bear right from the high level policy awareness of what we are trying to achieve in the Doha round through to understanding the microbial weights that are on different carcasses in our plants.</p> <p>ACTING CHAIR: Tell us more about them?</p> <p>Mr Glyde: Mr Read can inform you in great detail.</p> <p>ACTING CHAIR: We will take it on notice.</p>		
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188	Trade and Market Access Division	Senator Farrell	Indonesia products	<p>Senator FARRELL: What will be the first products that will be hit by the new regulations?</p> <p>Mr Murnane: I expect they will be onions, chillies and garlic.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: How much of that do we export to Indonesia?</p> <p>Mr Murnane: I do not think I have got those data with me. I can provide that to you later.</p>	52	
189	REMOVED BY SENATE COMMITTEE	Senator Sterle	Specific reviews	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Minister requested specific reviews? 2. What work have you undertaken since your appointment on 1 July 2013? 	REMOVED BY SENATE COMMITTEE	
190	TRANSFERRED TO DEPT OF FINANCE	Senator Ludwig	Ministerial pay outs	<p>How much has been spent on redundancy payments to staff employed by members of the Liberal or National Parties since 7 September 2013?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. List each item of expenditure, staffing level, employing member and cost 	TRANSFERRED TO DEPT OF FINANCE	
191	TRANSFERRED TO DEPT OF FINANCE	Senator Ludwig	Ministerial staff turnover	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List the current staffing allocation for each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary 2. For each Minister or Parliamentary Secretary list the number of staff recruited, broken down by their staffing classification 3. For each Minister or Parliamentary Secretary list the number of staff that have resigned, broken down by their staffing classification 4. For each Minister or Parliamentary Secretary list the number of staff that have been terminated, broken down by their staffing classification 5. For each Ministerial staff position, please provide a table of how many individual people have been engaged against each 	TRANSFERRED TO DEPT OF FINANCE	

				position since the swearing in of the Abbott Government, broken down by employing member and the dates of their employment		
192	REMOVED BY SENATE COMMITTEE	Senator Sterle	Consultation with minister and key departmental stakeholders	Has there been consultation with the Minister and key departmental stakeholders with regards to an annual work program?	REMOVED BY SENATE COMMITTEE	