

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
 Budget Estimates May 2012
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 1

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Variation in staff levels through yearly cycle

Proof Hansard page: 11 (21/05/2012)

Senator IAN MACDONALD asked:

Mr Schaeffer: It is just the timing around the year—there are cycles. There are all sorts of things that happen at different times through the year. Some casuals are brought on and off the books for different purposes at different times throughout the year. In January it just happened to be that figure.

Senator IAN MACDONALD: I guess we should ask for detail—which I will do on notice now—on how many you have in each branch, section or whatever the nomenclature at the moment is for the—

Mr Schaeffer: Division, Senator.

Answer:

The below table breaks down the full time equivalent staffing levels (FTE) for the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry by division and month.

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
ABARES	208.5	211.4	208.8	201.2	196.8	192.1	215.1	199.3	194.6
Quarantine Operations Division	2,044.5	2,040.5	2,034.6	2,051.2	2,047.9	2,050.8	2,047.5	2,035.9	2,052.5
Policy Division	65.7	69.1	71.2	68.3	70.3	76.4	79.5	78.7	74.5
Animal Division	235.2	239.3	240.8	240.6	238.1	239.2	247.4	252.7	256.6
Plant Division	294.5	292.5	287.8	285.7	284.4	288.6	292.9	292.8	292.6
Food Division	559.7	537.6	528.9	509.5	493.7	484.0	471.7	464.6	446.3
Sustainable Resource Management	125.6	122.4	125.0	125.9	125.7	123.4	123.6	121.8	117.1
Climate Change	80.5	81.5	84.1	82.7	89.7	95.4	98.8	93.2	92.3
Agricultural Productivity	107.3	109.4	116.8	116.6	114.5	115.8	116.8	115.9	114.7
Trade and Market Access	70.6	64.2	64.4	68.4	69.4	74.4	76.0	70.6	65.6
Finance & Business Support	188.5	193.9	194.3	194.7	191.3	191.4	194.6	198.1	195.8
Government	186.8	197.1	198.3	194.2	195.5	199.4	203.8	191.8	185.6
People & Service Delivery	289.5	285.9	298.4	289.9	291.0	258.3	299.0	287.1	288.4
Information Services Division	83.4	81.2	86.3	93.8	100.8	108.4	116.7	116.3	114.3
Other	30.0	35.0	31.0	27.0	25.0	17.0	10.0	8.0	8.0
TOTAL	4,570.3	4,561.0	4,570.8	4,549.7	4,534.0	4,514.7	4,593.4	4,526.9	4,498.8

FTE - number of employees receiving salary or wages at the final pay run for the month, with adjustments for casual and part-time staff.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee

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Question: 7

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Details of centralised functions

Proof Hansard page: 16 (21/05/2012)

Senator NASH asked:

Senator NASH: Thank you. Would you mind taking on notice a question on the dispersal you talk about—specifically, where these functions that now have been brought back to centre of the universe were being performed before.

Answer:

The table below shows functions transferred in the corporate realignment.

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Question: 7 (continued)

TRANSFERRING IN		TRANSFERRING OUT									
Corporate Divisions	Function	Realigned Divisions				Current Divisions (previously undertaking some corporate functions)					
		Corporate Finance	Corporate Services	Corporate Policy	Regional Services	Food	Plant	Animal	Quarantine Operations	Policy	ABARES
Finance & Business Support	Internal Budgets & Cost Recovery	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	External Budgets	✓									
	Commercial Business Services - Property		✓		✓						
	Commercial Business Services - Other		✓								
	Business Support Operations	✓									
	Levies	✓									
	Policy & Accounting	✓									
Information Services	Strategy Architecture & Strategic Projects		✓								
	Applications	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	
	ICT Infrastructure Services		✓								
Government	Portfolio Strategy & Coordination			✓							
	Communication			✓							
	Parliamentary Business			✓							
	Business Assurance & Risk		✓		✓						
People & Service Delivery	Program and Project Management Functions		✓		✓						
	Biosecurity Reform Functions				✓						
	People Capability Functions		✓		✓						
	People Management Functions		✓		✓						
	Regional Management Functions				✓						

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Question: 9

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Budget savings from virtual meetings

Proof Hansard page: 18 (21/05/2012)

Senator COLBECK asked:

Mr Schaeffer: I do not have air travel, but travel overall was \$1.3 million for domestic and \$0.97 million for international.

Senator COLBECK: How much of that would have been made up by conducting virtual meetings?

Mr Schaeffer: I do not have that detail with me.

Senator COLBECK: Any of it?

Mr Schaeffer: Yes, of course.

Senator COLBECK: Okay. Could you take that on notice for me, please?

Answer:

To achieve savings in travel expenditure, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry undertakes a case by case assessment of the use of virtual meetings in replace of face to face meetings. Travel expenditure is also reduced by sending fewer officers to meetings and conferences and by reducing the number of meetings held each year.

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Question: 33

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Justification of Melbourne as a location for new Biosecurity centre

Proof Hansard page: 61 (21/05/2012)

Senator NASH asked:

Senator NASH: So existing. Okay. How was it determined that Melbourne was the most appropriate place for the centre?

Ms Mellor: Obviously we had business requirements based on biosecurity risk and potential business and then the Department of Finance and Deregulation started looking at parcels of land that met those requirements. Certainly, the Victorian location has some benefits in terms of the variety of product that goes into the centres—greenhouses and whatnot.

Senator NASH: Could you take it on notice and provide those benefits for Victoria, without going into it now?

Answer:

The Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry established a set of criteria for the assessment of possible sites as part of the design brief. This assessment included the requirements that any potential location must be at least:

- large enough to allow all the final elements to fit on the site/s with space for future growth should it be needed;
- located outside any current or likely biosecurity risk exclusion zone;
- located away from populations of species in quarantine;
- located within easy reach of an international airport;
- located to be geographically appropriate for species in quarantine with minimum requirement to create artificial environments, and
- located to have access to appropriate skills and support facilities (access to academic and research institutions and appropriate industry and communities).

Victoria was found to have a greater selection of land available within close proximity to an international airport at a lower cost, with less likelihood of urban encroachment over the life of the station. Additionally, Victoria is in a climatic zone conducive to the growth of the majority of plant species subject to quarantine and less prone to vectors of plant and animal disease.

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Question: 35

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Criteria used to assess potential sites for new Biosecurity centre

Proof Hansard page: 61 (21/05/2012)

Senator NASH asked:

Senator NASH: If you could provide for the committee as well—I am not sure if I have asked this already—the criteria that were applied and why Melbourne came out ahead of any of the other considerations that would be great.

Answer:

Please refer to the answer to QoN 33 Finance and Business Support Division from the Budget Estimate hearings in May 2012.

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Question: 40

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Cost of transportation and tender processes

Proof Hansard page: 66 (21/05/2012)

Senator NASH asked:

Senator NASH: I meant to ask before about the quarantine station. With transportation, if animals are being transported from Melbourne to other destinations, who actually bears the cost of that? I am happy for you to take that on notice.

Dr O'Connell: It is the same as currently. So once you are leaving the station, it is your business.

Senator NASH: I think that a tender process is or has been underway for the refurbishment of Eastern Creek; is that correct?

Dr O'Connell: I am not sure about the tender process but there are definitely works being undertaken for—

Senator NASH: Perhaps you could take it as part of the question on notice that you took before—the costs for each, whether that tender process did happen through Eastern Creek

Answer:

The cost of transshipment of animals or plants on release from a Commonwealth quarantine facility, both now from existing sites and in the future from a new facility, is part of the cost borne by the importer as part of their own importation arrangements.

The tender process for the refurbishment works at the Eastern Creek site was undertaken in March 2012 by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry's appointed project managers, Point Project Management. The Estimated Site Budget for Eastern Creek is \$2,832,600.

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Question: 130

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: 2012–13 staffing changes

Proof Hansard page: written

Senator COLBECK asked:

Provide details of what staffing changes have occurred in DAFF from the 2012–13 budget. Provide a list of additional and/or redundant positions, the classification and the program those positions are part of or have been taken from.

Answer:

The table below outlines the movement in average staffing levels for the 2012–13 budget.

ASL	Movement	Voluntary Redundancies	New Measures	Natural attrition / Redeployment to vacant positions	Classification
FaBS:	(22)				
Accounting		(6)		(4)	Various
Transaction Processing		(5)		(4)	Various
Payroll		(1)		(2)	Various
P&SD	(34)				
Regional Administration		(4)		(5)	Various
Human Resources		(4)		(13)	Various
Project Management		(4)		(4)	Various
Government	(11)				
Communications				(1)	Various
Parliamentary Business		(1)			Various
Business Assurance & Risk		(2)		(3)	Various
Portfolio Strategy & Co-ordination		(1)		(3)	Various
ISD	-				
Project Governance		(4)	4		Various
ABARES	(2)				
Administration		(2)			Various
APD	(8)				
Policy officers		(2)		(6)	Various
SRM	(14)				
Policy officers		(1)		(6)	Various
Administration		(3)		(4)	Various
TMD	(2)				
Policy officers		(2)			Various
Animal					
Live Animal Export Reform	10		10		Various
Food**					
Inspectors	(28)	(28)			Various
Total	(111)	(70)	14	(55)	

** does not include casuals

ASL - Average number of employees receiving salary or wages over the financial year, with adjustments for casual and part-time staff

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
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Question: 135

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Hospitality and entertainment costs

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

1. What is DAFF's hospitality spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.
3. What is DAFF's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.
5. What hospitality spend is DAFF planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
6. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.
7. What entertainment spend is DAFF planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
8. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.
9. Is DAFF planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved?

Answer:

1. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry's hospitality spend for the period 1 July 2011 to 30 April 2012 was \$82 328. A table at **Attachment A** provides the date, location, purpose and cost of each event.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee

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Question: 135 (continued)

2. Expenditure by the minister and parliamentary secretary for the period 1 July 2011 to 30 April 2012 was:
 - Minister - \$1225. A table at **Attachment B** provides the date, location, purpose and cost of each event
 - Parliamentary Secretary - nil.
3. All hospitality expenditure is disclosed in the response to question 1. There is no separate entertainment expenditure.
4. All hospitality expenditure is disclosed in the response to question 2. There is no separate entertainment expenditure.
5. The planned expenditure for hospitality in 2012–13 comes to \$37 100. **Attachment C** provides details of the date, location, purpose and cost of all known events. This information is subject to change.
6. The offices of the minister and the parliamentary secretary have no planned events involving hospitality in 2012–13.
7. All planned hospitality expenditure is disclosed in the response to question 5. There is no separate entertainment expenditure.
8. All planned hospitality expenditure is disclosed in the response to question 6. There is no separate entertainment expenditure.
9. The department has planned for overall reductions by 20 per cent of expenditure on consultancy services, temporary and contract staff, travel, official hospitality and media and advertising.

Attachment A

Official Hospitality record for the period 1 July 2011 to 30 April 2012			
Date	Purpose	Location	Total Cost \$ (inc GST)
1/07/2011	Lunch – Stakeholder Catering	Canberra	17
12/07/2011	Catering – at a function for the announcement of the 2011-2012 WA Rangelands regional Caring for our Country funding	Broome	350
12/07/2011	Lunch – meetings with Victorian Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Market Access and Competitiveness Division.	Canberra	224
15/07/2011	Lunch – Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries	East Timor	132
19/07/2011	Dinner – 2011 Government – Poultry Industry Biosecurity Forum	Sydney	5900
21/07/2011	Dinner – Japanese Review of Australian Export Meat Inspection System	Brisbane	930
25/07/2011	Dinner – senior official from Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore	Canberra	205
3/08/2011	2 Dinners - 120 people at Australian Animal Welfare Strategy 5th National Workshop	Sydney	12 380
8/08/2011	Lunch - Dairy Situation and Outlook Briefing	Canberra	171
11/08/2011	Lunch – discussions with Korean Deputy Minister Kim Jong-jin and accompanying delegation the Australia-Korea Free Trade Agreement negotiations.	Canberra	579
16/08/2011	Dinner – Australian Landcare Council	Canberra	1240
16/08/2011	Lunch - Crawford Fund Conference	Canberra	1029
16-17/08/2011	Lunch - Delegation from New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Canberra	90
21/8 to 3/9/2011	Various meals – Australia-China Agriculture Cooperation Agreement – Sugarcane Technology visit	Sydney, Brisbane, Mackay, Ayr, Townsville	6352
23/08/2011	Dinner – Special Meeting of the Extended Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna	Sydney	8240
25/08/2011	Dinner - Rural R&D Council	Canberra	929
28/08/2011	Dinner – Pest Nematodes Workshop participants	Thailand	181
15-16/09/2011	Dinner, lunches, morning and afternoon teas – Rural Financial Counsellor Chair and Executive Officer Conference	Canberra	2786
9/09/2011	Lunch - Fertiliser Industry Federation of Australia (FIFA) - Biannual meeting	Sydney	125
19/09/2011	Lunch and Dinner – Australia–Taiwan Agricultural working group	Canberra	2080

Attachment A

20/09/2011	Dinner - Facilitators and Delegates at the NAQS Risk Area Review (Animal Diseases) Workshop	Cairns	1000
27/09/2011	Morning tea - Korean Delegation visit	Canberra	187
11/01/2012	Winery Tour - Australia-China GI Dialogue	Canberra	123
20/01/2012	Lunch hosted by DAFF for Professor Komatsu	Canberra	148
1/02/2012	Australia US Technical Plant Health meeting Bilaterals hosted dinner	Canberra	631
13/02/2012	Intergrated Crop Forecasting Workshop Dinner	Canberra	2760
13/02/2012	Dinner - hosting New Zealand and Australian delegations to the International Organisation of Vine and Wine	Paris, France	346
15/02/2012	Dinner - Forest Health Surveillance Project Proposal Meeting	Hanoi, Vietnam	220
17/02/2012	Dinner - Australian Landcare Council meeting 51	Canberra	1118
19/02/2012	DAFF Seminar speaker - dinner - build collaborative research with the UNE	Canberra	106
28/02/2012	Dinner - Expert Advisory Panel assessing projects for Filling the Research Gap	Canberra	962
6/03/2012	Dinner - Chinese Officials from AQSIQ visiting re: Technical Market Access discussions	Melbourne	606
7/03/2012	Dinner Rural Financial Counsellor Chair & Executive Officer Conference	Canberra	1470
13/03/2012	Function - FAO South West Pacific nations at residence of Australian Ambassador to Vietnam	Hanoi, Vietnam	1627
19/03/2012	Dinner - Rural Financial Counsellor Conference WA	Joondalup, WA	581
20/03/2012	Dinner - Visit by Dr Shakeel Bhatti, ITPGRFA, Rome	Canberra	257
21/03/2012	Lunch - Cotton 4 Delegation and Burkina Faso Minister for Scientific Research and Innovation	Canberra	706
22/03/2012	Lunch - Meeting between Australian and Indonesian cattle industry representatives	Jakarta	1671
26/03/2012	Dinner - hosting official dinner for the Agricultural Technical Market Experts Group meeting and the Australia - European Community Agreement on Trade in Wine meetings	Canberra	1239
27/03/2012	Dinner - Japan Beef Talks Site Visits	Albury	546
28/03/2012	Lunch - Japan Beef Talks Site Visits	Wodonga	246
1/04/2012	Luncheon for visiting Japanese delegate	Canberra	48

Attachment A

11/04/2012	Dinner - to build support for Australia's G20 positions	Mexico City	209
22/04/2012	Dinner - Indian Ocean Tuna Commission 16th Session	Fremantle	21 245
24/04/2012	Meeting with MAFF Deputy Director General Mr Hiromichi Matsushima	Canberra	186
30/04/2012	Entertaining visiting Chilean Gov. Officer, who is here to discuss info needs for Chile to approve export of Tasmanian salmon eggs.	Canberra	150
Totals			82 328

Attachment B

Official hospitality expenditure by the Minister			
for the period 1 July 2012 to 30 April 2012			
Date	Purpose	Location	Total Cost \$ (inc GST)
12/07/2011	Afternoon tea - Kimberley beef producers roundtable	Broome	1225
Totals			1225

Department –Planned Official Hospitality			
Proposed Date of Event	Purpose	Location	Estimated Costs \$
15/07/2012	Formal launch of Biosecurity Management Plan to Industry.	Canberra	2100
31/7/2012	Dinner – National Cross Sector Soils RD&E reference group (TBC)	Sydney	2000
07/08/2012	Dinner – Filling the Research Gap: Expert Advisory Panel	Canberra	950
August 2012	Catering – 2012 Dairy Situation and Outlook	Canberra	700
September 2012	Dinner and lunch – Australia–Japan Dairy Talks	Melbourne	1500
6/09/2012	Formal dinner for Australian Landcare Council meeting 53	Sydney	2500
10/9/2012	Dinner – Extension and Outreach Expert Advisory Panel	Canberra	800
12/9/2012	Dinner – Rural Financial Counsellor Chairs and Executive Officers Meeting - 30 people	Adelaide	2400
1/10/12	Dinner – Australia – Indonesian Working Group for Agriculture Forestry and Food Cooperation (WGAFFC)	TBA	5500
October 2012	Meals and sightseeing activities – ACACA – Chinese delegation visiting Australia, studying grasslands and animal husbandry. (previously scheduled for April)	Various	9700
6/11/2012	Dinner - landcarers and landcare groups for Australian Landcare Council meeting 54 with the purpose of networking	Katanning	3000
10/02/2013	Dinner – Filling the Research Gap: Expert Advisory Panel	TBA	950
End of Feb or early March 2013	Formal dinner for Australian Landcare Council meeting 55	TBA, ACT	2000
May 2013	Formal dinner with landcarers and landcare groups for Australian Landcare Council meeting 56 with the purpose of networking	TBA	3000
	Total		37 100

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Question: 140

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Consultancies

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

- a. How many consultancies have been undertaken this financial year to date? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (i.e. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.
- b. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.

Answer:

- a. The details of consultancies undertaken by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) are available on the Australian Government business opportunities website, AusTender, www.austender.gov.au.
- b. DAFFs consultancy contract requirements are considered as part of the annual planning processes for each division. In addition, the need for a consultancy contract can change throughout the year.

DAFF publishes business opportunities in its Annual Procurement Plan where an open or select tender is planned. The DAFF Annual Procurement Plan for the 2012–13 financial year will be published by 30 June 2012 on AusTender.

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Question: 143

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Contractors

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

For this financial year to date:

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

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Question: 143 (continued)

10. What contractors have been employed by the department/agency? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).

Answer:

1-9. No.

10. All contracts let by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry with a value of \$10 000 or more are published on the Australian Government business opportunities website, AusTender (www.tenders.gov.au).

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Question: 144

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Grants

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

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

Answer:

1. This information is available at www.daff.gov.au/about/obligations/grants-reporting-requirements.
2. Yes.

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Question: 147

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Media Subscriptions

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

1. Has there been any change to your pay TV subscription since the 2011-12 Additional Estimates (February 2012)?
 - If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.
 - What is the cost for this financial year to date?
2. Has there been any change to your newspaper subscriptions since the 2011-12 Additional Estimates (February 2012)?
 - If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.
 - What is the cost for this financial year to date?
3. Has there been any change to your magazine subscriptions since the 2011-12 Additional Estimates (February 2012)?
 - If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.
 - What is the cost for this financial year to date?

Answer:

1. The TransACT subscriptions of Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) and Wheat Exports Australia (WEA) ceased or were cancelled. The cost for the financial year to 30 April 2012 is \$20,945.
2. There have not been any changes for the department and the portfolio agencies for newspaper subscriptions. The cost for the financial year to 30 April 2012 is \$79,503.
3. The following agencies have had changes to their magazine subscriptions:
Cotton Research and Development Corporation
One additional magazine has been included:
 - Cotton Compass – Cotton industry magazine which includes production estimates.Fisheries Research and Development Corporation
Three additional magazines have been included:
 - Foodservice – keep abreast of issues across the hospitality industry
 - Intrafish – keep abreast of international issues in the seafood industry
 - Campus Review – keep abreast of university related issues

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Question: 147 (continued)

Grains Research and Development Corporation

One additional magazine has been included:

- Synergy Consulting Pty Ltd – Professional Development

Sugar Research and Development Corporation

One additional magazine has been included:

- Sugar Journal – to keep abreast of international sugar and agricultural information and issues

Wine Australia Corporation

Seven additional magazines have been included:

- Circle of Wine Writers
- Real Wine Guide
- Toronto Life Magazine
- Vineyard Winery Management
- William Reed Business
- Winebox
- World of Wines

The cost for the financial year to 30 April 2012 is \$215,631.

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Question: 148

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Travel costs and details

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

1. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for departmental officers who 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. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).
3. Are the Government's Lowest Practical Fare travel policy for Domestic Air Travel (Finance Circular No. 2009/10) and Best Fare of the Day for International Air Travel (Finance Circular No. 2009/11) guidelines being followed? How is this monitored? If the guidelines are not being followed, please explain why.
4. Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the total costs of the lounge memberships.
5. When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as an Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel.

Answer:

1. Table 1 outlines travel details for departmental staff accompanying the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretaries.

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Question: 148 (continued)

Table 1 – Travel activities and associated costs incurred by departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries in the financial year to date (1 July 2011 to 30 April 2012)*

Minister Ludwig			
Location	Dates	Accompanying departmental officer costs	Purpose
2011–12 financial year to date (from 1 July 2011 to 30 April 2012)			
Broome, WA	12–14 July 2011	One departmental officer accompanied the Minister. <u>Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airfares: \$2113.30 (Business) • Accommodation: \$762.00 • Allowances: \$390.00 • COMCAR:\$412.44 Total:\$3677.74	Portfolio related travel
Yeronga, QLD	1 September 2011	One departmental officer accompanied the Minister. <u>Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airfares: \$311.00 (Economy) • Accommodation: \$240.00 • Allowances: \$151.00 • COMCAR:\$313.45 Total:\$1015.45	Portfolio related travel
Kingston (Hobart), TAS	3–4 October 2011	One departmental officer accompanied the Minister. <u>Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airfares: \$808.00 (Economy) • Accommodation: \$169.00 • Allowances: \$162.50 Total:\$1139.50	Portfolio related travel

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
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Question: 148 (continued)

Minister Ludwig			
Location	Dates	Accompanying departmental officer costs	Purpose
Lockyer Valley, QLD	10 November 2011	One departmental officer accompanied the Minister. <u>Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flights: \$547.38 (Economy) • Car Hire: \$64.37 • Hire Car: \$35.57 • Taxis: \$55.94 • Allowances: \$236.00 Total: \$939.26	Portfolio related travel
Mildura and surrounds, VIC	28–29 November 2011	One departmental officer accompanied the Minister. <u>Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flights: \$981.64 (Economy) • Accommodation: \$135.00 • Food: \$176.00 Total: \$1292.64	Portfolio related travel
North Asia: China, Japan and the Republic of Korea	7–14 December 2011	Two departmental officers and two officers from posts accompanied the Minister. <u>Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flights and car hire: \$26 078.00 (First Class / Business / Economy) • Accommodation: \$5208.00 • Meals and incidentals: \$768.00 • Meeting rooms, hospitality and interpreters: \$22 125.00 Total: \$54 179.00	Portfolio related travel
Middle East	26 January–3 February 2012	Two departmental officers and one officer from post accompanied the Minister. <u>Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flights: \$35 616.00 (Business / Economy) • Accommodation: \$3716.00 • Meals and incidentals: \$2568.46 • Meeting rooms, hospitality and interpreters: \$2014.00 • COMCAR: \$425.49 Total: \$44 339.95	Portfolio related travel

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Question: 148 (continued)

Indonesia	20-23 March 2012	Two departmental officers accompanied the Minister. <u>Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flights: DAFF officers travelled to Jakarta with the Minister on a VIP plane (no cost to the department) • Accommodation: \$1120.00 • Meals and incidentals: \$253.03 • Meeting rooms, hospitality and interpreters: \$1700.00 Total: \$3073.03	Portfolio related travel
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Parliamentary Secretaries			
Location	Dates	Accompanying departmental officer costs	Purpose
Parliamentary Secretary Kelly (moved from the portfolio in December 2011) 2011–12 financial year to date (from 1 July to December 2011)			
Samoa	17–23 July 2011	Two departmental officers accompanied the Parliamentary Secretary. <u>Costs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation: \$1050.00 • Flights: \$4563.00 (Business / Economy) • Meals: \$1050.00 Total: \$7413.00	Portfolio related travel
Bega, NSW	18 November 2011	Two officers accompanied the Parliamentary Secretary. No costs were incurred by the department.	Portfolio related travel
Parliamentary Secretary Sidebottom (appointed in December 2011) 2011–12 financial year to date (from December 2011 to 30 April 2012)			
Nil			

**Please note that departmental officers may have been in attendance on parts of these visits for purposes other than accompanying the Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries.*

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Question: 148 (continued)

2. To provide the information requested by individual trip would take a considerable amount of time and result in an answer that would be hundreds of pages long. That approach is not considered to be an appropriate allocation of resources.

The table below provides information about Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry's (DAFF) total travel expenditure for the financial year 2011–12 (as at 30 April 2012).

No. of Trips	Airfare Expenditure	Other Travel Related Expenditure*	Total Expenditure
11 315	\$7 019 603	\$12 349 170	\$19 368 773

** Includes Accommodation, Car Hire, Meals and other incidental travel related expenditure.*

3. DAFF has incorporated the whole of government travel policies into its instructions, guidance and travel booking arrangements for travel.

Compliance with the policies is enforced through DAFF's travel management provider arrangements. The travel booking company and their online booking tool provides booking options that comply with the policies and reporting on any non-compliance is available. In addition, approval or review of travel costs and expenditure in DAFF's finance systems provides a further opportunity for managers to detect non-compliance.

4. Yes, in some cases airline lounge memberships are provided to DAFF employees. Lounge memberships for Qantas and Virgin have been purchased for 175 employees across a broad range of classifications. DAFF's policy on airline lounge memberships is that access should be on the basis of need and is a value for money consideration, independent of booking travel.

The total cost of airline lounge memberships in the 2011–12 financial year (as at 30 April 2012) is \$60 733.

5. No, support staff do not travel with SES when they travel.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee
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Question: 149

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Legal costs

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

1. What sum did the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
2. What sum did DAFF spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
3. What sum did DAFF spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
4. What sum did DAFF spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

Answer:

1. Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) has spent \$2 787 747.00 on legal services in financial year 2011–12 (to 30 April 2012). **Attachment A** provides a breakdown of the services provided and their cost.
2. DAFF has spent \$2 363 593.00 on legal services from the Australian Government Solicitor in financial year 2011–12 (to 30 April 2012). **Attachment A** provides a breakdown of the services provided and their cost.
3. DAFF has spent \$424 154.00 on legal services from private firms in financial year 2011–12 (to 30 April 2012). **Attachment A** provides a breakdown of the services provided and their cost.
4. DAFF has not purchased legal services from any other source in financial year 2011–12 (to 30 April 2012).

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee
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ATTACHMENT A TO QUESTION ON NOTICE 149 BUDGET ESTIMATES MAY 2012

Lists of Legal Services Provided in 2011–12 (to 30 April 2012)

Agency	AGS / Private Firms / Other sources	Service	Costs
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	Australian Government Solicitor	Protection of information dispute	\$8070.15
		Environment dispute	\$13 173.60
		Other admin law action	\$35 051.60
		Tax, customs & other rev dispute	\$49 268.18
		Enforcement statute & civil regulation	\$528.00
		Other commercial dispute	\$39 502.65
		Debt recovery action	\$22 438.50
		Employment & workplace relations dispute not workers comp	\$50 586.20
		Other torts dispute	\$9500.70
		Criminal law dispute	\$4109.80
		Constitutional advice	\$131 117.70
		Indigenous legal issues – advice	\$3696.00
		Machinery of government advice	\$3498.00
		International law advice	\$2020.00
		Communications advice	\$594.00
		Protection of info advice	\$119 346.15
		Environment advice	\$31 500.25
		Other admin law advice	\$66 300.50
		Tax, Customs & other revenue advice	\$4177.80
		Civil regulation advice	\$191 217.70
		Financial law advice	\$11 361.11
		Debt recovery advice	\$8986.05
		Employment & workplace relations advice	\$607 141.34
Workers' compensation advice	\$6897.00		
Tort advice	\$34 261.56		
Criminal law advice	\$7 095.00		
Statutory interpretation - other	\$245 837.80		

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
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Agency	AGS / Private Firms / Other sources	Service	Costs
		Legislation/policy development	\$170 882.60
		Legislative drafting	\$19 413.90
		Procurement of goods - other	\$6501.00
		Consultancy agreements	\$30 592.20
		Other services	\$91 009.71
		Information technology	\$43 326.20
		Internet related matters	\$495.00
		Intellectual property	\$9324.00
		Building & construction contracts	\$6006.00
		Disposals & acquisitions of property	\$7197.39
		Leases/licences/land use agreements	\$103 401.16
		Property advice other	\$3063.00
		Grants & funding agreements	\$90 689.60
		Intergovernmental agreements	\$6 507.60
		Insurance/indemnities/guarantees	\$4 834.50
		Confidentiality and protection of information	\$1 122.00
		Other agreements	\$48 782.80
		Probity	\$13 167.00
		Sub-total	\$2 363 593.00
	Private Firms	Professional fees relating to advice, disputes, commercial matters, briefs to counsel and disbursements	\$424 154.00
Total			\$2 787 747.00

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2012

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 153

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Paid parental leave for staff

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

1. Please list how many staff in DAFF are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme.
2. For this financial year to date list which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme. Please list how many staff are in receipt of these payments and their classification.

Answer:

1. The department does not keep records of all employees currently eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme. Eligibility is assessed once employees apply for payments and their records are reviewed.
2. For the period 1 July 2011 to 30 April 2012 the department and portfolio agencies listed below have provided payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme:

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	60 employees
Australian Fisheries Management Authority	5 employees
Sugar Research and Development Corporation	1 employee
Wine Australia Corporation	1 employee
Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	3 employees
Grains Research and Development Corporation	3 employees

Please note a correction to the data for Wheat Exports Australia (WEA). WEA reported one employee was in receipt of Paid Parental Leave in responding to QoN 175 from Additional Estimates. WEA now advise that this was an error and that their response should have been nil.

Classification	DAFF	AFMA	SRDC	WA	APVMA	GRDC
APS3	8					
APS4	12	1			1	
APS5	16	1				
APS6	11	1			1	
EL1	10		1		1	
EL2	3	2				
Compliance Officer				1		
Project Manager						1
Section Head						1
Admin Coordinator						1

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates May 2012
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 155

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Corporate cars

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

1. Please update if there have been any changes since Additional Estimates 2011–12 (February 2012):
2. How many cars are owned by DAFF & each agency?
3. Where are the cars located?
4. What are the cars used for?
5. What is the cost of each car for this financial year to date?
6. How far did each car travel this financial year to date?

Answer:

- 1-6. As at 30 April 2012 the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry owned 1 car. The table below provides details.

Car	Location	Use	Cost of car in 2011-12	Distance travelled in 2011-12
1	Christmas Island	General operational use, including compliance activities, general administration and transport of personnel and minor freight.	\$3267.51	7043 km

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 155 (continued)

As at 30 April 2012 the Australian Fisheries Management Authority owned 3 cars. The table below provides details.

Car	Location	Use	Cost of car in 2011-12	Distance travelled in 2011-12
1	Thursday Island	General operational use including compliance activities, attending meetings and minor freight.	\$1771.85	4600 km
2	Thursday Island		\$1043.01	2564 km
3	Canberra		\$3329.47	4496 km

There was an error in the previous question on notice from Additional Estimates 2011–12 (February 2012). In the response to that question it was advised that the Cotton Research and Development Corporation owned three cars. The agency actually leases three cars and does not own any cars.

The following agencies do not own cars as at 30 April 2012:

- Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Management Authority
- Cotton Research Development Corporation
- Fisheries Research and Development Corporation
- Grains Research and Development Corporation
- Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation
- Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation
- Sugar Research and Development Corporation
- Wheat Exports Australia
- Wine Australia Corporation.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2012

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 156

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Taxi costs

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

1. How much did the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry spend on taxis this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each departmental/agency.
2. What are the reasons for taxi costs?

Answer:

1. In 2011–12 financial year (as at 30 April 2012), the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) has spent \$935 137 on taxi costs. The table below provides a breakdown of taxi costs by business group:

Division / Business Group	Taxi costs
ABARES	\$ 44 121
Agricultural Productivity	\$ 35 690
Biosecurity	\$690 524
Climate Change	\$ 21 492
Finance and Business Support	\$ 20 245
Government	\$ 37 854
Information Services	\$ 22 284
Executive	\$ 5 568
Sustainable Resource Management	\$ 33 102
Trade and Market Access	\$ 24 257

2. The taxi costs identified above are a reflection of DAFF's role and presence across the country and across cities and regions. DAFF operations require officers to be present at different locations and travel expenditure is incurred as a result.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Estimates June 2012

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 157

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Corporate credit cards

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

1. Provide a breakdown for each employment classification that has a corporate credit card.
2. Please update if there have been any changes since Additional Estimates 2011-12 (February 2012):
 - What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused?
 - How is corporate credit card use monitored?
 - What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered?
 - Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.
 - What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?

Answer:

1. The table below shows the number of Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry cardholders and their levels (as at 30 April 2012).

Classification	No. of Cardholders
APS2	5
APS3	12
APS4	42
APS5	104
APS6	165
EL1	291
EL2	329
MI4	1
NP26B	2
NPB37	1
NSB36	4
SECRTY	2
SES1	74
SES2	17
SES3	4
Grand Total	1053

2. Changes to Corporate Credit Cards since Additional Estimates:

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Estimates June 2012

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 157 (continued)

- No change has been made to the action taken for corporate credit card misuse since Additional Estimates.
- No changes have been made to the monitoring of credit card use since Additional Estimates.
- No change has been implemented since Additional Estimates to the process undertaken if misuse is identified.
- Since Additional Estimates there have been four instances of misuse. The range of staff classifications are APS3 to EL2. One instance of misuse is due to accidental personal use by an EL1 officer, with the amounts being repaid in full to the department. Three instances of misuse were due to card holders exceeding their agreed transaction limit. These officers and their authorising officers were reminded of the policy surrounding the use of credit cards.
- No change to the process since Additional Estimates.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates May 2012
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 160

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Electricity costs and provider

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

1. Provide an update of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry's (DAFF) electricity purchasing agreement. Provide details of when this was entered into and the length of the agreement.
2. What were DAFF electricity costs for 2009-10 and 2010-11?
3. What are DAFF electricity costs for this financial year to date?

Answer:

1. Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry's (DAFF) electricity contracts are detailed in the table below:

Region	Start date	End date
ACT	01/07/2011	30/06/2015
Sydney	01/02/2010	31/03/2013
Melbourne	01/08/2010	31/07/2013
South Australia and Victoria	01/07/2011	30/06/2014
Various Locations (Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia)	12/07/2010	11/07/2013

2. DAFF's total electricity costs in 2009–10 were \$2.005 million (excluding GST). DAFF's total electricity costs in 2010-11 were \$2.152 million (excluding GST).
3. DAFF's electricity costs for 2011–12 financial year (as at 30 April 2012) are approximately \$1.940 million (excluding GST).

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2012

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 162

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Shredders

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

Has DAFF purchased any shredders in the last 12 months? If yes, provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.

Answer:

The Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry has purchased two shredders since 1 June 2011. The cost of each shredder was \$59 and \$219. Shredders were purchased in line with information security requirements and are to be used for shredding.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2012

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 164

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Research and development spending

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

For the 2012-13 Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Portfolio Budget Statements provide details of:

1. the total allocation to research and development
2. the contribution by industry to the total allocation to research and development
3. the contribution by the government to the total allocation for research and development for
 - Forestry industry program 1.3 (p 23)
 - Fishing industry program 1.4 (p 24)
 - Horticulture industry program 1.5 (p 24)
 - Wool industry program 1.6 (p 24)
 - Grains industry program 1.7 (p 24) (include breakdown of special appropriations for "other grains" and "wheat")
 - Dairy industry program 1.8 (p 25)
 - Meat and Livestock industry program 1.9 (p 25) (include breakdown of special appropriations for industry marketing body, industry research body, export marketing body, export research body, meat processor marketing body, meat processor research body, industry research body, Pig Industry)
 - Agricultural industry program 1.10 (p 26) (include breakdown of special appropriations for Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation Act, Egg Industry Service Provision Act, Financial Management and Accountability Act, Cotton R&D Corporation, Grape and Wine R&D Corporation, Rural Industries R&D Corporation, Sugar R&D Corporation)
 - Quarantine and Export Services program 2.1 (p 65) (include breakdown of special accounts Australian Quarantine and Inspection Services Special Account s. 20, FMA Act 1997 and National Residue Survey Account s. 6)
 - Plant and Animal Health program 2.2 (p 75) (include breakdown of special appropriations for Australian Animal Health Council, (Live-stock Industries) Funding Act 1996, Plant Health Australia (Plant Industries) Funding Act 2002 s. 6 and S.10B).

Answer:

In response to all parts to question 164 the following table has been produced. It provides a breakdown of the 2012–13 budgeted research and development funding components attributed to special appropriations and special accounts.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2012

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 164 (continued)

Program	2012-13	2012-13	2012-13	Note
	Contribution to R&D attributed to "Special appropriations" / 'Special accounts'	Industry funded to R&D	Commonwealth Government funded	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Program 1.3 Forestry Industry				
<i>Forestry Marketing and Research and Development Service Act 2007, s. 9(1) - payments and matching payments to an industry service body and Commonwealth administration expenses</i>	8,944	5,364	3,580	
Program 1.4 Fishing Industry				
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30A(3) - Fisheries R&D Corporation</i>	17,295	920	16,375	
Program 1.5 Horticulture Industry				
<i>Horticulture Marketing and Research and Development Services Act 2000, s. 16(9)</i>	65,358	22,358	43,000	
Program 1.6 Wool Industry				
<i>Wool Services Privatisation Act 2000, s. 31(4)</i>	61,000	49,500	11,500	
Program 1.7 Grains Industry - Other Grains				
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Grains R&D Corporation - Other Grains</i>	64,348	38,304	26,044	
Program 1.7 Grains Industry - Wheat				
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Grains R&D Corporation - Wheat</i>	91,113	55,640	35,473	
Program 1.8 Dairy Industry				
<i>Dairy Produce Act 1986, s. 6(1)</i>	53,290	33,945	19,345	
Program 1.9 Meat and Livestock Industry				
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 63(2) - payments to the industry marketing body</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64(2) Payments to the research body</i>	23,869	23,869	0	
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64A(2) Payments to the live-stock export marketing body</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64B(2) Payments to the live-stock export research body</i>	540	540	0	
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64C(2) Payments to the meat processor marketing body</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64D(2) Payments to the meat processor research body</i>	11,207	11,207	0	
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 66(1) Commonwealth contribution to industry research body</i>	45,357	0	45,357	
<i>Pig Industry Act 2001, s10(1)</i>	9,600	4,800	4,800	
Program 1.10 Agricultural Resources				
<i>Egg Industry Service Provision Act 2002, s8(1)</i>	3,812	1,906	1,906	
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Cotton R&D Corporation</i>	19,479	9,686	9,793	
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Grape and Wine R&D Corporation</i>	21,713	10,695	11,018	
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Rural Industries R&D Corporation</i>	8,469	4,927	3,542	
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Sugar R&D Corporation</i>	8,400	4,200	4,200	
<i>Wine Australia Corporation Act 1980, s. 32 (formally known as Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation Act 1980, s. 32)</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Financial Management and Accountability Act</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	2

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
 Budget Estimates May 2012
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Question: 164 (continued)

Program	2012-13 Contribution to R&D attributed to "Special appropriations" / 'Special accounts'	2012-13 Industry funded to R&D	2012-13 Commonwealth Government funded	Note
Program 2.1 Quarantine and Export				
<i>National Residue Survey Administration Act 1992, s. 6</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service Special Account - s. 20, <i>FMA Act 1997</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	3
National Residue Survey Account - s. 6, <i>National Residue Survey Administration Act 1992</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	4
Program 2.2 Plant and Animal Health				
<i>Australian Animal Health Council (Live-stock Industries) Funding Act 1996, s. 5</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Plant Health Australia (Plant Industries) Funding Act 2002, s. 6</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Plant Health Australia (Plant Industries) Funding Act 2002, s. 10B</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1

Note:

1. This levy is for the purpose of either promotion and marketing or protecting animal and plant health status only.
2. This is under section 28 of the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* and is to repay amounts received in error and that the Government is not entitled to. Payments made from this appropriation are mainly to refund levy payers who have not had a liability or have overpaid.
3. The amount is attributed to 'Special accounts', to be funded by cost recovered non research and development activities from industry, and is not Government funded.
4. This amount is funded by industry through levies appropriated by a special appropriation paid into the special account, direct funding from industry to the special account (not through a levy) and interest revenue earned on the balance of industry reserves. There is no research and development component associated to this item.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2012

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 165

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Research and development spending

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

For Forward estimates for years 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Portfolio Budget Statements provide details of:

1. The total allocation to research and development
2. The contribution by industry to the total allocation to research and development
3. The contribution by the government to the total allocation for research and development for:
 - Forestry industry program 1.3 (p 36)
 - Fishing industry program 1.4 (p 39)
 - Horticulture industry program 1.5 (p 41)
 - Wool industry program 1.6 (p 43)
 - Grains industry program 1.7 (p 45) (include breakdown of special appropriations for "other grains" and "wheat")
 - Dairy industry program 1.8 (p 47)
 - Meat and Livestock industry program 1.9 (p 49) (include breakdown of special appropriations for industry marketing body, industry research body, export marketing body, export research body, meat processor marketing body, meat processor research body, industry research body, Pig Industry)
 - Agricultural industry program 1.10 (p 52) (include breakdown of special appropriations for Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation Act, Egg Industry Service Provision Act, Financial Management and Accountability Act, Cotton R&D Corporation, Grape and Wine R&D Corporation, Rural Industries R&D Corporation, Sugar R&D Corporation).
 - Quarantine and Export Services program 2.1 (p 65) (include breakdown of special accounts Australian Quarantine and Inspection Services Special Account s. 20, FMA Act 1997 and National Residue Survey Account s. 6)
 - Plant and Animal Health program 2.2 (p 70) (include breakdown of special appropriations for Australian Animal Health Council, (Live-stock Industries) Funding Act 1996, Plant Health Australia (Plant Industries) Funding Act 2002 s. 6 and S.10B).

Answer:

In response to all parts to question 165 the following tables have been produced. It provides a breakdown of the 2013–14 to 2015–16 budgeted research and development funding components attributed to special appropriations and special accounts.

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Question: 165 (continued)

Program	2013-14	2013-14	2013-14	Note
	Contribution to R&D attributed to 'Special appropriations' / 'Special accounts'	Industry funded to R&D	Commonwealth Government funded	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Program 1.3 Forestry Industry				
<i>Forestry Marketing and Research and Development Service Act 2007, s. 9(1) - payments and matching payments to an industry service body and Commonwealth administration expenses</i>	9,106	5,526	3,580	
Program 1.4 Fishing Industry				
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30A(3) - Fisheries R&D Corporation</i>	17,477	930	16,547	
Program 1.5 Horticulture Industry				
<i>Horticulture Marketing and Research and Development Services Act 2000, s. 16(9)</i>	66,358	22,358	44,000	
Program 1.6 Wool Industry				
<i>Wool Services Privatisation Act 2000, s. 31(4)</i>	56,500	45,000	11,500	
Program 1.7 Grains Industry - Other Grains				
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Grains R&D Corporation - Other Grains</i>	62,954	36,938	26,016	
Program 1.7 Grains Industry - Wheat				
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Grains R&D Corporation - Wheat</i>	86,771	52,920	33,851	
Program 1.8 Dairy Industry				
<i>Dairy Produce Act 1986, s. 6(1)</i>	54,100	34,662	19,438	
Program 1.9 Meat and Livestock Industry				
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 63(2) - payments to the industry marketing body</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64(2) Payments to the research body</i>	24,606	24,606	0	
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64A(2) Payments to the live-stock export marketing body</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64B(2) Payments to the live-stock export research body</i>	540	540	0	
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64C(2) Payments to the meat processor marketing body</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64D(2) Payments to the meat processor research body</i>	11,758	11,758	0	
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 66(1) Commonwealth contribution to industry research body</i>	45,267	0	45,267	
<i>Pig Industry Act 2001, s10(1)</i>	9,600	4,800	4,800	
Program 1.10 Agricultural Resources				
<i>Egg Industry Service Provision Act 2002, s8(1)</i>	3,868	1,934	1,934	
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Cotton R&D Corporation</i>	17,122	8,561	8,561	
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Grape and Wine R&D Corporation</i>	22,708	11,024	11,684	
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Rural Industries R&D Corporation</i>	7,861	4,405	3,456	
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Sugar R&D Corporation</i>	8,680	4,340	4,340	
<i>Wine Australia Corporation Act 1980, s. 32 (formally known as Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation Act 1980, s. 32)</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Financial Management and Accountability Act</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	2

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Question: 165 (continued)

Program	2013-14	2013-14	2013-14	Note
	Contribution to R&D attributed to "Special appropriations" / 'Special accounts'	Industry funded to R&D	Commonwealth Government funded	
Program 2.1 Quarantine and Export				
<i>National Residue Survey Administration Act 1992, s. 6</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service Special Account - s. 20, <i>FMA Act 1997</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	3
National Residue Survey Account - s. 6, <i>National Residue Survey Administration Act 1992</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	4
Program 2.2 Plant and Animal Health				
<i>Australian Animal Health Council (Live-stock Industries) Funding Act 1996, s. 5</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Plant Health Australia (Plant Industries) Funding Act 2002, s. 6</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Plant Health Australia (Plant Industries) Funding Act 2002, s. 10B</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
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Question: 165 (continued)

Program	2014-15 Contribution to R&D attributed to 'Special appropriations' / 'Special accounts'	2014-15 Industry funded to R&D	2014-15 Commonwealth Government funded	Note
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Program 1.3 Forestry Industry				
<i>Forestry Marketing and Research and Development Service Act 2007, s. 9(1) - payments and matching payments to an industry service body and Commonwealth administration expenses</i>	9,302	5,722	3,580	
Program 1.4 Fishing Industry				
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30A(3) - Fisheries R&D Corporation</i>	17,768	940	16,828	
Program 1.5 Horticulture Industry				
<i>Horticulture Marketing and Research and Development Services Act 2000, s. 16(9)</i>	66,358	22,358	44,000	
Program 1.6 Wool Industry				
<i>Wool Services Privatisation Act 2000, s. 31(4)</i>	56,500	45,000	11,500	
Program 1.7 Grains Industry - Other Grains				
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Grains R&D Corporation - Other Grains</i>	62,158	36,887	25,271	
Program 1.7 Grains Industry - Wheat				
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Grains R&D Corporation - Wheat</i>	87,994	54,338	33,656	
Program 1.8 Dairy Industry				
<i>Dairy Produce Act 1986, s. 6(1)</i>	55,181	35,291	19,890	
Program 1.9 Meat and Livestock Industry				
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 63(2) - payments to the industry marketing body</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64(2) - Payments to the research body</i>	25,219	25,219	0	
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64A(2) - Payments to the live-stock export marketing body</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64B(2) - Payments to the live-stock export research body</i>	540	540	0	
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64C(2) - Payments to the meat processor marketing body</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64D(2) - Payments to the meat processor research body</i>	12,150	12,150	0	
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 66(1) - Commonwealth contribution to industry research body</i>	45,077	0	45,077	
<i>Pig Industry Act 2001, s10(1)</i>	9,600	4,800	4,800	
Program 1.10 Agricultural Resources				
<i>Egg Industry Service Provision Act 2002, s8(1)</i>	3,926	1,963	1,963	
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Cotton R&D Corporation</i>	15,660	7,830	7,830	
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Grape and Wine R&D Corporation</i>	22,708	11,024	11,684	
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Rural Industries R&D Corporation</i>	7,228	3,846	3,382	
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Sugar R&D Corporation</i>	8,680	4,340	4,340	
<i>Wine Australia Corporation Act 1980, s. 32 (formally known as Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation Act 1980, s. 32)</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Financial Management and Accountability Act</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	2

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Question: 165 (continued)

Program	2014-15 Contribution to R&D attributed to "Special appropriations" / 'Special accounts'	2014-15 Industry funded to R&D	2014-15 Commonwealth Government funded	Note
Program 2.1 Quarantine and Export				
<i>National Residue Survey Administration Act 1992, s. 6</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service Special Account - s. 20, <i>FMA Act 1997</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	3
National Residue Survey Account - s. 6, <i>National Residue Survey Administration Act 1992</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	4
Program 2.2 Plant and Animal Health				
<i>Australian Animal Health Council (Live-stock Industries) Funding Act 1996, s. 5</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Plant Health Australia (Plant Industries) Funding Act 2002, s. 6</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Plant Health Australia (Plant Industries) Funding Act 2002, s. 10B</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1

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Question: 165 (continued)

Program	2015-16	2015-16	2015-16	Note
	Contribution to R&D attributed to 'Special appropriations' / 'Special accounts'	Industry funded to R&D	Commonwealth Government funded	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Program 1.3 Forestry Industry				
<i>Forestry Marketing and Research and Development Service Act 2007, s. 9(1) - payments and matching payments to an industry service body and Commonwealth administration expenses</i>	9,302	5,722	3,580	
Program 1.4 Fishing Industry				
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30A(3) - Fisheries R&D Corporation</i>	18,054	940	17,114	
Program 1.5 Horticulture Industry				
<i>Horticulture Marketing and Research and Development Services Act 2000, s. 16(9)</i>	66,358	22,358	44,000	
Program 1.6 Wool Industry				
<i>Wool Services Privatisation Act 2000, s. 31(4)</i>	56,500	45,000	11,500	
Program 1.7 Grains Industry - Other Grains				
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Grains R&D Corporation - Other Grains</i>	62,681	37,174	25,507	
Program 1.7 Grains Industry - Wheat				
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Grains R&D Corporation - Wheat</i>	90,496	56,044	34,452	
Program 1.8 Dairy Industry				
<i>Dairy Produce Act 1986, s. 6(1)</i>	56,768	36,033	20,735	
Program 1.9 Meat and Livestock Industry				
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 63(2) - payments to the industry marketing body</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64(2) Payments to the research body</i>	25,594	25,594	0	
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64A(2) Payments to the live-stock export marketing body</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64B(2) Payments to the live-stock export research body</i>	600	600	0	
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64C(2) Payments to the meat processor marketing body</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 64D(2) Payments to the meat processor research body</i>	12,403	12,403	0	
<i>Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997, s. 66(1) Commonwealth contribution to industry research body</i>	44,947	0	44,947	
<i>Pig Industry Act 2001, s10(1)</i>	9,600	4,800	4,800	
Program 1.10 Agricultural Resources				
<i>Egg Industry Service Provision Act 2002, s8(1)</i>	3,986	1,993	1,993	
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Cotton R&D Corporation</i>	14,874	7,437	7,437	
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Grape and Wine R&D Corporation</i>	22,708	11,024	11,684	
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Rural Industries R&D Corporation</i>	7,047	3,856	3,191	
<i>Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989, s. 30(3) - Sugar R&D Corporation</i>	8,680	4,340	4,340	
<i>Wine Australia Corporation Act 1980, s. 32 (formally known as Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation Act 1980, s. 32)</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Financial Management and Accountability Act</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	2

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Question: 165 (continued)

Program	2015-16	2015-16	2015-16	Note
	Contribution to R&D attributed to "Special appropriations" / 'Special accounts'	Industry funded to R&D	Commonwealth Government funded	
Program 2.1 Quarantine and Export				
<i>National Residue Survey Administration Act 1992, s. 6</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service Special Account - s. 20, <i>FMA Act 1997</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	3
National Residue Survey Account - s. 6, <i>National Residue Survey Administration Act 1992</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	4
Program 2.2 Plant and Animal Health				
<i>Australian Animal Health Council (Live-stock Industries) Funding Act 1996, s. 5</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Plant Health Australia (Plant Industries) Funding Act 2002, s. 6</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1
<i>Plant Health Australia (Plant Industries) Funding Act 2002, s. 10B</i>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0	1

Note:

1. This levy is for the purpose of either promotion and marketing or protecting animal and plant health status only.
2. This is under section 28 of the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* to repay amounts received in error and that the Government is not entitled to. Payments made from this appropriation are mainly to refund levy payers who have not had a liability or have overpaid.
3. The amount is attributed to 'Special accounts', to be funded by cost recovered non research and development activities from industry, and is not Government funded.
4. This amount is funded by industry through levies appropriated by a special appropriation paid into the special account, direct funding from industry to the special account (not through a levy) and interest revenue earned on the balance of industry reserves. There is no research and development component associated to this item.

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Question: 167

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Coordinated procurement

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

1. Are all of the coordinated procurement arrangements relevant to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) finalised?
2. If not, what are the blockages to finalising this for all areas of DAFF?
3. Is coordinated procurement one of the strategies to achieving the efficiency dividend?
4. Without analysis of the impact of coordinated procurement at a divisional or departmental level, how will DAFF and its divisions be able to demonstrate their achievement of the efficiency dividend?

Answer:

1. As at 30 April 2012, some coordinated procurement arrangements relevant to Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) are not finalised. Questions about the status of the ongoing coordinated procurement arrangements should be directed to the Department of Finance and Deregulation (Finance). DAFF is within the transition timeframe set by Finance.
2. Please refer to the answer to Question 1.
3. No.
4. Please refer to the answer to question on notice 4, Finance and Business Support Division, from Additional Estimates hearings in February 2012.

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Question: 169

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Consultancies

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

1. How are decisions made regarding whether a consultancy should be subject to open, select or direct tendering?
2. What rules exist around multiple direct contracts with the same organisation?
3. Is there a cap to the total spend through direct contracts to a single organisation over a specific time frame?
4. How are potential conflicts of interest dealt with?
5. Are there rules regarding how investigations of misconduct allegations are dealt with, particularly related to potential conflicts of interest within organisations that undertake these investigations while at the same time receiving significant other consultancies from the Department?
6. Wise Investigations and Austrace were used to investigate misconduct allegations at about the same time. Why were different organisations used and what was behind the cluster of investigations?

Answer:

1. The procurement method used for different contracts (including consultancy contracts) is determined by the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines (CPGs).
2. There is no specific rule against the awarding of multiple contracts to a single organisation.
3. No.
4. All officers of the Australian Public Service (APS) employed under the *Public Service Act 1999*, are bound by the APS Code of Conduct and APS Values. In the procurement context this means that officers involved in procurement and procurement decision-makers have a responsibility to declare any real or perceived conflict of interest. In addition, the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines (CPGs) provides guidance on ethics in procurement and the need to identify and deal with any real or perceived conflicts of interest. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry's procurement guidance reflects and complements the APS and CPG requirements.

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Question: 169 (continued)

5. Yes.
6. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Foestry does not comment on particular cases for privacy reasons.

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Question: 174

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Hospitality budget

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

1. Over 50 per cent of the planned departmental hospitality budget will be at the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy 6th National Workshop. Who attends this event and what is the detail of the "dinner" hospitality to be provided?
2. How are decisions regarding hospitality spending made?

Answer:

1. The Australian Animal Welfare Strategy's 6th National Workshop was incorrectly classified as official hospitality in the response to QoN155 from the Additional Estimates in February 2012.
2. Once a possible 'hospitality event' is identified the staff involved are required to obtain approval for official hospitality, in addition to meeting the requirements of the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*. This includes ensuring the event is an efficient, effective, economical and ethical use of Commonwealth resources. Approval is limited to staff at the Senior Executive Service level.

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Question: 202

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Reform to Australia's export certification services

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

1. At additional estimates the budget for "Reform of Australia's export certification services, Departmental expenses" was "Not for Publication" in the years 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-2015.
2. In the 2012-13 budget there does not appear to be a budget item for "Reform of Australia's export certification services, Departmental expenses". Is this correct?
3. If there is no budget allocation, how will the program deliverable "continue to implement the export certification reform initiative to continue to improve regulatory oversight while maintaining market access outcomes for our dairy, fish, grain, horticulture, live animal and meat export industries" be achieved?
4. How will annual performance of criteria of "2 industry meetings. Design and implement reforms" be achieved without a budget allocation?

Answer:

1 and 2. This was a new departmental measure at Additional Estimates. There was no new measure in the 2012-13 budget. In the 2012-13 Portfolio Budget Statements (PBS) the additional estimates measure amount is now incorporated in the total departmental expenses (p63 PBS, table 2.1), as was the case in the 2011-12 Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements.

3 and 4. The export certification reform implementation will be delivered within existing resources, utilising both cost-recovered and government funding.

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Question: 225

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Program 1.3

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

Provide details of the initiatives taking place as part of Departmental expenses under Program 1.3.

Answer:

In 2012–13, Under Program 1.3, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry will:

- continue to work with the Tasmanian Government to progress the third five-yearly review of the Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement and the Tasmanian Forests Intergovernmental Agreement.
- undertake monitoring activities and compliance for the Contactors Voluntary Exit Grants Program and the Tasmanian Forest Contractors Exit Assistance Program.
- continue to review or develop responses to reviews of Regional Forest Agreements.
- work with the Forest and Wood Products Council to progress a strategic plan for the industry.
- progress government consideration of the House of Representatives Inquiry into the future of the Australian forestry industry.
- assist the government to implement its commitment to combat illegal logging. This will include the Illegal Logging Prohibition Bill 2011 and the subordinate legislative instruments.
- advocate for Australia's interests in forest policy through international and bilateral forums. Our focus will continue to be legal trade in forest products and promoting sustainable forest management.

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Question: 226

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division
Topic: Expenses not requiring appropriation this budget year
Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

1. Provide detailed information regarding the calculation of “Expenses not requiring appropriation this budget year” for Program 1.3 in the 2012–13 budget (include out years to 2015–16).
2. Provide detailed information regarding the calculation of expenses not requiring appropriate this budget year for Program 1.3 in Additional Estimates, February 2012 (include out years to 2014–15).
3. Provide details of how the variation from Additional Estimates in February 2012 and the Budget in May 2012 occurred.

Answer:

1. Expenses not requiring appropriation include items such as depreciation, amortisation and Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) audit fees. The allocation of these expenses to program 1.3 is notional and is based on the structure of the department.
2. Expenses not requiring appropriation include items such as depreciation and amortisation ANAO and audit fees. The allocation of these expenses to program 1.3 is notional and is based on the structure of the department.
3. Total expenses not requiring appropriation are unchanged between the 2011–12 Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements and the 2012–13 Portfolio Budget Statements. The expenses for each program is notional and is allocated based on the structure of the department and therefore change due to their allocation methodology.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Question: 227

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Budget variation from Additional Estimates 2011–12

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

Provide justification for the variation in Departmental appropriation between the:

- “Revised budget figure for 2011–12” reported in PBS 2012–13, Budget Related Paper No 1.1 and
- “2011–12 Revised budget” reported in Additional Estimates Program Expenses (February 2012) for Programs 1.3 and 1.4

Answer:

- Departmental appropriation allocations are notional and are based on the current structure of the department. The movement in program 1.3 a reduction of \$305 000 is due to changes in estimated external source revenue (section 31 of the *Financial Management and Accounting Act 1997*).
- The reduction in program 1.3 of \$305 000 and \$24 000 in program 1.4 is due to changes in estimated external source revenue (section 31 of The Financial Management and Accounting Act 1997 refers).

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Question: 237

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Expenses not requiring appropriation

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

1. Provide detailed information regarding the calculation of “Expenses not requiring appropriation this budget year” for Program 1.4 in the 2012–13 budget (include out years to 2015–16).
2. Provide detailed information regarding the calculation of expenses not requiring appropriate this budget year for Program 1.4 in Additional Estimates, February 2012 (include out years to 2014–15).
3. Provide details of how the variation from Additional Estimates in February 2012 and the Budget in May 2012 occurred.

Answer:

1. Expenses not requiring appropriation include items such as depreciation amortisation and Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) audit fees. The allocation of these expenses to program 1.4 is notional and is based on the structure of the department.
2. Expenses not requiring appropriation include items such as depreciation amortisation and ANAO audit fees. The allocation of these expenses to program 1.4 is notional and is based on the structure of the department.
3. Total expenses not requiring appropriation are unchanged between the 2011–12 Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements and the 2012–13 Portfolio Budget Statements. The expenses for each program are notional and is allocated based on the structure of the department and therefore change due to their allocation methodology.

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Question: 288

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Carbon tax

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator MCKENZIE asked:

1. Has the department modelled the impact of the carbon tax on their running costs?
2. If so, what was the outcome?
3. If not, why, not?
4. How much electricity does the department use?
5. What are the department's electricity costs for the financial year to date?

Answer:

1. No.
2. Not applicable.
3. Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) manages price fluctuations in a range of corporate expenses each year. From 1 July 2012 the costs of the price on carbon will be added to some goods that DAFF purchases and as such we will manage these costs like any other. In some cases, formal contracts set prices over the life of the agreement (e.g. electricity) so these will not change immediately.
4. For the financial year 2010–11 DAFF's electricity usage was 48 680 gigajoules. The comparable figure for the 2011–12 financial year is not available at the present time.
5. For the financial year 2011–12 (as at 30 April 2012) DAFF's electricity expenses are approximately \$1.940 million (excluding GST).

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates May 2012
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 299

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Payments to live export research

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator Nash asked:

Portfolio Budget Statement page 49

1. Payments to live export research have been cut from \$800 000 to \$540 000. What is the reasoning for the funding cut?

Answer:

1. Forward year estimates for Australian Livestock Export Corporation (the body that undertakes research and development for live animal exports) vary as estimates are determined by seasonal production levels as well as the latest livestock estimates from industry and the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences. Estimates are adjusted during each budget update round based on the latest information.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates May 2012
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 300

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division
Topic: Regional Food Producers Innovation and Productivity Program
Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator NASH asked:

Portfolio Budget Statement page 24/41 – Regional Food Producers Innovation Productivity Program

1. Why does the program have no funding in 2012–13?
2. What were the objectives for this program?

Answer:

1. The Regional Food Producers Innovation and Productivity program was a four year election commitment announced in 2007. The program terminates on 30 June 2012.
2. The program aimed to assist the regional food industry to improve productivity and profitability through innovation in processing and value-adding.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2012

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 301

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: The Northern Australia Beef Industry Strategy

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator NASH asked:

Portfolio Budget Statement page 52

1. The Northern Australia Beef Industry Strategy - Indigenous Pastoral Program receives no further funding after 2011–12, why has funding been cut?

Answer:

1. The Northern Australia Beef Industry Strategy – Indigenous Pastoral Program was a three year election commitment announced in 2010. Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry received its full funding over two years for the program. The program experienced no reduction in its funding.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates May 2012
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 302

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Cotton research

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator NASH asked:

Portfolio Budget Statement page 52

1. Why has cotton research and development been cut?
 - (a) Where has this funding been re-allocated to?

2. Why has sugar research and development been cut?
 - (a) Where has this funding been re-allocated to?

Answer:

1. Forward year estimates for special appropriation funding for the Cotton Research and Development Corporation have been reduced as estimates are determined by seasonal production levels and latest crop estimates from industry and Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES). Estimates are adjusted during each budget update round based on the latest information.
 - a) Special Appropriation funding cannot be reallocated to another program.

2. Forward year estimates for special appropriation funding for the Sugar Research and Development Corporation have been reduced as estimates are determined by seasonal production levels and latest crop estimates from industry and ABARES. Estimates are adjusted during each budget update based on the latest information.
 - a) Special Appropriation funding cannot be reallocated to another program.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates May 2012
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 307

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Budget Cuts to Advancing Australian Agriculture and Food and Agriculture

Organisation of United Nations

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator NASH asked:

Portfolio Budget page 60

1. Advancing Australian Agriculture (AAA) – International Agricultural Cooperation in the 2012–13 budget looks as if there is a cut in funding for this year – can you elaborate where the funding has been re-allocated?
2. Food and Agriculture Organisation of United Nations (UNFAO) in the budget 2012–13 there was a cut of \$2.9 million. How is this going to impact on trade and market access?
3. In the 2012–13 budget paper \$2.9 million was cut from the Food and Agriculture Organisation of United Nations (UNFAO) and was re-directed to other Government priorities, where did the \$2.9 million get re-directed to?

Answer:

1. Advancing Australian Agriculture (AAA) – International Agricultural Cooperation has funding reduced by \$1.7 million over three years. This funding was redirected to support whole of Government priorities.
2. Due to favourable exchange rates, Australia's Food and Agriculture Organization membership obligations were \$2.9 million lower than budget. This saving has no impact on trade and market access.
3. The \$2.9 million was redirected to the Climate Change Adjustment Program – Transitional Income Support program (\$1.2 million) and Drought policy reform – pilot of new measures in Western Australia – Farm Family Support (\$1.7 million).

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Estimates June 2012

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: 310

Division/Agency: Finance and Business Support Division

Topic: Government payments of accounts

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator COLBECK asked:

1. For this financial year to date, has DAFF paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e.within 30 days)?
 - a) If not, why not? Provide details, including what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? (Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached).
 - b) For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by DAFF for the current financial year and the previous financial year?
 - c) Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

Answer:

1.
 - a) The department has made payments to contractors/consultants in the current financial year (to 31 May 2012) as per the below table. Reasons for delay in payments include: invoice disputes, incorrect invoices, invalid ABNs and missing supplier information.

	2012 YTD
30 days	88.25%
31-44 days	4.99%
45-60 days	2.74%
60+ days	4.02%

- b) No interest has been paid on overdue amounts for this financial year.
 - c) No interest has been paid.