

## Senator Sterle's letter – March 2022

Dear Secretary Metcalfe,

I write on behalf of Opposition Senators ahead of the half-day Senate Estimates session that is to be held on 31 March 2022 and the full-day program to be held on 5 April 2022.

I therefore request that you are able to provide the following information when you attend Senate Estimates for these two sessions. This includes:

- Corporate Matters: a detailed list of all national action plans, national strategic action plans, national strategies, roadmaps and similar announced by Ministers since January 2017, including a progress report on each of these documents and measures.
- Corporate Matters: a detailed summary of the Agriculture budget including the allocation of funding across all programs, measures, national action plans, national strategic action plans, national strategies, roadmaps, announcements made by the Minister and grants as well as an outline of the funding as expended, committed, or unallocated including a breakdown by state and territory.
- Outcome 3: Agriculture Workforce Shortage – information pertaining to the Pacific Australian Labour Mobility program and other workforce measures.
- Outcome 3: A detailed summary of the funding already announced across Agriculture Policy.
- Outcome 4: A detailed summary of the funding allocated to biosecurity programs, measures and grants including an outline of expended, committed, or unallocated funds including a breakdown by state and territory. In addition, detailed information relating to the funding that is included in the 2022-23 Budget for those measures already announced by the Government.

I trust that you will be able to table all the requested information at the start of the hearing. Please contact my office if this will not be possible, or if you require clarification on any of these requests.

I look forward to seeing you at the hearing.

### **Response:**

- Thank you Senator Sterle for your letter regarding information requested by opposition senators.
- My colleagues and I will endeavour to answer all of your questions throughout the course of the hearing and will table information as we can.
- Details of some of the information you have requested is already available of course, for example:
  - Detailed summaries of program funding is available in the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements
  - And details of all grants are available on GrantConnect.

**Further detail:**

**Biosecurity and Compliance Group**

Requested information	Publication	Pages / web link				
List of national action plans, strategies and roadmaps	<p>Commonwealth Biosecurity 2030</p> <p>National Biosecurity Strategy</p> <p>MarinePestPlan 2018-2023</p> <p>National Feral Pig Action Plan</p>	<p><a href="#">Commonwealth Biosecurity 2030</a>  <a href="#">Commonwealth Biosecurity 2030 Action Plan 2022</a></p> <p><a href="#">National Biosecurity Strategy – in draft</a></p> <p><a href="#">MarinePestPlan 2018-2023 – Progress on plan implementation available at bottom of webpage</a></p> <p><a href="#">National Feral Pig Action Plan</a></p>				
Grant programs	<p>Grant Connect</p> <p>Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2021–22</p> <p>Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2021–22</p> <p>Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2021–22</p> <p>Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2021–22</p>	<p><a href="http://www.grants.gov.au">www.grants.gov.au</a></p> <p>Page 43, 78 (Pest and Disease Preparedness and Response Programs)</p> <p>Pages 34, 42, 78 (Biosecurity – Support National Horse Traceability Working Group)</p> <p>Page 73 (Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis and Research)</p> <p>Page 42, 49, 59, 67, 71 (Activities to reduce the economic and environmental burden of established feral animals, pests and weeds)                      *includes funding for non-grant related programs</p>				
Detailed summary of funding allocated to biosecurity programs	Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2021–22	Outcome	Administered Programs	Departmental funding	ASL	Movement of Funds summary
		Outcome 4	pp. 73 to 75	p. 75	p. 76	pp. 77 to 78
	Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2022–23	Outcome	Administered Programs	Departmental funding	ASL	Movement of Funds summary
		Outcome 4	pp. 82 to 86	p. 85	p. 85	pp. 86

<p>Detailed information relating to progress against the recommendations may be the Inspector-General of Biosecurity and Auditor-General</p>		<p><a href="#">Inspector-General of Biosecurity</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To date, the department has received 213 recommendations across 17 independent reviews (16 by the IGB, 1 by the ANAO) since December 2017.</li> <li>• Around 120 recommendations relate to recent reviews completed last year.</li> <li>• Half of the 213 recommendations have been completed. 106 remain open – most of these arise from very recent reviews where work is underway or involve more complex programs of work which will take some time to complete, for example enhancements to systems, funding arrangements, legislative change or new regulatory approaches and new training.</li> <li>• This uplift to our capability is well underway and being progressed largely through our efforts to implement the Commonwealth Biosecurity 2030 strategic roadmap.</li> </ul>
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#### Agriculture Policy, AGVET Chemicals, Fisheries, Forestry and Engagement

Requested information	Publication	Pages / web link
List of national action plans, strategies and roadmaps	National Fisheries Plan (overview for consultation)	<p><a href="#">Developing a National Fisheries Plan - DAWE</a></p> <p><a href="#">Consultation on National Fisheries Plan   Have Your Say - Agriculture, Water and the Environment (awe.gov.au)</a></p>
List of national action plans, strategies and roadmaps	National Forest Industries Plan: Implementation, election commitments and other measures (Released 24 September 2021)	<p><a href="https://www.agriculture.gov.au/forestry/national-forest-industries-plan">https://www.agriculture.gov.au/forestry/national-forest-industries-plan</a></p>
National action plans, national strategic action plans, national strategies and roadmaps	<p>Delivering Ag2030 plan</p> <p>National Agricultural Innovation Agenda</p> <p>National Agricultural Innovation Policy Statement</p>	<p><a href="https://www.awe.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/ag-2030.pdf">https://www.awe.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/ag-2030.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.awe.gov.au/agriculture-land/farm-food-drought/innovation/national-ag-innovation-agenda">https://www.awe.gov.au/agriculture-land/farm-food-drought/innovation/national-ag-innovation-agenda</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.awe.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/dawe-innovation-policy-statement.pdf">https://www.awe.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/dawe-innovation-policy-statement.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="#">Agricultural Innovation Statement released   Ministers (awe.gov.au)</a></p>

<p>Agriculture workforce</p> <p>Agriculture Visa</p> <p>Pacific Labour Mobility</p>	<p>Agriculture Workers' Code for across state border movement</p> <p>National Agricultural Workforce Strategy</p>	<p><a href="https://www.awe.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/agriculture-workers-code.pdf">https://www.awe.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/agriculture-workers-code.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.awe.gov.au/abares/research-topics/labour">www.awe.gov.au/abares/research-topics/labour</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.dfat.gov.au/agriculturevisa">www.dfat.gov.au/agriculturevisa</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.palmscheme.gov.au">www.palmscheme.gov.au</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.awe.gov.au/agriculture-land/farm-food-drought/agricultural-workforce/naws">https://www.awe.gov.au/agriculture-land/farm-food-drought/agricultural-workforce/naws</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.awe.gov.au/about/reporting/obligations/government-responses/building-the-agricultural-workforce-of-the-future">https://www.awe.gov.au/about/reporting/obligations/government-responses/building-the-agricultural-workforce-of-the-future</a></p> <p><a href="https://minister.awe.gov.au/littleproud/media-releases/response-to-national-agricultural-workforce-strategy">https://minister.awe.gov.au/littleproud/media-releases/response-to-national-agricultural-workforce-strategy</a></p>
<p>Grant programs</p>	<p>Grant Connect</p> <p>Portfolio Budget statement 2021-22</p> <p>Portfolio Budget statement 2021-22</p> <p>Portfolio Budget statement 2021-22</p> <p>Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook 2021-22 Statement</p> <p>Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2019-20</p> <p>Economic and Fiscal Update July 2020</p> <p>Portfolio Budget statement 2021-22</p> <p>Portfolio Budget statement 2021-22</p>	<p><a href="http://www.grants.gov.au">www.grants.gov.au</a></p> <p>Budget 21 – 22 Page 72 (Wine Tourism and Cellar Door Grant Program)</p> <p>Budget 21 – 22 Pages 18, 72 (Export and Regional Wine Support Package)</p> <p>Budget 20 – 21, pg 27, MYEFO 21 – 22 pg 208, Economic and Fiscal Update pg 105 (Supporting Agricultural Shows and Field Days)</p> <p>Budget 21-22 pg 35, MYEFO 21 – 22 pg 208 (Supporting Agricultural Showmen and Women)</p> <p>Additional Estimates Statements pg 29, (Regional Agricultural Show Development Program)</p> <p>Page 72 (National Farm Safety Education Fund)</p> <p>Pages 32, 71 (Supporting Trade – extend the Improved Access to Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals program)</p> <p>Table 1.1, pages 26-35</p>

	Portfolio Budget statement 2022-23	
Detailed summary of funding allocated to forestry programs	Portfolio Budget statement 2022-23	Page 67
Detailed summary of funding allocated to fisheries programs	Portfolio Budget statement 2022-23	Page 68

## Climate Adaptation and Resilience

<b>Table 1: Overview of all soil-related National Action Plans, National Strategic Action Plans Strategies and links to Budget details</b>		
<b>Requested information</b>	<b>Publication</b>	<b>Pages/weblink</b>
Soil-related Strategies	National Soil Strategy - Complete	<a href="#">National Soil Package - DAWE</a>  <a href="#">Joint media release: \$233.8 million to improve, protect soils   Ministers (awe.gov.au)</a>  <a href="#">Minister Littleproud media release: Budget securing Australia's recovery with better deal for farmers</a>
Soil-related Action Plans	National Soil Strategy Commonwealth Interim Action Plan – Complete	<a href="#">National Soil Package - DAWE</a>
Soil-related Action Plans	National Soil Action Plan – In progress	<a href="#">National Soil Package - DAWE</a>
Detailed summary of funding allocated to soil-related programs	Portfolio Budget Statements (PBS)  See additional table below	<a href="#">DAWE PBS</a> pp. 31-32, 58, 66  <a href="#">Budget Fact Sheet – National Soil Strategy</a>  <a href="#">Minister Littleproud media release: Budget securing Australia's recovery with better deal for farmers</a>

## Drought and Farm Resilience

<b>Requested information</b>	<b>Publication</b>	<b>Pages / web link</b>
List of national action plans, strategies and roadmaps	Future Drought Fund – Drought Resilience Funding Plan 2020-2024  Future Drought Fund Annual Report 2020-21	<a href="#">Future Drought Fund - DAWE</a>  The Future Drought Fund Annual Report includes information on allocations and spending under the Fund and Funding Plan.
Future Drought Fund – grant programs	GrantConnect	<a href="#">Keyword Search: GrantConnect (grants.gov.au)</a>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Drought Resilience Leaders</li> <li>- Drought Resilience Planning</li> <li>- Farm Business Resilience</li> <li>- Networks for Building Drought Resilience</li> <li>- NRM Grants</li> <li>- NRM Leaders</li> <li>- Research Innovation and Adoption Hubs</li> <li>- Drought Resilience Innovation Grants</li> <li>- Drought Resilient Soils and Landscapes</li> </ul>		<p>KeywordSearch = future+drought+fund</p>
<p>National Plans</p>	<p>Australian Government's Drought Response, Resilience and Preparedness plan</p> <p><b>Implementation report released on website in December 2021.</b></p>	<p>DAWE website</p> <p><a href="#">Drought policy - DAWE</a></p>
<p>Government response</p>	<p>Independent review of the Regional Investment Corporation</p>	<p>DAWE website</p> <p><a href="https://www.awe.gov.au/agriculture-land/farm-food-drought/drought/assistance/ric">https://www.awe.gov.au/agriculture-land/farm-food-drought/drought/assistance/ric</a></p>
<p>Government response</p>	<p>2021 Evaluation of the Farm Management Deposit Scheme</p>	<p>DAWE website</p> <p><a href="https://www.awe.gov.au/agriculture-land/farm-food-drought/drought/assistance/fmd/review">https://www.awe.gov.au/agriculture-land/farm-food-drought/drought/assistance/fmd/review</a></p>