

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 40

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: FOI review

Proof Hansard page: 8

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: Do you have the document with the recommendations? Can you table it?

Mr Glyde: I think we would certainly have the document. I would just have to confirm whether or not there is any problem with tabling. I do not imagine there would be, but if I could take that on notice to consider the document and certainly look to be able to table it if we can.

Answer:

See **Attachment A** for the FOI review recommendations.

FOI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1: The appointment of a new Secretary provides an opportunity for the department to reiterate its commitment to a pro-disclosure culture. This should be supported by clear communications from the Secretary down.

Recommendation 2: The department should review its FOI policies and procedures to ensure they are consistent with the posture articulated by the Secretary with an eye to achieving efficiencies. The policies should be clearly communicated to staff.

Recommendation 3: The department should consider relocating the FOI Section with the Corporate Strategy and Governance Division. This would place the function in an area with a better oversight of the issues of day; provide more levels of support for the decision maker and their manager; and free the General Counsel to undertake internal reviews (though noting that responsibility for internal review should not be limited to the General-Counsel).

Recommendation 4: The department should develop procedures to identify and manage complex and sensitive cases. This should include guidelines on what constitutes a complex or sensitive case and who the decision maker should be.

Recommendation 5: Where cases are complex or sensitive the decision maker should be a member of the department’s SES. This may be the Assistant Secretary (or equivalent) within the FOI Section; however in order to enable greater flexibility in handling FOI cases it may be appropriate to draw upon the department’s broader SES. In all other cases, the director of the FOI Section should be the decision maker.

Recommendation 6: The department should work with the Minister’s office to improve FOI support processes, including:

- Establishing clear, transparent and consistent processes for FOI requests that are received by the department but are more properly a matter for the Minister’s office. This may involve either:
 - A streamlined process to transfer FOI requests from the Department to the Minister’s office. This process could, for example, involve the FOI Section making an assessment whether the matter was more properly the remit of the Minister’s office, quickly confirming with the Minister’s office that this is the case through an established process, and then transferring the request; or
 - Guidance set out at the ‘Make a FOI request’ section of the department’s website that states that the department does not accept requests on the Minister’s behalf and provides details of postal and electronic methods to lodge a request with the Minister’s office. If an FOI request is received by the department, processes should also be in place to direct the request back to the applicant for submission directly with the Minister’s office.
- Providing a formal brief to the Minister to formally name his delegate.
- Designating an adviser as the point for contact for all FOI requests directed to the Minister’s office.
- Putting in place procedures for the FOI Section to work directly with the designated adviser and the Minister’s delegate to assist with determining possible approaches, liaising with the applicant, drafting all correspondence to the applicant, determining possible exemption provisions, and providing more general advice as needed.

Recommendation 7: The department should establish procedures to provide an FOI ‘induction’ at the commencement of a new Minister. This would include meeting with the relevant adviser to outline and agree process, provide suitable training to that adviser, and establish open lines of communication.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 41

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: FOI review

Proof Hansard page: 8

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: As a result of that review and \$80 000 to get some slight changes, have you advised the minister's office about how FOI requests should be handled?

Mr Glyde: Yes, I think we have.

Senator CAMERON: You think you have or you have?

Mr Glyde: I would have to check. I am pretty sure that we have. We have certainly discussed the outcomes of the review with the minister's office.

Senator CAMERON: You have discussed, or you have provided? What have you done?

Mr Glyde: I will have to take that on notice and check exactly what—

Answer:

The department has discussed the handling of FOI requests with the Minister's office and will offer further assistance as requests are received.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 42

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: FOI review

Proof Hansard page: 8-9

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: Again, can you table the correspondence between the department and the minister's office on any procedural changes.

Mr Glyde: That might take some time if we are going to do that.

Senator CAMERON: That is okay. You can come back and tell me what amount of time that is. What are the main issues that you have raised for change with the minister's office?

Mr Glyde: What I would prefer to do is just talk about what the recommendations were.

Senator CAMERON: I would prefer you talked about how the relationships operate and, after you have spent \$80 000 of public money and made some slight changes, what those changes are that you have made and how that relates to your relationship with the minister's office. It is a simple question.

Mr Glyde: As I said, I would have to take on notice what we have done in relation to communicating with the minister's office. What is easy for me to talk about now is what the recommendations were.

Answer:

As at 2 November 2015, there has been no written correspondence between the department and the Minister's office on procedural changes following the review. Please also refer to the answer to response to Question on Notice 41 from the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing in October 2015.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 43

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: FOI review

Proof Hansard page: 9

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: What expertise did Ernst & Young bring to this freedom of information area?

Mr Glyde: I would have to take on notice the specifics in terms of the claims.

Answer:

The Ernst & Young team had demonstrated experience in the implementation, operation and review of freedom of information processes in both the Australian Public Service as well as ministerial environments.

Attachment A provides further background on the relevant skills, experience and qualifications of each Ernst & Young staff member.

ERNST & YOUNG (EY) STAFF PROFILES

Mr Andrew Metcalfe AO

Partner | Advisory | Strategy

Role & responsibility

Andrew is a partner in EY's Government and Public Sector advisory practice, based in Canberra. He is involved in working with a number of public sector clients at a strategic level, and is also leading EY's focus on food, fibre, agribusiness and biosecurity in Australia and New Zealand. Andrew's appointment to EY in 2014 follows an extensive career at the highest levels of the Australian Government. He has extensive policy and operational experience in often contentious areas, as well as in the delivery of client services on a national and global scale. Andrew was appointed as an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in 2012 for his distinguished public service leadership to Australia's international relations and to major public policy development in the areas of immigration and national security. He was recognised by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Australia in 2010 as the 'Federal Government Leader of the Year'.

Experience of particular relevance to the department

- Department of Social Services (DSS) - in 2014, Andrew led a number of engagements to support the implementation of the Policy Office. These engagements explored and tested how the Policy Office can best add value to the business of the DSS, including validation of possible recommendations. In meeting the services required by DSS, the EY team undertook two key tasks: assessed the current state and identified and prioritised recommendations for how the department could realise its vision of pre-eminence.
- Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry - Andrew was the Secretary of the Department from January – September 2013 (and during that time was also Australia's Director of Animal and Plant Quarantine) managing 5,000 staff, national and global operations and a budget in excess of \$1 billion. During this time he was particularly focused on implementing the recommendations of the APSC's capability review and significantly strengthening the department's strategic policy capabilities. He also improved relationships with key stakeholders and industry organisations and worked to advance major trade and market access goals for Australian agriculture.
- Department of Immigration and Citizenship - Andrew was the Secretary of the Department from July 2005 until January 2013. He led 9,000+ staff and managed national and global operations with a budget in excess of \$2 billion. Appointed in the wake of the Cornelia Rau and Vivian Alvarez cases, he provided leadership in successfully reforming the culture and operations of the department. This is regarded as the largest reform programme in a Federal Government department in decades. He also oversaw the strengthening of the department's policy capabilities, client service delivery arrangements and business processes.
- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet - Andrew was a Deputy Secretary of the Department from August 2002 until July 2005 and acting Secretary for several months in early 2003. He was responsible for the coordination of policy advice to the Prime Minister

Question: 43 (continued)

- On international affairs, national security and machinery of government issues. Most noteworthy was him being the inaugural chair of the National Counter Terrorism Committee involving security agencies, the Special Forces, Transport security, Customs, all State Government.
- Deputy Police Commissioners, and Premiers' Departments. He undertook major reviews post 9/11 of aviation security, maritime and ports security, and hazardous (precursor) materials, amongst many other activities.

Qualifications & affiliations

- Bachelor of Arts (UQ)
- Bachelor of Laws (UQ)
- Certificate in Corporate Governance 2012 - INSEAD, Fontainebleau France
- Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management
- Fellow of the Institute of Public Administration, Australia
- Member of the Administrative Review Council (2003-12)
- Board Member of the National Australia Day Council (2002-12)
- President of the Institute of Public Administration (ACT) (2010-13)
- Member of the Council of the Order of Australia (2002-05).

Dr Cameron Crouch

Senior Manager | Advisory

Role & responsibility

Cameron has over seven years' experience providing consulting services to public sector clients. He specialises in policy and regulatory analysis, programme evaluation and government strategy. Cameron has recently evaluated a number of high-profile programmes for Australian Government departments, and worked with clients on sensitive areas of policy analysis (including the Government's proposed higher education reforms and a trade facilitation programme).

Experience of particular relevance to the department

- Department of Social Services - Cameron recently evaluated the Humanitarian Settlement Services and Complex Case Support programmes. This evaluation focused on the appropriateness, effectiveness and efficiency of the programmes. It also considered the relationship between the programmes and other settlement/mainstream services, as well as opportunities to reduce regulatory burden on service providers.
- Attorney-General's Department - in 2014, Cameron evaluated the Chemicals of Security Concern programme. In conducting this evaluation, Cameron surveyed 1 400 businesses across Australia, and liaised with relevant agencies across the Australian Government and state and territory governments.
- Department of Social Services – over the past 12 months, Cameron managed three projects aimed at supporting the establishment of the Policy Office within DSS. In delivering these projects, Cameron provided advice to DSS on how to set the Policy Office up for success, how to optimise the stakeholder engagement strategy of the Policy Office, and on the performance of the Policy Office in achieving its objectives.

Question: 43 (continued)

- Department of Education – in 2014, Cameron assisted the Department of Education in preparing a Regulation Impact Statement for the Government’s proposed higher education reforms. He was primarily responsible for analysing the impacts of proposed options, drawing on publicly available and departmental information.
- Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) – Cameron recently assisted ACBPS in preparing a Business Case and Regulation Impact Statement for the proposed Trusted Trader Programme (TTP). He was primarily responsible for analysing the financial and economic impacts of the TTP, including liaison with industry and internal stakeholders.

Qualifications & affiliations

- PhD in Political Science (ANU)
- Master in International Relations and Asian Politics (UQ)
- Bachelor of Arts (Hons) (UQ).

Ms Tara Gardiner

Senior Consultant | Advisory

Role & responsibility

Tara has recently joined EY Advisory with 10 years of public sector experience. She has worked with a range of agencies, including Department of Health, Treasury and Department of Immigration and Border Protection. Tara has direct experience in undertaking FOI requests as a departmental officer in Treasury, and in managing FOI requests as a Ministerial adviser.

Experience of particular relevance to the department

- Department of Health – Functional and Efficiency Review. The review is considering the efficiency and effectiveness of Health’s entire operations within a tight 12 week timeframe. Tara is responsible for substantially drafting and editing the report.
- Treasury – As Senior Adviser to the Treasurer, Tara significantly contributed to the production of the 2013 Commonwealth Government Economic Statement.
- Department of Immigration and Border Protection – As Adviser to the Minister for Immigration, Tara oversaw reforms to a number of skills migration programmes, including developing policy, negotiating legislative reform, engaging with key stakeholders.
- Treasury – Tara contributed to the development and drafting of the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme Green Paper and White Paper, particularly regarding linking an Australian emissions trading scheme with international markets and the treatment of the electricity market.
- M.H. Carnegie & Co. – As a strategic adviser at boutique venture capital and private equity firm, M.H. Carnegie & Co, Tara worked closely with the Cape York Institute on a new Indigenous Economic Development Review, and helped shape the strategic direction of the Carnegie Foundation’s philanthropic and policy work.

Qualifications & affiliations

- Bachelor of Business (Economics and Marketing).

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 44

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: FOI review

Proof Hansard page: 10

Senator CAMERON asked

Senator CAMERON: So Ernst & Young have freedom of information experts, have they?

Mr Glyde: Yes. In terms of what their offer was, we went out to the market, so to speak, and we got a number of bids, and we—it was not me but the selection panel—judged that Ernst & Young had the best expertise in this particular area.

Senator CAMERON: Can you table the tender document?

Mr Glyde: I will. We would need to just confirm that it is not commercially confidential, but I cannot see why not.

Answer:

The procurement processes was conducted in accordance with the policies of the Australian Government and the Commonwealth Procurement Rules. The service provider, Ernst & Young, was selected from the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service Panel on Consultancy and Business Services – SON1700081.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 45

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Responsibility for FOI within minister's office

Proof Hansard page: 10

Senator CAMERON asked:

Mr Quinlivan: I think we have clarity about the roles and responsibilities now, which was one of the critical issues from the Ernst & Young report.

Senator CAMERON: And you can table any documentation that outlines those roles and responsibilities so that the opposition understands how it works as well.

Mr Quinlivan: We will endeavour to do what we can over the course of the morning.

Answer:

Please refer to the answer in question on notice 40 from the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing in October 2015.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 46

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Dr Grimes

Proof Hansard page: 11

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: Is there correspondence from Dr Grimes asking for the email to be deleted from the system?

Mr Glyde: I am not aware of that correspondence.

Senator CAMERON asked: Are there any file notes in relation to this interaction?

Mr Glyde: Not that I am aware of.

Senator CAMERON: Can you check?

Mr Glyde: I am happy to check.

Senator CAMERON: And can you provide any file notes, details of phone calls and correspondence in relation to this matter, that you claim Dr Grimes requested the deletion of that email?

Mr Glyde: I am happy to do that. I would point out that this has been the subject of FOI requests. We have searched our records in relation to this, in relation to written records. So the information in relation to this—the published information, the written information, records, if you like—has been the subject of FOI requests.

Senator CAMERON: This is a new revelation. When were you advised that Dr Grimes had sought that the email be deleted?

Mr Glyde: I would have to check that, Senator. I do not know the timing.

Senator CAMERON: Can you check that for me?

Mr Glyde: Sure.

Answer:

Mr Glyde became aware that Dr Grimes had canvassed the withdrawal of his correspondence as a result of consultation responses received from Dr Grimes and Minister Joyce in June 2015 for the purposes of processing a related FOI request. Mr Glyde does not have any file notes or details of phone calls in relation to this matter. It would not be appropriate to reveal the content of submissions made in a personal capacity in the course of such consultations.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 47

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Agricultural Industry Advisory Council

Proof Hansard page: 15

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: How many people attended? Do you know?

Mr Morris: How many people in terms of the council members, or departmental?

Senator CAMERON: Council members and associated support staff.

Mr Morris: I will need to take that on notice.

Answer:

A total of 17 attended the meeting in Rutherglen, Victoria. This included the Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP, eight council members and eight ministerial and government staff, including the secretariat.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 48

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Agricultural Industry Advisory Council

Proof Hansard page: 16

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: Can you provide details of all minutes of these meetings?

Mr Morris: The minister chairs the council. We will need to check with him about that.

Senator CAMERON: You have copies of them have you?

Senator RUSTON: Senator Cameron, is there something you particularly want out of the minutes or do you just want all of the minutes? I would suggest that, given that it is an advisory council to the minister, the minutes of those meetings probably will not be public. So is there something particular that you want?

Senator CAMERON: There may or not be. I am asking for them to be made public.

Senator RUSTON: We will certainly find out for you, but I would suggest that they are. We will certainly find out for you on notice.

Answer:

The minutes from Agricultural Industry Advisory Council meetings are not on the public record. Discussions between the minister and his council are conducted with the expectation of confidentiality in line with the council members' terms of engagement.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 49

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Agricultural Industry Advisory Council

Proof Hansard page: 16

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: The advisory council for the industry has never dealt with climate change, has it?

Mr Morris: I would have to check that. To the extent that they dealt with drought – to the extent that drought is related to climate change – then you could say there was a connection there.

Answer:

Climate change has not been an agenda item at meetings of the Agricultural Industry Advisory Council (AIAC). However, the AIAC considers the impact of climate variability, and it underpins discussions around research and development, drought preparedness and other initiatives of the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 50

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Agricultural Industry Advisory Council discussed climate change

Proof Hansard page: 16

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: So we are now getting a concession at last that drought could be related to climate change? Is that your position?

Mr Quinlivan: If you are asking whether there was an explicit discussion about climate change and it appeared on the agenda at one or more of these council meetings, then I think we will have to take that on notice and check.

Answer:

Please refer to Question on Notice 49 from the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing in October 2015.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 51

Division: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: White Paper meetings

Proof Hansard page: 17

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: Mr Morris, in relation to the advisory council: how many have you attended?

Mr Morris: I attended the meetings not in my current role, but as the head of the task force dealing with the agricultural competitiveness white paper. I attended the one in Rutherglen in April and the meeting in August in Darwin.

Senator CAMERON: Yes.

Mr Morris: And I think the one in October in Sydney. I might need to double-check my records. We had extensive stakeholder consultations during the white paper, and they are starting to merge together in my brain. But I think those are the three that I have attended.

Answer:

In his role as First Assistant Secretary of the Agricultural Competitiveness Taskforce, Mr Morris attended meetings of the Agricultural Industry Advisory Council in Rutherglen in April 2014, Darwin in August 2014 and Sydney in October 2014.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 52

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Agricultural Industry Advisory Council in Darwin

Proof Hansard page: 18

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: On notice, can you advise me whether you did attend the dinner in Darwin?

Mr Morris: Sure.

Answer:

Please refer to Question on Notice 59 from the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing in October 2015.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 53

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Agricultural Industry Advisory Council

Proof Hansard page: 18

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: How many people attended the dinner in Sydney?

Mr Morris: We do not have that information. I will have to take that on notice.

Answer:

Please refer to Question on Notice 59 from the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing in October 2015.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 54

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Agricultural Industry Advisory Council in Sydney

Proof Hansard page: 18

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: You cannot give us a rough idea? Was it 10? Was it 20? I will not hold you to any figure. I am wanting a rough idea. Did you have one table? Did you have two tables?

Mr Morris: I will have to take it on notice. I do not know for sure. It is something we would have to check.

Answer:

Please refer to Question on Notice 59 from the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing in October 2015.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 55

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Agricultural Industry Advisory Council in Darwin

Proof Hansard page: 18

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: I am just trying to – Mr Morris, you are not sure whether you attended the one in Darwin –

Senator EDWARDS: He goes to dinner every night you know.

Senator CAMERON: You do not go for dinner with the agricultural advisory council every day, do you, Mr Morris?

Mr Morris: No. We will have to check. We have some –

Senator CAMERON: How many were at this dinner? Can anyone tell me how many attended the dinner?

Mr Quinlivan: I think we have already established that we do not have a document here which answers the specific question about attendance at these dinners.

CHAIR: So you will take that on notice.

Mr Quinlivan: Mr Morris has said that he will see what information we have for you but we do not have it here at the table.

Senator CAMERON: Mr Quinlivan, I appreciate your commitment to try to help Mr Morris. But surely, Mr Morris, you can remember whether there were two people at the dinner or five, or 10 or scores of people. How many tables –

CHAIR: Would you like to take that on notice, Mr Morris?

Mr Morris: I have already taken it on notice.

Answer:

Please refer to Question on Notice 59 from the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing in October 2015.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 56

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Itemised bill for Agricultural Industry Advisory Council dinner

Proof Hansard page: 18

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: Mr Quinlivan, does the department have access to the itemised bill for these dinners that take place?

Mr Quinlivan: I do not know the answer to that question but we will endeavour to find out.

Senator CAMERON: Can you provide details of the itemised bills for the Darwin dinner, which cost \$1806 in meals and \$912 in drinks? Can you provide details, if you have them, on the pre-meeting dinner for this advisory council in Sydney on 30 or 31 October, where meals were \$1 776 and drinks were \$1 291.40?

Answer:

Please refer to Question on Notice 59 from the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing in October 2015.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 57

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Overnight allowance

Proof Hansard page: 19

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: Could you also advise whether there was an overnight allowance for the delegates to these dinners, whether they were paid an overnight allowance, whether they had a meal component in the overnight allowance or whether that is separate from the overnight allowance, and whether participants at the dinner claimed an overnight allowance in addition to the expenditure on drink and booze at these pre-dinner meetings? Can you take that on notice?

Mr Quinlivan: We will endeavour to answer those questions. The information that we have now got available to us at the table is not consistent with a number of your questions. It looks as if, for most of the functions that you have talked about, the alcohol component is a relatively small part of the total cost – notwithstanding the fact that a number of the functions were meetings with members of the local agricultural community and so on, which did not involve a meal but did involve appropriate hospitality. They were an important networking function for the minister and the members of the council, in which case you would expect there to be a relatively high alcohol proportion –

Senator CAMERON: Would you?

Mr Quinlivan: because that is how Australians provide hospitality.

Senator CAMERON: Is it?

Mr Quinlivan: I think that is perfectly appropriate. But we will come back to you with responses to those questions.

Answer:

The department does not provide members of the Agricultural Industry Advisory Council with an overnight allowance when a dinner is provided. Members can claim a reimbursement of meal costs when a meal is not provided as part of their attendance at a meeting.

Members can also claim a reimbursement for travel expenses. They do not receive a sitting fee.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 58

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Advisory council expenditures

Proof Hansard page: 19

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: For the Devonport meeting, Mr Quinlivan, it is getting better: \$1 651 on meals—this is the pre-meeting dinner—and \$1 770 on drinks. Could we get details of all expenditure in relation to these meetings. This advisory council comes under the auspices of the department, doesn't it? You are responsible for this, aren't you?

Mr Quinlivan: It is an advisory group to the minister. Obviously we cover the expenses of the operations of the council.

Answer:

Please refer to Question on Notice 59 from the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing in October 2015.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture

Question: 59

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Agricultural Industry Advisory Council

Proof Hansard page: 20

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: This is the document that talks about dinner and catering for the Agricultural Industry Advisory Council members prior to their third meeting. This specifically says the purpose of the function is for the members of the council. I want to know how many members attended and how many additional people attended. Maybe the minister can take it on notice. If there were more than the members attending, why did the minister's office narrow this response down to members? I need to know who was there, because obviously Mr Morris thinks he might have been there. So we need to know who was there. That might account for some of the costs that people are talking about. In Darwin – you did not quite make a thousand dollars on booze at that one. The next one that I have in this response says, '30-31 October, dinner and catering for the Agricultural Industry Advisory Council members' – specifically members – 'prior to their fourth meeting'. If that is true, there are 10 members and we can add a few ministerial people on, but then meals were \$1 776 and drinks nearly \$1 300. That specifically says 'members', so we need to clarify who was there. How many people were there and, if more than the members were there, why did the minister not advise Mr Conroy about who was there? On the Devonport meeting it talks about dinner, catering and then 'networking'. There is a specific difference in that response in the third question, where it talks about networking for the Agricultural Industry Advisory Council. The response for meals was \$1 651 and \$1 770. So you are talking about nearly \$4000 for that one prior to the meeting. That includes networking. The other two – one is just over \$3000 and one is \$3800 – plus, with no networking. I understand the arguments that have been put but, given that the minister has been very specific in his response, I would like the department to clarify exactly who was there, what was spent, itemised accounts and all the other questions that I have asked in relation to those issues.

Mr Quinlivan: As in earlier conversation, we do not have that specific information about attendance here. We will take that on notice.

Question: 59 (continued)

Answer:

AIAC Darwin – 21-22 August 2014

The Darwin dinner included the Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP, 11 AIAC members, and seven additional attendees. There was one table. A list of attendees is at Attachment A.

AIAC Sydney – 30-31 October 2014

The Sydney dinner included the Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP, 10 AIAC members and three additional attendees. A list of attendees is at Attachment A. The dinner was preceded by a networking event with industry representatives, hosted and paid by the host member.

AIAC Devonport – 31 March to 1 April 2015

The Devonport dinner included the Hon. Barnaby Joyce, 10 AIAC members and five additional attendees. A list of attendees is at Attachment A. This event was preceded by an industry networking function attended by 36 people (according to RSVP list), paid by the department.

Meeting costs

A breakdown of costs for the networking functions and dinners for the AIAC meetings in Darwin, Sydney and Devonport is provided at Attachment B. Non-alcoholic beverages are reflected in the meals cost.

A breakdown of the Devonport networking function and dinner costs are not included as the venue did not provide an itemised invoice. The earlier cost breakdown (venue hire and catering \$495, meals \$1 651 and drinks \$1 770) included in the PQONs was based on estimated costs provided by the venue ahead of final account payment. The total meeting cost was \$3 850, which included the networking function, dinner, meeting catering (tea/coffee, morning tea and lunch), wifi access, and venue/audio visual/teleconference hire. This cost is \$66 lower than noted in PQONs 1463 and 1436 due to reduced catering costs.

AIAC Darwin dinner (21 August 2014)

Chair

The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP, Minister for Agriculture

AIAC members

Luke Bowen (Host) and Guest

Eliza Brown

David Moon

Rob de Fegely

Kevin Sorgiovanni

Susan Bower

Lenore Johnstone

Hamish McLaren

Stuart Richey

Dean Wormald

Andrew Inglis

Australian Government

Paul Grimes, Secretary, Australian Government Department of Agriculture

Paul Morris, First Assistant Secretary, Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper Taskforce, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet

Lee Cale, Assistant Secretary, Australian Government Department of Agriculture

Sally Standen, Assistant Secretary, Australian Government Department of Agriculture

Minister Joyce's office

Richard Hyett

Brett Chant

AIAC Sydney dinner (30 October 2014)

Chair

The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP, Minister for Agriculture

AIAC members

Susan Bower (Host)

Luke Bowen

Eliza Brown

David Moon

Rob de Fegely

Lenore Johnstone

Hamish McLaren

Stuart Richey

Dean Wormald

Andrew Inglis

Australian Government

Paul Grimes, Secretary, Australian Government Department of Agriculture

Paul Morris, First Assistant Secretary, Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper Taskforce, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet

Question: 59 (continued)

Minister Joyce's office

Richard Hyett

AIAC Devonport dinner (31 March 2015)

Chair

The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP, Minister for Agriculture

AIAC members

Stuart Richey (Host)

Luke Bowen

Eliza Brown

David Moon

Rob de Fegely

Lenore Johnstone

Hamish McLaren

Dean Wormald

Andrew Inglis

Kevin Sorgiovanni

Australian Government

Phillip Glyde, Acting Secretary, Australian Government Department of Agriculture

Lee Cale, Assistant Secretary, Australian Government Department of Agriculture

Lisa Elliston, Assistant Secretary, Australian Government Department of Agriculture

Minister Joyce's office

Richard Hyett

Brett Chant

AIAC Devonport networking function (31 March 2015)

Chair

The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP, Minister for Agriculture

AIAC members

Stuart Richey (Host)

Luke Bowen

Eliza Brown

David Moon

Rob de Fegely

Lenore Johnstone

Hamish McLaren

Dean Wormald

Andrew Inglis

Kevin Sorgiovanni

Australian Government

Phillip Glyde, Acting Secretary, Australian Government Department of Agriculture

Lee Cale, Assistant Secretary, Australian Government Department of Agriculture

Lisa Elliston, Assistant Secretary, Australian Government Department of Agriculture

Question: 59 (continued)

Minister Joyce's office

Richard Hyett

Brett Chant

Industry representatives (based on rsvp to function)

Anthony Brandsema – J & A Brandsema Pty Ltd

Tim Groom – Botanical Resources Australia

Penny Williams (and Brett McGlone) – Penny Williams Consultancy; Consultant to Dairy Australia

Nathan Richardson – Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association, Vegetable Council

Anthony Houston – Houston's Farm

Wayne Johnston – Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association

Stuart Greenhill – Tasmanian Fruit and Vegetable Industry Taskforce

Joe Murrell – Australian Ground Sprayers Association

Simon Drum – Harvest Moon

Mark Kable – Harvest Moon

David Addison – Charlton Farm Produce

Cate and Colin Arnold – Ghost Rock Vineyard

Rob Nichols – Nichols Poultry

Sheralee Davies – Wine Tasmania

Ian Dickenson – Farmer and Private Forest Owner & FIAC member

Gail Richey – Commonwealth Fisheries Association

Tom Fisk – Private Forests Tasmania

Bob Gordon – Institute of Foresters of Australia

AIAC dinners and networking functions for Darwin, Sydney and Devonport

Meeting	Date	Location	Networking function				Dinner			
			Attendees/ Delegates	Food	Alcohol	NF total	Attendees/ Delegates	Food	Alcohol	Dinner total
AIAC 3	21-August-2014	Darwin	N/A	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	19	\$ 1,805.50	\$ 912.00	\$ 2,717.50
AIAC 4	30-October-2014	Sydney	29 Organised and paid for by member host	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	14	\$1,775.95	\$1,291.40	\$3067.35 (includes a 10 percent service charge which as been applied to the meals and drinks costs)
AIAC 5	31-March-2015	Devonport	59	*refer to comments in CSG17			16	*refer to comments in CSG17. Total meeting cost \$3850		

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 60

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Devonport meeting

Proof Hansard page: 21

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: Can you delineate, Mr Glyde, in relation to the Devonport meeting, the amount that was spent on the networking and what was spent at the networking approach, how much was spent on the dinner and itemised accounts of the dinner, both food and alcohol; and again, whether claims were made for meal allowances for the participants in addition to them being provided meals at each one of these forums? Is there any other catering—lunches, for example—associate with this advisory council that we are not aware of?

Mr Morris: There would be morning teas, afternoon teas and possibly lunches.

Senator CAMERON: Can you provide details of all expenditure on all of the lunches?..

Answer:

Please refer to Question on Notice 57 and Question on Notice 59 from the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing in October 2015.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 61

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: PQoN 1463

Proof Hansard page: 22

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: Mr Quinlivan, can you also provide details of the document that you are reading from, compare that to the documents that we have on question No. 1463 and advise us what the discrepancies are?

Mr Quinlivan: We will do that.

Answer:

The two documents Parliamentary Question on Notice (PQoN) 1463 and PQoN 1436 outline costs associated with dinners prior to Agricultural Industry Advisory Council (AIAC) meetings during 2014-15. The key difference between the two documents is that PQoN 1463 outlines venue and catering costs associated with each meeting (eg: morning tea and lunch), whereas PQoN 1436 has grouped these costs in the meal column. The cost for the Devonport meeting was reduced by \$66 to that reported in the above referenced PQoNs. This is due to reduced catering costs from initial quotes.

The AIAC events in these PQoNs also included some government and ministerial representatives.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 62

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Council agenda regarding climate change

Proof Hansard page: 22

Senator SIEWERT asked:

Senator SIEWERT: Has climate change been raised in the past? If so, has there been a brief prepared? Is it discussed regularly?

Mr Morris: We would have to check the agendas for those various meetings. I have not been to them all, so I could not say for sure. I would have to check.

Answer:

Please refer to Question on Notice 49 from the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing in October 2015.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 63

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Council meetings

Proof Hansard page: 23

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: Just before I do move on, can we get a list of all meetings the council has had with the agricultural sector? I would like to know what they are actually doing.

Answer:

As part of the program for Agricultural Industry Council meetings, the following tours with industry in the agriculture sector have been undertaken:

- Export depot – 22 August 2014, Darwin
- Westpac Bank trading floor – 31 October 2014, Sydney
- Harvest Moon (vegetables), Charlton Farm Produce and Petuna Sealord (fish processing plant) – 31 March-1 April 2015, Tasmania
- Harvey Fresh, Harvey Beef and Harvey Water – 14-15 July 2015, Bunbury.

A number of networking functions were also held with industry representatives in association with the meetings in Rutherglen (April 2014), Sydney (October 2014), Devonport (March/April 2015) and Bunbury (July 2015).

The department is not able to provide advice of other meetings council members may have had outside of the formal meetings.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 64

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Function and organisation chart

Proof Hansard page: 34

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: Do you have a schematic of how it works now?

Mr Quinlivan: Those functions are all now in our organisation chart, which is on our website. It is as good a description as any of the functions that have been transferred to the department.

Senator CAMERON: Do you have a copy of that there? Can you take us through how this works?

Mr Quinlivan: I do not, but you have an internet enabled document in front of you.

Senator CAMERON: So where is it?

Mr Quinlivan: Yes, it is. Broadly speaking, David Parker, who was here earlier, is deputy secretary. He has joined the executive of the department. Below him is a water division headed by Tony Slatyer.

Senator CAMERON: Just take me through it. So who is it?

Mr Quinlivan: David Parker is the deputy secretary.

Senator CAMERON: He is the deputy secretary, is he?

Mr Quinlivan: Yes, he is the deputy secretary.

CHAIR: Can you table the document just to make it easier?

Senator CAMERON: Yes. If you have it, you can table it so we can have a look at it.

CHAIR: This is all very repetitive. I have been hearing this repeated for the last 19 years, but for newcomers and interlopers it is new.

Answer:

The document is available on the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources website, www.agriculture.gov.au/about/contactus/org-structure, last updated 23 October 2015 and attached at Attachment A.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 65

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Request on the issue of climate change

Proof Hansard page: 45

Senator CAMERON asked:

Senator CAMERON: As I understand it and as I read it, ABARES got no request on the issue of climate change from the taskforce. Is that correct?

Mr Morris: It is probably correct, yes. I would have to check. We asked a range of requests, including across the broad range of policies that we were looking into.

Answer:

The Agricultural Competitiveness Taskforce did not make a specific request to the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES) on the issue of climate change. However, the Taskforce had access to information that was publicly available from ABARES on climate change and a number of other issues.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 66

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Consultation with stakeholders on the white paper

Proof Hansard page: 46

Senator CAMERON asked:

Mr Glyde: I think what Mr Morris is saying is that we have been consulting with the relevant stakeholders in the implementation of these measures. I have certainly been personally involved in one of them. We are talking to the states and territories about future loan products. There is consultation going on. It is quite different in each of the different measures, as you would expect.

Senator CAMERON: I am not going to ask every person that you think I should ask. I think I am entitled. Tell me if you say I am not entitled to do this. I would like to hear your answer. I am asking the department, at the cross-departmental level, to provide me with information with the consultations that have taken place with stakeholders across the department on the white paper. Can you give me that detail?

Mr Glyde: On notice we can.

Senator CAMERON: So, I do not need to go, as I was just told, to each one?

Mr Glyde: I thought you were asking us to give it to you now.

Senator CAMERON: No.

Answer:

The development of the White Paper included extensive consultations, involving more than 1 000 submissions as well as face-to-face engagement with around 1 000 stakeholders. The Agricultural Industry Advisory Committee, which includes a range of industry stakeholders, is a key part to the ongoing commitment to consultation, including at their recent meeting in Bunbury on 15 July 2015, where the implementation of the White Paper was discussed. The department has regular interactions with stakeholders on all aspects of our work, including the implementation of many White Paper initiatives. Most formal discussions with stakeholders have included discussion on the White Paper in recent months. Consultations specifically to discuss White Paper initiatives have included representatives of various farmer organisations, banking and financial advisor groups, industry groups, insurance service providers, agricultural consultants, and several universities.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 67

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Productivity Commission and Agriculture White Paper

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator SIEWART asked:

The Agricultural White Paper included statements in relation to Productivity Commission reviews into reducing regulation in Australia agriculture, marine fishers and aquaculture industries. What is the status of those items? Has the Department provided any advice to the Minister on drafting the Terms of Reference for those inquiries?

Answer:

As part of the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper the Government is establishing Productivity Commission inquiries into regulations unnecessarily increasing costs to Australian agriculture and to the marine fisheries and aquaculture industries.

On 20 November 2015, the Government released the terms of reference for the inquiry into the regulation of Australian agriculture, with the inquiry to start immediately.

The Government is currently considering the terms of reference for the inquiry into the marine fisheries and aquaculture industries. The department has provided the Minister with advice in relation to these matters.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 68

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Departmental rebranding

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator LUDWIG asked:

1. Has the department/Agency undergone a name change or any other form of rebranding since the leadership change in September, 2015? If so:
 - a. Please detail why this name change / rebrand were considered necessary and a justified use of departmental funds?
 - i. Please provide a copy of any reports that were commissioned to study the benefits and costs associated with the rebranding.
 - b. Please provide the total cost associated with this rebrand and then break down by amount spent replacing:
 - i. Signage.
 - ii. Stationery (please include details of existing stationery and how it was disposed of).
 - iii. Logos
 - iv. Consultancy
 - v. Any relevant IT changes.
 - vi. Office reconfiguration.
 - c. How was the decision reached to rename and/or rebrand the department?
 - i. Who was involved in reaching this decision? ii. Please provide a copy of any communication (including but not limited to emails, letters, memos, notes etc) from within the department, or between the department and the government regarding the rename/rebranding.
2. Following the changes does the department share any goods/services/accommodation with other departments?
3. What resources/services does the department share with other departments; are there plans to cease sharing the sharing of these resources/services?

Question: 68 (continued)

4. What were the costs to the department prior to the Machinery of Government changes for these shared resources? What are the estimated costs after the ceasing of shared resource arrangements?

Answer:

1. a. The department's name changed from 'Department of Agriculture' to 'Department of Agriculture and Water Resources' with the movement of water policy and ministerial oversight of the Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) into the department as confirmed in the Administrative Arrangement Orders issued on 21 September 2015.

No Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (PGPA) Act agencies within the portfolio have had a name change.

- i. There were no reports commissioned to study the name change and no consultants were engaged to manage the name change.

b i -vi. Total estimated cost of the change of name and the transfer of water functions to the department is \$1.533 million. A breakdown of this amount is as follows:

Item	Estimated costing
Canberra and regional building signage	\$0.146m
Airports and seaports signage	\$0.081m
Vessel and fleet signage	\$0.031m
Stationery including new Banners	\$0.004m
Logos	No costs
Consultancy	Not applicable
Any relevant IT changes	\$1.179m
Office reconfiguration/relocation	\$0.045m
Other (includes records audit, additional payroll staff for transfer)	\$0.047m

c. The department's name change occurred as a result of the new Administrative Arrangement Orders (AAO) issues on 21 September 2015. A link to the AAO: www.dpmc.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/AAO_amendment_21_Sept_2015.pdf.

2. The Department of the Environment will provide access to some IT systems and services, and also services in relation to the management of files associated with the water function.

Question: 68 (continued)

3. The department has a range of shared services in place and this will not change as a result of the transfer of the water function.
4. See 3. above.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 69

Division: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Staffing – employment of non-Australian citizens

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator LUDWIG asked:

I refer you to section 22 (8) of the Public Service Act 1999 which says:

"An Agency Head must not engage, as an APS employee, a person who is not an Australian citizen, unless the Agency Head considers it appropriate to do so."

1. Does the department have guidelines or similar to assist Agency Heads to assess when it is appropriate to hire non-Australian citizens? If no, do individual agencies have their own guidelines? If yes to either:
 - a. Please provide a copy.
 - b. When did they come into effect?
 - c. Can Agency Heads decide to go against the advice? If yes, under what circumstances?
2. Are Agency Heads required to provide a reason to anyone for hiring non-Australian citizens? If yes:
 - a. Who are they required to report the reason to?
 - b. Does this reporting happen before or after the hire has been made?
 - c. Is this reason provided in writing? If no, how is it provided?
 - d. Can you please provide a list of reasons that have been used since the Federal election in September, 2013.
3. Are there any provisions to over-rule a Head of Agency's decision to hire a non-Australian citizen? If yes:
 - a. Who can over-rule this decision?
 - b. Under what circumstances can it be over-ruled?
 - c. How many times has this occurred since the Federal election in September, 2013.

Question: 69 (continued)

Answer:

1. The department does not have an internal guideline or similar to assist the delegate of the secretary to assess when it is appropriate to hire non-Australian citizens. The Department operates under the general Australian Public Service principles as they relate to Section 22 of the Public Service Act 1999.
2. No. The delegate of the secretary is not required to provide a reason for hiring non-Australian citizens as these decisions are made where the agency head considers it appropriate to do so.
3. The department has no provisions in place to over-rule a Head of Agency's decision to hire a non-Australian citizen.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 70

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Ministerial personalise stationery

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator LUDWIG asked:

Since the leadership change in September, 2015, how much has been spent by the Ministerial office on personalised stationery for the Minister and the Minister's staff? Please provide a cost breakdown by type of stationery purchased and the quantity of each and whether it was for the Minister or for staff.

Answer:

The department is not aware of any costs accruing from personalised stationery purchased by the Ministerial office since September 2015.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 71

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: White Paper

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator STERLE asked:

1. Has the Minister met with the department to discuss details of the implementation of the White paper initiatives?
2. Provide details of the meetings?
3. What advice did the department provide to the Minister regarding the impact of the changing climate on Agricultural Competitiveness?
4. During previous estimates ABARES provided an answer that “the Minister’s office and other divisions within the department have not specifically requested additional advice on the major risks of climate change on agriculture production from ABARES
 - a. Can you provide details as to why this was not a major consideration during the development of the White Paper?
5. ABARES also provided a list of requests from the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper Taskforce - not one request related to the impact of climate change? Why wasn’t any information requested relating to climate change?
6. Who did provide the taskforce and the Minister’s office with information relating to climate change?
7. Has the department met with industry stakeholders to discuss the detail of the White Paper initiatives?
8. How many times?
9. Provide a list of stakeholders that the department has met with?
10. Has the department undertaken a cost-benefit analysis of each of the funding initiatives?
Example: what is the reality of the \$250 million dollars allocated for 10 years totaling 2.5 billion dollars being taken up by drought-affected farmers?

Question: 71 (continued)

Answer:

1 & 2. Yes. There is extensive ongoing communication between the department and the Minister and his office on White Paper initiatives. Most of the regular meetings between the Minister and departmental executive since 4 July 2015 (launch of the White Paper) have also included discussion of the implementation of the White Paper. The Minister also met with all senior staff responsible for implementing White Paper initiatives on 21 August 2015. Over the course of these meetings all White Paper measures have been discussed.

3. The department provided, and continues to provide, a range of advice to the Minister on climate and how it affects agriculture.

4 & 5. Risk management, including for climatic risk, was a major focus for the White Paper. The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES) has published extensively in these areas and this material is publicly available on the ABARES website.

6. The Taskforce gathered information from a range of sources, including ABARES, government agencies and the public consultation process. This information informed the development of the White Paper.

7, 8 & 9. Yes. The development of the White Paper included extensive consultations, involving more than 1 000 submissions as well as face-to-face engagement with around 1000 stakeholders. The Agricultural Industry Advisory Committee, which includes a range of industry stakeholders, is a key part to the ongoing commitment to consultation, including at their recent meeting in Bunbury on 15 July 2015, where the implementation of the White Paper was discussed. The department has regular interactions with stakeholders on all aspects of our work, including the implementation of many White Paper initiatives. Most formal discussions with stakeholders have included discussion on the White Paper in recent months. Consultations specifically to discuss White Paper initiatives have included representatives of various farmer organisations, banking and financial advisor groups, industry groups, insurance service providers, agricultural consultants, and several universities.

10. The development of the White Paper included estimates of the costs to deliver the particular activities, and consideration of the anticipated benefits the activities will deliver. The Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper reports on the outcomes from this work. Regulation impact statements are also published on the Office of Best Practice Regulation website.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 72

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Secretary's speeches to staff

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator BILYK asked:

Can a copy of any speeches delivered by the Secretary of the Department at any staff meetings in 2015 please be provided?

Answer:

There have been two speeches delivered by the acting Secretary (Phillip Glyde) and Secretary (Daryl Quinlivan) of the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources at staff meetings in 2015:

1. On Wednesday 13 May 2015, acting Secretary Phillip Glyde gave the presentation; Budget 2015-16 All-Staff Briefing, in Canberra, Australian Capital Territory.

A transcript of the acting Secretary's address is provided as **Attachment A**.

2. On Wednesday 23 September 2015, Secretary Daryl Quinlivan gave the presentation; All-Staff Briefing, Secretary Address, in Canberra, Australian Capital Territory.

A transcript of the Secretary's address is provided as **Attachment B**.

Wednesday 13 May 2015, acting Secretary Phillip Glyde, Budget 2015-16 All-Staff Briefing, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory.

The Department of Agriculture has a long and distinguished history: we help build primary industries, we support rural and regional communities, we expand primary industry exports and we safeguard Australia. We safeguard Australia's biosecurity.

What I will cover today includes some of our achievements since last year, our new strategic objectives – all very exciting, the government's budget – what the big picture is, the budget measures that particularly affect us as a department, what that translates to in terms of our departmental budget, what are our priorities for 2015-16, what are the things that we're going to focus on in particular as well as deliver all of the business as usual work that we have to do. And finally how do we make all that happen, how do we coordinate it, how do we bring it together, how do we grow our future.

So our achievements since last year. I guess, from where I sit, and thinking through what we went through in terms of last year's budget, we've achieved a hell of a lot, and certainly a lot more than I expected. We should be really proud of what we've achieved over the last year.

Not only did we deliver on our day-to-day responsibilities, but at the same time, we've helped the government, a new government in particular, deliver a lot of new initiatives. We've also brought the department to a financially stable position after several years of deficit, and it's fairly obvious we've done this with fewer staff. We had 4500 staff in the year before, we came down to around 4 000 in 2014-15.

Some of the statistics – what are some of the things that we did. I'll leave you to read some of them for yourself. But when you sit back and look at them they're pretty staggering. Just the number of mail items, the ministerials we've dealt with, ABARES publications – like the work that APVMA and AFMA do, the work that the RDC's do in research and development. They're all under the radar in a lot of ways, they're not the things that tend to get a lot of mention around question time in parliament; they're the things a lot of our staff are involved in. It's really important that we don't lose sight of how important our business as usual is, and how hard everyone is working to deliver on that.

As I said earlier on, we also did a lot of new initiatives. I just really wanted to perhaps highlight a few just to give you a sense of the range of new initiatives we've had and been able to undertake.

Last week the minister announced the first round of successful projects in the \$100 million rural R&D for profit initiatives. This R&D ultimately will lead to better returns at the farm gate. We've implemented some reforms to agvet chemicals and again that's going to save the industry over a million dollars a year. There's many more reforms going on and it's going to mean we get rid of a lot of red tape, we've made access to chemicals for farmers that much easier. We had a \$9 million fisheries package that included a marine pest review.

We've supported and will continue to support farmers doing it tough. There's been a lot of good hard work in that particular area.

Market access has been a particular priority. In addition to the three free trade agreements the government signed, and this department has had a pretty significant role in, with Korea, Japan and China. We've reopened market access for our export markets in a number of countries and we've maintained it and improved it in others; Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Cambodia and Vietnam. We've opened up the mango trade to the US most recently, the first shipment of 804 cartons arrived in Dallas in February 2015 and no doubt the Americans are enjoying some really high quality produce from here.

Horticultural exports, just to give you an example of the benefit of some of the free trade agreements, things like asparagus, macadamias and mangoes now face zero tariffs going into Japan because of the Australia-Japan free trade agreement.

We've rolled out a package to assist small exporters become large exporters, with a \$15 million package over four years. We've made it a lot easier for clients to talk to us, we've got rid of a raft of telephone numbers and fax numbers that were never answered, and we've got a new website and a single 1800 number.

We're hoping the new biosecurity legislation, which has been many years in the making and replaces a Quarantine Act that's over 100 years old, we were hoping that that might actually get through yesterday or today but time will tell. But we're on the cusp of having that introduced, and we've also implemented illegal logging legislation.

One thing I wanted to stress in particular is deregulation. This an absolute key priority for the government, it's a really important part of its mantra and it's a really important part of its philosophy for this current term. And it was certainly a key priority for us.

In 2014, we identified \$24.5 million reductions in regulatory compliance across a range of areas. This was in relation to agvet chemicals, biosecurity, live animal exports and the work we've done internally on improving the way in which we deliver our services.

This is a huge contribution to our industries and the economy and more importantly these are enduring contributions – once you make these changes, once you get rid of red tape, then that stays. That benefit to industry stays.

The ABARES deregulation unit has done a lot of hard work and has lead the work across the department, but it has involved large parts of the department and the portfolio. It's been a pretty critical thing, and again it's gone unnoticed – below the radar. I really do appreciate that effort.

I'd like to turn to our new strategic objectives. As governments want to do, we've had a really significant change, which I'm thinking not everyone might have noticed, but it really is important. We've had a bit of alphabet soup playing going on; we used to have a thing called the Financial Management and Accountability Act, the FMA Act. We use-to have a Commonwealth and Companies Act, the CAC Act. And they've both been replaced by a shorter acronym, so six letters down to four; Public Governance Performance and Accountability Act. That's been rolled out over the last year, but what it's meant is that we've had to more closely and better define a lot of things – change the way in which we report to government.

We've had to introduce some new strategic objectives that support our outcomes. This yellow book here which is our Portfolio Budget Statements, contains these new strategic objectives; it sets our priorities for the coming year, but these are enduring priorities, they're meant to be priorities that last for some time. I'll come back to what our specific priorities are for 2015-16, but it's about building successful primary industries so we can improve the farm gate returns for agriculture, fisheries, food and forestry industries.

The work that the RDC's do on innovation, bringing new technologies into the agriculture, fisheries and forestry economies makes a huge difference. It's the driver for those successful primary industries.

We're supporting agricultural communities. This is something that Minister Joyce has been particularly big on, we're providing targeted assistance to help primary producers – the families and communities – support them, deal with the adjustment pressures in hard times. Sustainable increases in farm production don't come without healthy farms and healthy rural communities.

We're expanding agriculture fisheries and forestry exports. We're doing our best to sustain natural resources; the water and the land on which our industries depend, and which are a vital part of our environment. And we're also managing biosecurity and imported food risks, we're using evidence based risk management to ensure the safe movement of products in and out of Australia. We're coordinating emergency responses for when we find pests and diseases that shouldn't be here and we're providing certification for exports to meet the importing country requirements. These are really critical, there's a big change, many of you won't have noticed it, but these will be the guiding force for us in the coming years.

Ok, onto the 2015-16 Federal Budget. Many of you will have already had the chance to be swamped by all the media coverage, but it's the second budget for the current government and it demonstrates what they are hoping will be a strong commitment to getting the budget back into surplus.

The themes that you might have heard talked about last night and over the media this morning are all about building a stronger economy, supporting Australian families, a fairer go for Australia and protecting Australia.

All of these budget themes actually impact on our farm families; by providing things like extended benefit in times of hardship, support to enter the job market and tax relief on investment. It's pretty clear the overall trajectory for the budget is to continue in deficit for the next four years, but they've mapped out a clear path towards a surplus. You'll hear Minister Cormann and the treasurer talk a lot about that over the course of the next couple of days as they move out to sell the budget.

I guess the message we've got from that general story is that all of the departments in the commonwealth family will continue to experience a pretty challenging time because the government does have to repair its budget. It does have to have this trajectory towards hitting a surplus and it's going to be pretty important, not just for this coming year, but over the course of the coming years.

So in the rough specifics I suppose the government's projecting an increase deficit of \$35 billion in 2015-16 but they're planning for that deficit to reduce to \$7 billion in three years time. And they're forecasting it will return to surplus in 2019-20.

It's a pretty hard backdrop against what we're all going to be operating in over the next three of four years.

In terms of the specific measures that are affecting our portfolio, the reforms are going to deliver for us some pretty significant funding through a number of key measures. There's been some measures announced before the budget, which is the tradition these days, but there's also a few that are in store.

For those of who have been working on the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper, the Northern Australia White Paper and the Water Infrastructure work, the announcements about those have been deliberately held over and we're expecting them to come before the end of the financial year. So what we're giving you now is what was announced either before the budget or last night by the treasurer.

So a very key element was support for farmers in drought. The minister, the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister announced this over the weekend, \$333 million in assistance for farmers and rural communities to manage through and recover from debt. In addition, last night the treasurer announced accelerated depreciation measures and the minister at his press club breakfast address this morning went into great detail about the significance of these two real farmers – people on the ground – and how this will assist farmers to manage their spending for drought for preparedness but also manage their businesses in times outside of drought.

These depreciation measures will allow farmers to claim deductions for, and they all start in 2016, to claim an immediate deduction for any water structure; bores, dams, pumps etc in the first year, as opposed to currently now it's over three years. They'll also be able to deduct capital expenditure on assets such a liquid feed supplements, storage tanks, silos and bins used for storing dry grain etc over a three year period rather than the longer periods that currently apply. In addition farmers will be able to claim an immediate deduction for costs of fencing.

The \$333 million that was announced on the weekend, \$250 million to continue to extend the existing drought concessional loans and the drought recovery concessional loans, there's \$35 million for programs to manage local infrastructure and employment projects. So this is for communities that are drought affected, not just for farmers, to provide options for people within those communities, as the money flowing into a town begins to dry up because the farmers aren't spending. This is intended to help those communities that have been adversely affected by drought.

There is \$25.8 million for pest animals and weeds management in drought affected areas that will build on the current programs that have been successful in this space.

Importantly there's \$20 million to expand social and community support for farmers and others affected by drought. This includes mental health and counselling and drought coordinators. In addition there's some top-up funding for the rural financial counsellors,

another \$1.8 million on top of the existing \$14.3 million baseline. This is pretty significant drought support.

There's a lot of measures in the PBS as well, I won't go into all of them – relatively smaller measures, but I'd like to highlight a couple that are pretty critical to the operation of the department.

There's one that's called 'Maintain funding for our quarantine border security staff'. This covers the funding that we have for a large part of our biosecurity activity; it's our appropriation work, and it includes our Northern Australian Quarantine Strategy, it pays for 445.8 staff every year.

This particular measure provides some real certainty around our funding operations because it used to be a lapsing programme, but this is now recognised as an ongoing programme. And so it provides us with a lot more certainty into the future for our planning.

We've also received relatively small amounts of money for emerging international airports, so as airports start to take international travellers then we need to provide biosecurity screening services. And that's happening in Townsville and at the Sunshine Coast airports.

We've got additional funding for further analysis of foreign investment proposals that involve agricultural land. Currently we do 75 assessments a year. We're now expecting that we'll be doing 225.

We've got an additional \$1.3 million dollars to provide biosecurity services on Norfolk Island. And there's also the extension of farm household allowance to farmers in hardship who operate in Norfolk Island.

And as I said, I've probably mentioned this several times, we also have the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper, Northern Australian White Paper and the Water Infrastructure and we expect that that will contain significant measures for us into the future.

So that's the plus side. On the negative side, in terms of the savings measures that apply to us, there's no major savings that apply solely to the Department of Agriculture. This is pretty good news from my perspective.

We have a number of whole of government measures that are applied to every department in the commonwealth. One of those is that administered programs, where we spend money on other's behalf, will no-longer receive the indexed increase that would come as a result of increases in the cost of living. That funding has been capped at the current levels so there's a small decrease in that. We've had to make \$200 000 contribution as this department's share to the government's digital transformation agenda, which includes things like funding the MyGov website. And we've also made, which came out in the press yesterday, a contribution to the government's smaller government agenda, which is essentially abolishing a number of committees; structures that we have that were advisory. This doesn't have a budgetary impact on us.

In terms of our outlook then, what does all that mean in gross terms for us. On the left hand side we've got 'total resourcing'

in the billion dollars, so you'll see there that between the green of 2014-15 and the blue of 2015-16 the overall resourcing received has gone down. And that's really, as I mentioned before, a result of some changes to our administered funding and some changes in our concessional loans, and a number of other things as well but there is a slight decrease in the overall amount of resourcing.

But in terms of the money we receive as a department, the appropriation that actually drives the department we have an increase, which is driven in part by the increase in our external revenue through providing more cost recovered services as demand for our services, particularly in the biosecurity space, increases. So we have what I would call a small increase in the amount of money we spend on ourselves.

In gross terms what does this mean in terms of staffing. So the impact in staffing between 2014-15 and 2015-16 is we can expect a small increase in our total staffing levels of about 70 full-time equivalent. These staff will be working on the new measures I've just talked about and also on our cost-recovered work.

As I mentioned earlier on we are also anticipating more increases to staffing as a result of the new measures that come from the white papers etc.

We've had to argue very hard to hang onto a lot of the funds we've had and I for one am really grateful for all the people who've been involved with this. It's a truth that more people work on this book than read it, but that's really something that I very much welcome. It's a vital part of what we do, it's our plan for the future we'll be measured against this in our annual report and I'm just very grateful for all the work that's gone in over the last little while.

So, what are we going to do in 2015-16. We've got some pretty big agendas to deliver on and some very large expectations.

First of all is we have to implement government's agenda. It comes in with election commitments, were going to have a white paper on this and that, we're going to do more work on country of origin labelling for example, we're going to do a lot of things. There's been a lot of planning around this and a lot of work gone into that, a lot of midnight oil burnt in that regard as well. But we're coming into a period of really important delivery. And there's just a few things here I've highlighted; these are absolutely must-delivers for us in 2015-16. Knowing the minister as I do he will switch from arguing very hard for funding for the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper, the Northern Australian White Paper, the Water Infrastructure work, he will expect it delivered the day after it's announced. So we're going to have to work very hard to keep up with his expectations.

As I said before, the Biosecurity Bill, it's going to become reality hopefully very soon. Colin Grant and the whole team, and the people working on the transition from our existing post entry quarantine facilities into our new facility in Mickleham are going to be really busy turning things on and making things happen.

We've been, in part, able to restore our budget to health. We are no-longer running a deficit because of the really hard work we've done in getting agreement of government to

changed cost recovery arrangements. We've now got to make that happen. And we've got to continue to build on the access it's been given through free trade agreements.

It's a big agenda, we have an extremely passionate minister, and we need to move from planning to getting it done.

At the same time, business as usual remains critical and will occupy a large part of the workforce of the department.

We've got to continue to work to be a trusted, effective, transparent, best practice regulator. There's continual improvement we have to do there. We've got to strengthen our decision making and policy advice. We've got to build up our stakeholder engagement and our client participation. And we've got to work harder at being more efficient, more aggressive and professional.

We expect farmers, fishers and foresters to be more productive every year and we've got to do the same.

I'd like to just focus on a couple of these as, I don't have time to go in and get all excited about some of these. One thing I do want to mention though before I get into the detail of two of them. It really has come home to me increasingly as I've been acting, how much weight the minister and the government place on us understanding what the impacts are on real farmers, real fishers and real foresters.

We tend to deal at a national level, we tend to deal with industry associations and when the minister's out selling something he wants to talk about that in terms of 'what does this mean for the farmer down the road'. We've got to work better, put a lot more effort into communicating what we do. We've got a fantastic story, we do great work for the country. Every time you go out and meet someone, every time I go out and meet anyone in the regions or talk to people in Canberra, you see the passion behind our staff. And we don't tell that story well enough.

Just two of those things, in terms of delivering the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper, these are the themes that are in the white paper.

We have new policy proposals, we've got costed proposals that are going to make a significant difference. They're going through the cabinet process at the moment, so I can't reveal what's in there. But we're going to be keeping families on the farm by making a better business environment with less regulation, healthier market competitions, and an improved tax system. We're going to be focused on identifying priority infrastructure projects. We've heard a little bit about that in terms of the announcements that were made about northern Australian investment. \$100 million into beef roads in the north of this country is a down-payment on that.

We've got more of the drought management framework to roll-out, that will provide social support for farming families and businesses. But also will focus really importantly on preparedness and for recovery from drought as well.

Farming smarter, we're hoping there will be further investment in a stronger research and development system. We're going to be working hard on capturing premium agricultural markets and strengthening our biosecurity system.

The other thing I wanted to focus on is that fifth priority, which is about being an efficient, progressive and professional department.

It's fantastic to go and see some of the things that are happening, not everyone gets access to some of the things that we're doing. We have rolled out an online lodgement system for cargo. That's a huge step forward for some of the people that we work with.

The ISD, Information Services Division, has been busy rolling out mobile workforces. I've had the benefit of having an IT mobile tablet. We'll be able to instantaneously improve exports and imports coming into and out of the country. It's fantastic. By not having to carry around lots of different pieces of paper we've made a fantastic innovation. We're becoming modern in what we do.

BICON, the Biosecurity Import Conditions Database, years of work, it's going to be delivered at the end of this year.

We've made it a lot easier for people to come and talk to us, and hopefully that will mean we'll have a better dialogue between our clients and ourselves.

Rehabilitation, and Work Health and Safety. We've invested pretty heavily in this over the last year. All the hard work that we've done is beginning to pay dividends. I really do thank the people in the People Services Branch who've delivered on this. But everyone's been involved in that. Our injury rates are reducing and last week I received a letter from Comcare advising us that our 2015-16 premium will be substantially less than what we budgeted for. This is a real benefit to us, by improving our practices it's going to make a big difference to our bottom line.

I announced earlier on that we're establishing a Workforce Health and Safety Taskforce to really try and drive this work forward. We're not going to shy away from addressing unscheduled absences. If you add it all up, unscheduled absences, many of which are entirely justifiable, across the board costs us \$21 million every year. If we could do better at that we'd be able to employ more people for a start. We really do have to work hard on that particular aspect.

Another area of controversy is our Enterprise Agreement. We've put out our offer and had a large number of meetings right across the workforce. I've got a very clear message back from those meetings that our pay offer is just not there. Message received. Message understood. But we do have to progress the Enterprise Agreement.

We're going to continue to roll out our planning. And as I mentioned before we're going to continue to drive towards being financially stable.

We're not shying away from investing in people. Despite some other cuts that we'll inevitably have to make as we prioritise activities, we're not cutting staff training allocations, we won't be cutting them in the coming year.

What are the key steps to bring all this together, to make it happen. Obviously in the next two months we're going to keep on delivering. There are still a lot of things we have to do for 2014-15. We're going to be planning how we best implement these new strategic objectives, our priorities.

We've got a significant programme of change. I know people find it really confusing. We're changing almost everything all the time and that the one constant we have is change, but we're trying to do better at managing that change and communicating it.

We're going to have in place our Corporate Plan, so we're ready to roll for the start of the financial year. We've almost finalised the internal budget allocations. We're getting better at making those things happen, ready to go at the start of the financial year so people aren't waiting around for months to find out how much they can spend.

We're finalising the high-level divisional plans, and as I said before, and said several times, looking very much forward to the launch of the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper, because it will fundamentally set our agenda for the years to come.

Our job, particularly in the biosecurity area, is to safeguard the country, safeguard our natural resources. This whole thing symbolises to me what we're all on about.

We've got a minister at the moment and a parliamentary secretary who are deeply knowledgeable and deeply passionate about what we do. For those of us who attended the Press Club this morning, it was fantastic to see a passionate minister go about his business, describing his enthusiasm. Wanting to have the department stronger, wanting to put us on the front page. He talked about how, in his achievements over the last 18 months, he was stressing the importance he felt about bringing agriculture into the centre. He called it 'bringing it into centre stage'. He talked genuinely about it being the fifth pillar of the economy. He talked about Australia being the soft commodity power house of the world. He talked about how he brought agriculture into very heart of government. Every morning the leadership group gets together, the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister, and Barnaby Joyce said he's in that meeting and is part of that leadership group. Agriculture, in his words, is there every morning when they're thinking about what their strategy is going to be for the course of the day and beyond. He sees the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper as driving the future. It was fantastic to witness that.

We've all come a long way in the last 12 months, we've all had to endure a fair bit of hardships and I'm particularly proud of everybody's efforts and the work that we've all done.

I'm also realistic, things are going to continue to be tight, and as you can see the overall direction for the government will be further cuts to try and reduce the budget deficit.

The good thing is we're standing against that tide at the moment. We've got really strong prospects for the future. It's a great time for whoever's going to be the secretary of the department, whoever's going to lead us through the next few years, it's a fantastic time to be joining. New biosecurity legislation, stable budget, promise of much more to come in the white papers, it's an exciting time and I hope you share my enthusiasm for it.

Thank you very much for being patient enough to listen to me.

Wednesday 23 September 2015, Secretary Daryl Quinlivan, All-Staff Briefing, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory.

I'd like to start by acknowledging and welcoming our new colleagues from the Department of Environment and I'm sure we've got some of them here today. I'm not sure how many and thank you for coming and joining the freshly named Department of Agriculture and Water Resources. I thought I might start with a few personal observations after three months in the job because I've probably had some measure of objectivity in this period and I'll lose it very quickly, in fact probably have lost quite a lot of it already. But there were quite a few things that struck me when I first arrived that I thought were worth commenting on and the first one was really what happened before I came here because there was quite a lot of very public instability at the top of the portfolio in the department through 2013 and 2014. And there was some quite understandable thinking elsewhere in the government and the APS that there could be some serious problems in the department that were just surfacing periodically and getting that visibility.

That's a common pattern in large organisations as many of you would know.

So when my name was first being discussed as a possible appointee to this position a few well intentioned people warned me to do some proper due diligence and to think carefully before accepting any offers. I loved working here in the period before 2010 so I was very interested immediately. But I took this advice and asked around and I got quite a lot of advice. It was all cautious but also cautiously reassuring and so I went ahead. But I did expect to find that some of the assessments I had been given were a bit rosy. But as it turns out that wasn't the case at all. I haven't found the department to be troubled by any problems that are out of the ordinary and less than quite a few other organisations that I'm familiar with in the Commonwealth. We've got a lot of challenges. Every part of the Commonwealth's got challenges at present but nothing fundamental and nothing that I don't think we can manage.

We are a very complex organisation. That really struck me immediately and in every respect in our functions and our structures, the skills that we require to do our job, the geography of the organisation – we're a global department effectively and also in our financial structure.

I don't think there's any other large Commonwealth agencies that earn 60 per cent of their revenues from levy payers outside the normal budget appropriations and that gives us quite a unique character I think.

It does bring with it too some unusual accountabilities for our costs and the quality of service we provide and that's quite uncomfortable at times. At times there's a degree of scrutiny on us that most departments don't have but it is healthy in the long run. There's no doubt about that.

And then also based on that diversity we've got a wide range of skills and attributes but people work together quite well. So we've got a large number of scientists, economists, vets, researchers. I read the other day that we've got 900 people with science degrees or qualifications in the department. That makes us one of the largest employers of science graduates in Australia. We have biosecurity officers, regulators, policy analysts, administrators, support people in IT, HR, governance, communication specialists, accountants, program

managers and so on. And all of those skills and attributes create the organisation that we have - 4,500 employees almost, \$720 million in revenue and another \$1.2 billion in administered programs. So we're a genuinely large organisation and we are in good financial shape.

That was the first bit of due diligence anybody does coming to a new organisation. "What are the financial challenges you're going to face?" The work of recent years by lots of people has really paid off. We're in excellent financial shape. We will suffer more budget cuts, possibly quite large ones because the Commonwealth Budget is not in good shape and the task to repair the Commonwealth Budget really has barely started. And inevitably we'll have to play some part in that but whatever we're asked to do in that area we're well placed to handle it I think, better than most, not least because so much of our revenue is external.

We've got a government and a minister that are interested in what we do, in Minister Joyce's case with a genuine enthusiasm and a sense of purpose that's quite unusual. And I've really, really enjoyed my time with him over the last three months. These are really great assets for us and were clearly the key things that led to the success in the White Paper outcomes. We wouldn't - in these times we would not have got such generous outcomes had it not been for the personal investment that Minister Joyce made in the decision making processes.

Our internal systems are good, much better than I've been used to in recent years which again is the result of a lot of hard work over a lot of time because I don't think that was the case when I left in 2010 and it's a terrific time to be working on agriculture policy. Until quite recently the main story for agriculture had been falling real prices and rising input prices.

That's been the story really for agriculture for the last century give or take a few wars and commodity price spikes. But at present we're seeing historically high prices and profits for much of broadacre farming. Not in every sector of course and seasonal conditions always vary but nevertheless it's a good time to be in agriculture.

One of the other key changes I've observed since returning has been the focus on service delivery improvement and even the way we talk about this has changed very much. It's a language that I'd rarely heard before I left in 2010 whereas now it's the standard description of what we do in this area and in many ways it's the department's most important function facilitating trade and the movement of people.

We've integrated biosecurity, a broader function than quarantine as we used to describe it, throughout the department generally which has strengthened our sense of purpose considerably. When I left, and I think this had been the case for a very long time, quarantine was considered the business of AQIS while the department 'in proper' in inverted commas, worked on commodity policies etc. So overall this integration is an important improvement.

Those of you who've been here through this time may not have noticed it so much but as someone seeing the before and after story the change is very clear. But also I've got to acknowledge that it has come at some costs and I've been – my attention's been drawn to this quite regularly since I've been here. AQIS staff as they quite sensibly saw themselves had a clear sense of identity and there was a good public understanding of what they did and why it was important. So the pursuit of a more effective biosecurity system and integrated department

was a necessary development and a good thing but we've certainly lost some of this clarity and the further you travel from the Canberra central office the more keenly it's felt by our staff.

So there's no going back on this obviously but in thinking about managing a transition to the new Department of Agriculture and Water Resources we do need to give this some more thought. And it's not just about changing the letterhead. We need to think about it and our sense of identity, talk to people about how to improve it and also to improve public recognition of what we and particularly our biosecurity staff do and the purpose behind their work. So I see that as an important task for us over the next year. So overall my summary of the department as I've found it is that it's well set up. We've got very strong supporters in key positions and we've got high quality and committed staff.

I wanted to just make a couple of comments on the addition of water policy to the department and it's unfortunate David Parker and Tony Slatcher aren't here – I don't think Tony's here today and David's in China. As many of you would know this portfolio was responsible for water before 2007 and it's a key part of the recent Agriculture and Competitiveness and Northern Australia white papers. This will be a really important new function for us.

Those who worked on water and drought-related issues during the period before 2010 which was a very long dry period will be especially aware of how much difference effective water policy can make to rural communities and the agriculture sector. It was – the development of water trading during that period was instrumental in avoiding some real commercial carnage in the irrigation sectors in the Murray-Darling Basin at that time. But one thing - a lot of progress has been made since 2007 - but one thing that I've really been reminded of already in the last week is just how much conflict there is in the water space and I've been reminded of that famous saying that "whiskey is for drinking and water's for fighting over," and already seen quite a lot of conflict over water resources emerging. Only yesterday the minister started getting calls from people with grievances. So that'll be a constant theme in our work from now on.

And the importance water is for us was also highlighted by the appointment of Senator Anne Ruston who I've met and spoken with on several occasions now as the new Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources. She has a natural interest in water as a South Australian representative and has a personal background in irrigation. Her responsibilities will be settled shortly and there'll be an announcement.

Of course the Corporate Plan which we released on the 1st of September doesn't include water policy as one of our key priorities but it will need to do so now. So we'll be making that change shortly. And water policy is a function that is entirely consistent with our sustainable resource policy work, not least in fisheries and forestry. So its inclusion won't change the corporate purpose or outcomes. It will just give us another tool to pursue the outcomes that are already embodied in our Corporate Plan.

And I think it's clear that before the current reform started in 2007, I think there was general consensus that too little water had been reserved for the main ecological assets in the Murray-Darling Basin and for maintaining a moderately healthy river system. And the agriculture and irrigation sectors were also victims of that over allocation in the long run. And since then we've been having – we've just been having a debate not about the merits of water reform but just about how much and how fast, about what volumes are necessary and what combination of

measures can deliver the outcomes in an optimal way. And these questions are largely settled too now – 2,750 gigalitres with a maximum of 1,500 delivered from direct purchases. But the pursuit of least cost measures in triple bottom line terms which is a, you know, a constant priority for this portfolio and our minister. We'll go on and we'll get better at it and it will lead to more refined policy instruments over time.

Across agriculture generally we're all trying to get the maximum sustainable production from the use of natural resources. That's really the fundamental task and that means maintaining that natural base and continuing to improve our use of capital and labour. That's what our entire research and development program is about fundamentally. So water is just another – just another tool for us to use in that pursuit.

So looking back inside the department now the last fortnight illustrates the necessity of responding positively to change. It's just a constant theme in our lives and the pressure is on us to be a best practice policy advisor and regulator and continue to build the department that's capable of delivering services at the required levels. This year's Change Survey shows our department has considerably improved in how we manage change internally and that we're more open change than we were four years ago. It would be a great worry if that weren't the case. But it also says that you want to hear more about change from your managers face to face and more personal discussion of changes and how it directly affects you. And that's something that we need to do as managers in the department.

And now to the Corporate Plan itself; not that I've been avoiding it. Our four year Corporate Plan is the first plan under the new Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act and it sets out the framework for all our business planning and operations. It shows the diversity of our roles and functions and looks at the implementation of our key priorities. These are – it should be no surprise to anyone – the agriculture competitiveness and developing Northern Australia white papers which are key priorities for the government, opening our new post entry quarantine facility which we've just spoken about - and the official opening happens next month and it will be a big event for us - pursuing market access in northern Asia through the new free trade agreements in that region and although there's been a lot of debate about the overall benefits to Australia from those free trade agreements I don't think there's been any question whatsoever that those agreements have been beneficial to the agriculture sector. We'll also be preparing for the new Biosecurity Act to enter into force in June next year and we'll be bringing revised cost recovery arrangements into operation. The Plan also outlines our substantial internal reform agenda including strengthening our capability in intelligence-led risk and evidence based decision making and policy advice. I encourage you all to read the Corporate Plan. It's the foundation document for all of our daily work. Our vision to build a more profitable and sustainable agriculture sector can only be achieved by working together collaboratively and flexibly.

The White Paper measures and the Biosecurity Act are our main new priorities and two very large work programs for the next year. Many of you will already be involved in some way in implementing these. The Agriculture Competitiveness White Paper outlines five key priorities incorporating 31 measures which include a range of new measures to improve the competitiveness of Australian agriculture, building better infrastructure, strengthening our approach to drought and risk management, farming smarter and improving Australia's access to premium markets. And some of these you can look at practical examples of how the activity in

the department really does have a direct impact on the industries that we're responsible for. And the best example of this at present is probably looking at the buoyant conditions being enjoyed by the red meat industries.

Australia exported more than \$13 billion worth of red meat and offal to 123 countries in 2014-15. That is more exports to more countries than ever before. We delivered that and the benefit's enormous. It's delivered resilience and strength and depth to the market here that we've not had before. And it's had a direct impact on prices and therefore profits and therefore the health of rural communities. And that's our work in evidence and that's also why the White Paper has allowed us to invest more in this area with \$31 million to boost market access and appoint five new agricultural counsellors in key market countries.

This reflects the extraordinary value provided by the day to day work of our Exports Division and those who help them win new market access and maintain the access we have. Their work often resembles bureaucratic trench warfare but we are good at this and the people involved stay very focused on the future in the medium term. Thankfully the public hears little of this because it's managed professionally and with reassuring calmness but the lack of public visibility of their work is no indication of the quality and value of it. And so I particularly wanted to note that this morning.

And now to the White Paper on Developing Northern Australia. This was released in June as the Government's plan of action to unlock the potential of the north. It focuses on building priority roads, allowing more diverse use of land, developing water resources, removing red tape, building a sustainable workforce and ensuring effective governance arrangements.

The north is also a biosecurity hotspot of course. We have biosecurity staff in the Torres Strait in Queensland whose professionalism and passion for the job was on show recently for the former Prime Minister as he spent a week in that part of the country. These people have also been important in demonstrating career pathways for Indigenous people generally and the new rangers which we are now employing to work on biosecurity focused roles. This is a key part of our Northern Australia Quarantine Strategy which provides an early warning system for exotic pest, weed and disease detections across Northern Australia and helps address unique biosecurity risks facing the region, many of which are human health related as well of course.

Another massive undertaking for the department will be the implementation of the Biosecurity Act which comes into effect on 16 June next year as I mentioned. Our work to modernise what is 100 year old legislation to meet the contemporary challenges is both complex and essential. The Quarantine Act was written at a time when the population of Australia was less than the current population of Sydney, when people and goods only arrived by sea and there were only two Australian passports in existence. At that time some of the quarantinable diseases of concern were Yellow Fever, Bubonic Plague, Cholera, Leprosy, Smallpox, Typhus and Measles. As you can see the type of threats we face today are very different to those of the past. And just in the past decade alone we've seen the volume of air passengers nearly double, sea containers also nearly double and bulk cargo increase by 16 per cent. So there's both a breadth of risk and a volume effect that we're having to manage.

Our job as management in the department is to make sure that the staff, stakeholders and clients understand their rights and responsibilities under the new Act because they are quite different and to make sure that there's a smooth transition to the new arrangements. We'll

need to make sure that all those parties understand their obligations under the new legislation and our staff are trained and equipped to continue to do their jobs effectively. Over the coming months there'll be a lot of work towards planning and developing the subordinate legislation, policies and procedures. Twenty-five project groups have been established to develop the policy and plans for its implementation.

And now just a few specific comments to finish on. The last APS Employee Census shows us performing well in some areas. Importantly three quarters of us are proud to work in this department. But there are also some areas for development where we got some pretty direct feedback about staff's feeling about our performance and among those were senior leadership capability, dealing with underperformance, internal communication and reducing bullying and harassment. So we have important work to do in those areas and we've got the message from the census. Those census results will be available on mylink and I'd like you to discuss – read those, discuss them and give us your feedback.

Since the census was conducted we've been promoting mental health awareness across the department.

This should be a priority for everyone. Unplanned absences at 16.5 per person per year are too high and reducing these is the best way to increase effective staffing levels. This is a priority for us and we will be working on it assertively over the next year.

And finally a comment on our Enterprise Agreement which has been a source of irritation for all of us I think and which will be available for you to vote on soon after the school holidays.

Affordability has been our main challenge in crafting the EA but with the passage of time and continuing cost savings in the department that affordability has improved. And so we've been able to offer a 4.5 per cent increase which is a significant improvement on the initial offer and the maximum – and is now the maximum increase available to Public Service agencies as you probably know. There'll be a two per cent offer on commencement. We're also adding an annual \$299 health and fitness reimbursement and retaining the stocking allowance in this offer.

Stocking allowance is very important apparently for those who receive it. This reimbursement will operate in a similar way to the previous health and lifestyle reimbursement but with a focus on attendance at work.

So in ending this presentation I'd like again to say to you that I have seen evidence since I arrived here of just how much our work is recognised at the highest levels. The minister recently issued a press release listing two years of achievements and you should have a look at it. It's a very impressive list. I know from my personal interactions with him that he's genuinely grateful and thankful for our professionalism and the pride we take in our work. And his list captures that hard work over the last two years.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 73

Division/Agency: Corporate Strategy and Governance Division

Topic: Ministerial function

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator LUDWIG asked:

In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by current or former Ministers in the portfolio in 2015, can the following please be provided:

- List of functions;
- List of attendees including departmental officials and members of the Minister's family or personal staff;
- Function venue;
- Itemised list of costs;
- Details of any food served;
- Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; and
- Details of any entertainment provided.

Answer:

Please see details at Attachments A and B.

Question: 73 (Continued)

ATTACHMENT A

Date	Function venue	Purpose of Function	List of attendees including departmental officials and staff/family of the minister	Cost of meals	Cost of drinks	Details of any entertainment provided
31 March 2015	Hundred Acres at Ghost Rock, Devonport Tasmania	Networking function and dinner associated with the Agricultural Industry Advisory Council April 2015 meeting.	See Attachment B	\$3850.00 Itemised invoice not provided. This includes networking function, dinner (three course), venue hire, audio visual/teleconference hire, wifi access and meeting catering. Wines: Ghost Rock		none
21 May 2015	Rydges World Square, Sydney NSW	Dinner associated with the Agriculture Ministers' Forum May 2015 meeting	See Attachment B	\$165.60 Commonwealth paid 10 percent of total bill (meals – three course and drinks)	\$79.20 Drinks not itemised	none
14 July 2015	Mojo's Restaurant Bunbury, Western Australia	Dinner and networking function associated with the Agricultural Industry Advisory Council July 2015 meeting.	See Attachment B	\$1480.00 (two-three courses)	\$935.90 Wines: 2013 Thorn-Clarke "Sandpiper" Barossa Valley; 2012 Ferguson Hart Estate, Ferguson Valley; 2011 Willow Bridge Pinot Noir, Chardonnay Pamberton	none

Question: 73 (Continued)

ATTACHMENT A

20 August 2015	Pier One Hotel, Sydney	Official Dinner – Indonesia Australia Partnership on Food Security in the Red Meat and Cattle Partnership	See Attachment B	\$4620.00 (three course)	\$880.00 Wines: Swinging Bridge Sauvignon Blanc; Helm Riesling; Cape Mentelle Shiraz	none
26 October 2015	Mickleham Post-Entry Quarantine Facility 135 Donnybrook Rd, Mickleham Victoria	Official opening ceremony	See Attachment B	\$3457.60 (finger food / tea/coffee)	Nil alcoholic beverages	none

List of attendees

31 March 2015 – Agricultural Industry Advisory Council dinner (Devonport)

The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP
Richard Hyett, Minister Joyce's office
Brett Chant, Minister Joyce's office
Phillip Glyde, Acting Secretary, Department of Agriculture
Lee Cale, Assistant Secretary, Department of Agriculture
Lisa Elliston, Assistant Secretary, Department of Agriculture
Stuart Richey, AIAC member
Luke Bowen, AIAC member
Eliza Brown, AIAC member
David Moon, AIAC member
Rob de Fegely, AIAC member
Lenore Johnstone, AIAC member
Hamish McLaren, AIAC member
Dean Wormald, AIAC member
Andrew Inglis, AIAC member
Kevin Sorgiovanni, AIAC member

31 March 2015 – Agricultural Industry Advisory Council networking function (Devonport)

The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP
Richard Hyett, Minister Joyce's office
Brett Chant, Minister Joyce's office
The Hon. Jeremy Rockcliff MP
Phillip Glyde, Acting Secretary, Department of Agriculture
Lee Cale, Assistant Secretary, Department of Agriculture
Lisa Elliston, Assistant Secretary, Department of Agriculture
Stuart Richey, AIAC member
Luke Bowen, AIAC member
Eliza Brown, AIAC member
David Moon, AIAC member
Rob de Fegely, AIAC member
Lenore Johnstone, AIAC member
Dean Wormald, AIAC member
Andrew Inglis, AIAC member
Kevin Sorgiovanni, AIAC member

Industry representatives (based on rsvp to function)

Anthony Brandsema – J & A Brandsema Pty Ltd
Tim Groom – Botanical Resources Australia
Penny Williams (and Brett McGlone) – Penny Williams Consultancy; Consultant to Dairy Australia
Nathan Richardson – Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association, Vegetable Council

Question: 73 (Continued)

ATTACHMENT B

Anthony Houston – Houston’s Farm
Wayne Johnston – Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association
Stuart Greenhill – Tasmanian Fruit and Vegetable Industry Taskforce
Joe Murrell – Australian Ground Sprayers Association
Simon Drum – Harvest Moon
Mark Kable – Harvest Moon
David Addison – Charlton Farm Produce
Cate and Colin Arnold – Ghost Rock Vineyard
Rob Nichols – Nichols Poultry
Sheralee Davies – Wine Tasmania
Ian Dickenson – Farmer and Private Forest Owner & FIAC member
Gail Richey – Commonwealth Fisheries Association
Tom Fisk – Private Forests Tasmania
Bob Gordon – Institute of Foresters of Australia

21 May 2015 – Agriculture Ministers’ Forum dinner (Sydney)

The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP
The Hon. Niall Blair MLC
The Hon. Jaala Pulford MLC
The Hon. Kenneth Baston MLC
The Hon. Leon Bignell
The Hon. Jeremy Rockliff MP
The Hon. Willem Westra van Holthe MLA
Mr Martyn Dunne, Director General, Ministry for Primary Industries (New Zealand)

14 July 2015 – Agricultural Industry Advisory Council dinner (Bunbury)

The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP
Richard Hyett, Minister Joyce’s office
Melinda Hashimoto, Minister Joyce’s office
Daryl Quinlivan, Secretary, Department of Agriculture
Lee Cale, Acting First Assistant Secretary, Department of Agriculture
Kevin Sorgiovanni, AIAC member
Stuart Richey, AIAC member
Luke Bowen, AIAC member
David Moon, AIAC member
Rob de Fegely, AIAC member
Lenore Johnstone, AIAC member
Hamish McLaren, AIAC member
Dean Wormald, AIAC member
Andrew Inglis, AIAC member
Susan Bower, AIAC member

14 July 2015 – Agricultural Industry Advisory Council networking function (Bunbury)

The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP
Richard Hyett, Minister Joyce's office
Melinda Hashimoto, Minister Joyce's office
Daryl Quinlivan, Secretary, Department of Agriculture
Lee Cale, Assistant Secretary, Department of Agriculture
Kevin Sorgiovanni, AIAC member
Stuart Richey, AIAC member
Luke Bowen, AIAC member
David Moon, AIAC member
Rob de Fegely, AIAC member
Lenore Johnstone, AIAC member
Hamish McLaren, AIAC member
Dean Wormald, AIAC member
Andrew Inglis, AIAC member
Susan Bower, AIAC member

Industry representatives (based on rsvp to function)

John Hartman – Harvey Beef/Minderoo Group
Wayne Shaw – Harvey Beef
Nola Marino – Member for Forrest
John Castrilli – Member for Bunbury
Craig Carbone – Carbone Bros Earthmoving
Neale Armstrong – Harvey Agricultural College
Paul Lorimer – Harvey Fresh
Laurie Sorgiovanni – Harvey Fresh
Jason Sorgiovanni – Harvey Fresh
Richard Eckersley – Harvey River Citrus
Ian Eckersley – Harvey River Citrus
Geoff Calder – Harvey Water
Sam Epiro – Harvey Water/Beef dairy farmer
Phil Depiazzi – WA Farmers Federation
Michael Partridge – WA Farmers Federation
Larry Jorgensen – Wine WA
Harvey Giblett – Newton Orchards Manjimup
Simon Holthouse – Geographe Association

20 August 2015 - Official Dinner – Indonesia Australia Partnership on Food Security in the Red Meat and Cattle Partnership

The Hon Barnaby Joyce MP

Andrew Henderson – Minister Joyce’s office

Vanessa Findlay (Co-Chair) – First Assistant Secretary, Trade and Market Access Division, Department of Agriculture

Angela Corcoran – Assistant Secretary, Indonesia Economic and Political Strategy Branch, South East Asia Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Kym Hewett – Minister (Commercial) & Senior Trade Commissioner, Austrade

Terry Nolan - Director, Nolan Meats PTY LTD

Gary Stark - Managing Director, Stark Engineering Pty Ltd & Warwick Cattle Crush Company

Ken Warriner - Chairman, GRM International.

Dean Merrilees - Minister Counsellor (Agriculture), Australian Embassy in Jakarta

Andrew Simpson - Regional Manager Indonesia, Meat and Livestock Australia

John Ackerman - Board Member, Australia-Indonesia Business Council

Ian Mortimer - Director, Indonesia Partnership Unit

Robin Flint - Assistant Director, Indonesia Partnership Unit

Brindon Garcia - Senior Policy Officer, Indonesia Partnership Unit

Ade Johansyah - Program Mangager, Department of Agriculture

Christine Shannon - Director, Indonesia Economic and Trade Section, DFAT

Brianna Page - Policy Officer, Indonesia Economic and Trade Section, DFAT

His Excellency Franky Sibarani - Chairman of the Indonesia Investment Coordinating Board.

His Excellency Nadjib Riphat Kesoema - Ambassador to Australia.

Himawan Hariyoga (co-chair) – Deputy Chairman for Investment Promotion, Indonesia Investment Coordinating Board

Musdhalifah Machmud – Deputy Minister for Food and Bioresources, Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs

Syukur Iwantoro – Special Advisor – Agricultural Investment, Ministry of Agriculture

Nurimansyah Iman - Indonesian Trade Attaché to Australia - Indonesian Embassy

Muhammad Yani - Ministry of Trade

Irwan Sinaga - Economic Counsellor - Indonesian Embassy

Kris Sulisto – President, Indonesia Australia Business Council

Dimas Brahmantya - Vice President Investment and Procurement, representing

Achmad Fadhiel - Director of Finance - PT Pupuk Indonesia

Juan Permata Adoe – Deputy Chairman for Food and Cattle Industry, Indonesia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Kadin)

Dicky Adiwoso – President Director, PT Agro Giri Perkasa

Siti Marwa – Director of Finance and Administration, PT Berdikari

Andre Omar Hadi - Indonesia Consulate General for Darwin

Ade Padmo Sarwono - Indonesia Consulate General for Perth

Yayan GH Mulyana - Indonesia Consulate General for Sydney

Ikmal Lukman - Director of Sectors Investment Promotion, BKPM

Ahmad Faisal Suralaga - Section Head for Services and Industrial Zone, Directorate of Sectors
Investment Promotion – BKPM

Muhammad Mawardi

Jafi Alzagladi

Gunawan Pramono

Fadriza Sentosa

Abdul Haris Much Achmad

Afiyah Rosalina

Satria Nusantara

26 October 2015 – Opening Ceremony Mickleham Post-Entry Quarantine Facility

The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP

Andrew Henderson – Minister Joyce’s office

Gerard McManus – Minister Joyce’s office

Atteia, Ashraf – Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

Chapman, Tim – Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

Glyde, Phillip – Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

Grant, Dr Colin – Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

Lucas, Jason – Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

Dr Martin, Robyn – Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

O’Connell, Lyn – Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

Quinlivan, Daryl – Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

Ransom, Lois – Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

Ryan, Matthew – Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

South, Jackie – Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

Way, Dennis – Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

25 Departmental staff, including many from Melbourne also attended in an Event-Management capacity managing site tours etc

Arnold, Meredith AusCitrus

Harney, Mary Plant Health Australia

Lamont, Judy Neighbour

Lamont, Rod Neighbour

Petsas, Arthur RPL Consulting

Robinson, Andrew Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis

Smith, Fay Neighbour

Smith, Ronald Neighbour

Wootton, Andrew

Coulter, Stephen Amec Foster Wheeler Specialty Consulting

Arnold, Mike AusCitrus

Chislett, Greg AusCitrus

Eyles, Gary AusCitrus

Herrmann, Tim AusCitrus

Question: 73 (Continued)

ATTACHMENT B

Parr, Wayne	AusCitrus
Smith, Don	Australian Border Force
Krtschil, Hart	Australian Industry Working Group On Biosecurity
Porter, Gavin	Australian Nurserymen's Fruit Improvement Company
McGauran, Peter	Australian Racing Board
Gilkerson, James	Australian Veterinary Association
Martin, Paul	Australian Veterinary Association Victoria
Owen, Barbara	Bob's Bees
Owen, Bob	Bob's Bees
Briggs, David	Briggs Bees
Burgman, Prof. Mark	Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis
Jones, Owen	Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis
Burdette, Steve	Costa Group
Lester, Tim	Council of Rural Research and Development Corporations
McCullough, Sam	CSIRO
Chambers, John	Customs Brokers and Forwarders Council of Australia
Inglis, Tony	Davis Langdon
Ashton, Mike	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries QLD
Perry, Suzy	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries QLD
Constable, Fiona	Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources VIC
Edwards, Jacky	Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources VIC
Malipatil, Mallik	Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources VIC
Meagher, Cassandra	Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources VIC
Milne, Dr Charles	Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources VIC
Rawlin, Grant	Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources VIC
Rodoni, Brendan	Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources VIC
Warner, Dr Simone	Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources VIC
Marheine, Chloe	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning VIC
Stitt, Helen	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning VIC
Elliott, Tooyey	Department of Finance
Hall, Stacie	Department of Finance
Klumpp, Lloyd	Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment TAS
Moisander, Jenny	Driscoll's Australia
Croucher, Cameron	Equine International Airfreight

Mitchell MP, Rob	Federal Member for McEwen
Finnie, David	FINNAirSea Logistics / AFIF
Barlow, Michael	Five D
Mackintosh, Steve	Five D
Owen, Scott	Five D
Darmody, Liz	Fleming's Nurseries
Gillies, Leanne	Fleming's Nurseries
Brooks-Garrett, Travis	Freight and Trade Alliance
Hudson, Andrew	Gadens
McCombie, Jacqui	Globelink International / AFIF
Fleming, Bec	Graham's Factree
Willcocks, Tony	Graham's Factree
Faizoulline, Nikolai	Hampton Hives
Kelly, Andrew	Harness Racing Australia
Atmaca, Adem	Hume City Council
Osborne, George	Hume City Council
Walsh, Kelvin	Hume City Council
Wallace, Quentin	IRT
Andrews, Peter	ITM/ AFIF
Bowen, Chris	Jacobs Group Australia
Karaoutsadis, Stan	Jacobs Group Australia
Scanlan, Julian	Jacobs Group Australia
Oxley, Chris	Jakeman Business Solutions
Harris, Vanessa	Jetpets
Ioannidis-Murfet, Chantel	Jetpets
King, Kristen	Jetpets
Matheson, Sandy	Jetpets
Penny, David	Jetpets
Pinchbeck, Wendy	Jetpets
Urbanski, Renee	Jetpets
Xerri, Sandra	Jetpets
Ingram, Cath	KPMG
Fletcher, David	Labs2Design
Lavelle, Roger	Lavelle Diagnostic Imaging
Angelovski, John	Leighton Contractors
Vargas, Mauricio	Leighton Contractors
Ward, Sebastian	Leighton Contractors
Warwick, Stephen	Leighton Contractors

Begley, John	Ministerial Freight Advisory Council Victoria
Walls, Neil	Neil Walls Consulting Pty Ltd
Donovan, Nerida	NSW Department of Primary Industries
Reid, David	Nursery and Garden Industry Victoria
Taberner, Craig	Nursery and Garden Industry Victoria
Pope-Munro, Renee	Office of the Federal Member for McEwen
Henderson, Andrew	Office of the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources
Moore, Ryan	Office of the State Member for Yuroke
Cheema, Haider	Pet Express Transport Services
Cheema, Taimur	Pet Express Transport Services
Barlass, Martin	Plant Biosecurity CRC
Robinson, Michael	Plant Biosecurity CRC
Fraser, Greg	Plant Health Australia
Gregson, Tony	Plant Health Australia
Kefford, Bruce	Plant Health Australia
Ludowici, Victoria	Plant Health Australia
Noble, Clive	Plant Health Australia
Turner, Rodney	Plant Health Australia
Raven, Geoff	Primary Industries and Regions SA
Collyns, Peter	Qantas Freight
Hoy, Greg	Qantas Freight
Mungall, Ian	Red Jewel Fruit Management
Wilkie, Deirdre	Red Jewel Fruit Management
Spence, Rosalind	State Member for Yuroke
Bolton, Alan	The Lost Dogs Home
Thompson, Kerry	The Lost Dogs Home
Whitton, Dr Chris	U-Vet Werribee Equine Centre
Barons, Martine	University of Warwick
Wandin, Perry	Wurundjeri Tribe Council