

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2010
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: CPD 01

Division/Agency: Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Ministerial staff numbers

Proof Hansard Page: 17 (20/10/2010)

Senator Colbeck asked:

Senator COLBECK—Look, I understand that. Effectively, it is an increase in that context of three ministerial staff in the agency.

Senator Ludwig—No. There were, I think, 11—

Ms Freeman—Yes. Eleven ministerial staff in Minister Burke's office.

Senator Ludwig—Yes. And there continue to be 11.

Senator COLBECK—Yes. That is correct.

Senator IAN MACDONALD—In addition.

Senator COLBECK—Yes. That is right. So with the additional person come additional people. Okay, fine. Are all those positions filled?

Ms Freeman—I think they are currently being finalised, Senator.

Senator Ludwig—I can take that on notice and get back to you. I know that they are not all filled at this point in time. But I cannot recall the exact number.

Answer:

As at 15 November 2010, Minister Ludwig's office is filling two vacancies for his ministerial office.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: CPD 02

Division/Agency: Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Approvals given in the lead up to caretaker and minister's travel

Proof Hansard Page: 18-19 (20/10/2010)

Senator Colbeck asked:

Senator COLBECK—Okay, fine. I want to go to approvals given by the former minister in the lead-up to caretaker. Can you advise me what approvals were made by the minister on the day before caretaker began?

Dr O'Connell—I think we would have to take that on notice, Senator. We assume you mean things like grants appointments and those sorts of things?

Senator COLBECK—Yes. That is what I mean.

Dr O'Connell—No. We would have to take that on notice.

Senator COLBECK—I have a list here of something like 50 Caring for our Country grants that were signed off on the day before caretaker. I do not begrudge any of them getting their money. But, just in the context of the conversation that Senator Macdonald was having earlier, there were a large number of grant programs signed off on the day before caretaker, yet the issue of questions on notice, which I will skip over in my file now that we have done it, does demonstrate a bit of a contrast. It is easy to announce and sign off things that can make people happy and can be announced during an election campaign, but it is not necessarily easy to do questions on notice. Can you give me the total travel costs for the minister for 2009-10, please?

Ms Bie—Much of the travel for the minister is funded through the Department of Finance and

Deregulation, Senator, so we would not be able to.

Senator Ludwig—We may be able to provide you with the total, so you could ask what DAFF provides. I am not sure when the department of finance is appearing, but you could ask them in respect of the—

Senator COLBECK—It would have been easier for me to attend now that you have changed the dates. I will be back to talk to you about that later, because it was earlier in the week.

Senator IAN MACDONALD—Can we get that on notice?

Senator COLBECK—We can ask that on notice anyway.

Answer:

With respect to approvals made by the minister on the day before caretaker began please refer to CPD 06.

With respect to total travel costs for the minister for 2009-10 please refer to CPD 08.

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: CPD 03

Division/Agency: Department of Agriculture Fisheries & Forestry

Topic: Minister's travel

Proof Hansard Page: 19–20

Senator Colbeck asked:

Can you give us a quick travelogue, Minister, of your visits since your appointment? I know one place you have been.

Answer:

As of 31 October 2010, the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator the Hon. Joe Ludwig MP had undertaken the following portfolio related industry visits:

- On 16 September 2010 the minister attended the AgForce conference in Rockhampton, Queensland.
- On 21 September 2010 the minister visited the Royal Melbourne Show in Victoria and met with industry stakeholders and his state counterpart.
- On 22 and 23 September 2010 the minister visited Tasmania and met with his state counterpart, forestry stakeholders and the Wilderness Society and Environment Tasmania. The minister also met with members of the Tasmanian fruit industry including, Mr Tim Reid, managing director of Reid Fruits and representatives of Fruit Growers Tasmania.
- On 1 October 2010 the minister visited Brewarrina and Bourke in New South Wales. He met with the Mayor of Brewarrina, a local landholder, the Chief Executive Officer of Brewarrina Shire, and the Brewarrina Livestock Health and Pest Authority.
- On the 4–7 October 2010 the minister visited Perth, Mukinbudin, Fremantle, Baldivis and Lake Grace in Western Australia. The minister met with farmers to discuss the pilot of drought reform measures, the Hon. Terry Redman, Minister for Agriculture, Food and Forestry, representatives and members of VegetablesWA, the Western Australian Farmers Federation, the Pastoralists and Graziers Association, the Co-operative Bulk Handling Group and the Western Australian Fishing Industry Council. The minister also met with local farmers and producers.
- The Minister also met with peak body and industry representatives and with the Hon. Kim Chance, Chair of the Australian Landcare Council. On 14 October 2010 the minister met with a number of stakeholders in his Brisbane office, including Mr Gerry Gardiner, Director of Asia Pacific Timber Marketing.
- On 29 October 2010 the minister travelled to Kempsey in New South Wales to officially unveil improvements to Australian Solar Timber's processing facility.

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Question: CPD 03 (continued)

- On 30 October Mr Bob Katter MP hosted the minister on a visit to Innisfail, Townsville and Mt Isa in Queensland to meet with sugar cane and banana farmers; mill and union officials; and miners. The minister also spoke at a lunch with the Townsville Enterprise Council with the Hon. Wayne Swan MP, Deputy Prime Minister and Treasurer; and the Hon. Martin Ferguson AM MP, Minister for Resources and Energy.

The minister has not undertaken any international visits.

The above details are also covered in CPD 08.

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Question: CPD 04

Division/Agency: Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Communications

Proof Hansard Page: 20-21 (20/10/2010)

Senator Colbeck asked:

Senator COLBECK—Can you give us the cost of the communications media for DAFF in 2009-10 and the expected cost for this financial year?

Ms Freeman—Just to be clear, when you are saying media—I am not trying to be difficult, Senator—are you talking advertising, marketing or media monitoring?

Senator COLBECK—I would like to know the total cost of communications/media, so I am trying to be as all-encompassing as I possibly can. If that means that you need to give me different categories, that means you need to give me different categories.

Ms Freeman—Okay. I will take that on notice, Senator.

Senator COLBECK—And that would include the total budget for the corporate communications branch of those 51 people.

Ms Freeman—Yes. Certainly.

Senator COLBECK—And those figures for 2009-10 and 2010-11.

Ms Freeman—Certainly.

Answer:

DAFF does not currently have any official advertising campaigns as set out in the *Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies (March 2010)*.

The department's paid advertising is for non-campaign and business as usual communications, purchased through the appointed master media agency (AdCorp) under the Australian Government coordinated procurement arrangements.

Non-campaign advertising includes advertisements to promote tenders, grant rounds, information sessions, operational information and recruitment advertising.

DAFF's advertising expenditure for 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 was \$415 212 as reported in the DAFF 2009-10 Annual Report.

DAFF's advertising expenditure for 1 July 2010 to 30 September 2010 was approximately \$107 939 (inc. GST).

For information on media monitoring costs please see the response to CPD 19.

The Corporate Communications Branch budget for 2009-10 was \$6 500 894 (actual).

The budget allocation for the branch in 2010-11 is \$7 475 952 (allocated).

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Question: CPD 05

Division/Agency: Department of Agriculture Fisheries & Forestry

Topic: Incoming Government Brief

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Fielding asked:

1. Did the department prepare a post-election brief for a returned Labor Government (the so-called 'Red Book')?
2. Can the department provide the committee with a copy of this brief?
3. If not, can the department outline its reasons for refusing to provide a copy of this brief?
4. If the department will not provide a copy of this brief because it contains confidential or sensitive information, can the department provide a redacted copy of this brief as was done by the Treasury Department?
5. Has the Minister given any instructions to the department regarding the release of this brief and if so, what were these instructions?

6. Did the department prepare a post-election brief for a newly elected Coalition Government (the 'Blue Book')?
7. Can the department provide the committee with a copy of this brief?
8. If not, can the department outline its reasons for refusing to provide a copy of this brief?
9. If the department will not provide a copy of this brief because it contains confidential or sensitive information, can the department provide a redacted copy of this brief as was done by the Treasury Department?
10. Has the Minister given any instructions to the department regarding the release of this brief and if so, what were these instructions?

Answer:

1. Yes.
2. No.
3. The department does not provide the content of advice provided to ministers, consistent with the *Government Guidelines for Official Witnesses before Parliamentary Committees*.
4. The briefings prepared for an incoming government, ALP and a Coalition governments are currently subject to a request for access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act). Should the request proceed and the department provide a redacted version of the briefs to the applicant, the department will provide a redacted version of the briefs to the committee.
5. No.
6. Yes.
7. Please see response to Question 2.
8. Please see response to Question 3.
9. Please see response to Question 4.
10. No.

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Question: CPD 06

Division/Agency: Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Items approved prior and during caretaker

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. What approvals were given by the Minister on the day before the Caretaker period began?
2. What approvals were made by the Minister during the Caretaker period, if any?

Answer:

1. Four items were approved by the minister on the day before the Caretaker period commenced (18 July 2010) as follows:
 - Ministerial appointment of the Eminent Scientists Group
 - Referral of three revised exceptional circumstances applications for areas in South Australia
 - Caring for our Country: resubmitted regional base-level funding for Victorian regions
 - Regulation amendment: meat quota fees
2. Six items were approved by the minister during the Caretaker period (19 July 2010 to 7 September 2010):
 - Fifth report on the government's implementation of the Equine Influenza Inquiry
 - Request for the National Rural Advisory Council to assess a request for an annex to the Bundarra Exceptional Circumstances area
 - Australian Fisheries Management Authority - Proposed Acting Chief Executive Officer Appointment
 - Request for the National Rural Advisory Council to assess the Delungra Exceptional Circumstances application
 - One-off grant to support environmental stewardship action on South Australian swamps
 - Recommended proposals under the 2010-11 Caring for our Country business plan - open call.

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: CPD 07

Division/Agency: Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Questions on Notice

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. When were answers to questions on notice for May's Budget Estimates first prepared for the previous Minister? When were they first submitted to the Minister's office?
2. What was the response from the Minister's office? From who? When?
3. What communications were received from the Minister's office about the answers up to the caretaker period? Was there any written communication? What was the nature of this communication?
4. What advice did the Department take on the release of the answers during the caretaker period? (*DEWHA released answers during the caretaker period*)
5. How many answers have yet to be submitted to the Committee? Which ones? And are there any from any previous hearings still to be submitted?

Answer:

1. (a) Confirmation of the final list of Questions on Notice (QoNs) was received from the committee secretariat on the 2 June 2010 and preparation of the draft responses was ongoing from this date.
(b) 43 draft responses were provided to the previous minister's office on 8 July; 85 draft responses were provided to the minister's office on 14 July; and 1 draft response was provided to the minister's office on 16 July.
2. Departmental liaison officers acknowledged receipt on the days responses were provided to the office (refer 1 (b)).
3. Nil.
4. The department was advised by the committee secretariat that QoNs from Senate Estimates hearings could continue to be prepared and submitted to ministers during the caretaker period. The department submitted a total of 129 draft responses to the minister's office for clearance prior to the commencement of the caretaker period. The remaining 29 responses were not submitted to the minister until the completion of the caretaker period as drafting was ongoing.
5. All responses to the QoNs from the May Budget Estimates hearing have been submitted to the committee. There are no outstanding responses from previous hearings.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2010

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: CPD 08

Division/Agency: Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Minister's Travel

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. What was the total cost of travel by the Minister in 2009-10?
2. What was the total cost of travel by his staff in 2009-10?
3. Which places has the new Minister visited since his appointment? What was the cost of travel for these visits? Who accompanied him? What was the cost of travel for these staff?

Answer:

1. Both domestic and international travel costs for the minister are met by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (DoFD), with the exception of car costs, which are met by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. Travel costs for ministerial staff are met by DoFD.

The total cost of travel (both DoFD and DAFF) undertaken by the Minister Burke from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 was \$255 922.23. (Refer *Parliamentarians' Expenditure on Entitlements paid by the Department of Finance and Deregulation* available at <http://www.finance.gov.au/publications/parliamentarians-reporting/index.html>.)

2. Domestic and international travel costs for Minister Burke's staff are met by DoFD.

The total cost of travel undertaken by Minister Burke's staff from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 was \$417 639.00 (DoFD only).

3. Since Minister Ludwig's appointment to the agriculture, fisheries and forestry portfolio on 14 September 2010 up until 20 October 2010, the minister has travelled to:
 - On 16 September 2010 the minister attended the AgForce conference in Rockhampton, Queensland.
 - On 21 September 2010 the minister visited the Royal Melbourne Show in Victoria and met with industry stakeholders and his state counterpart.

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Question: CPD 08 (continued)

- On 22 and 23 September 2010 the minister visited Tasmania and met with his state counterpart, forestry stakeholders and the Wilderness Society and Environment Tasmania. The minister also met with members of the Tasmanian fruit industry including, Mr Tim Reid, managing director of Reid Fruits and representatives of Fruit Growers Tasmania.
- On 1 October 2010 the minister visited Brewarrina and Bourke in New South Wales. He met with the Mayor of Brewarrina, a local landholder, the Chief Executive Officer of Brewarrina Shire, and the Brewarrina Livestock Health and Pest Authority.
- On the 4–7 October 2010 the minister visited Perth, Mukinbudin, Fremantle, Baldivis and Lake Grace in Western Australia. The minister met with farmers to discuss the pilot of drought reform measures, the Hon. Terry Redman, Minister for Agriculture, Food and Forestry, representatives and members of VegetablesWA, the Western Australian Farmers Federation, the Pastoralists and Graziers Association, the Co-operative Bulk Handling Group and the Western Australian Fishing Industry Council. The Minister also met with local farmers, fishers and producers. He also met with peak body and industry representatives and with the Hon. Kim Chance, Chair of the Australian Landcare Council.
- On 14 October 2010 the minister met with a number of stakeholders in his Brisbane office, including Mr Gerry Gardiner, Director of Asia Pacific Timber Marketing.

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Question: CPD 08 (continued)

Location & Date	Cost of minister's travel¹	Ministerial staff accompanying	Cost of ministerial staff travel	Departmental staff accompanying	Cost of departmental staff travel
Rockhampton (Queensland) 16 Sep 2010	\$624.14	1 officer	\$2651.91	Nil	Nil
Location & Date	Cost of minister's travel²	Ministerial staff accompanying	Cost of ministerial staff travel	Departmental staff accompanying	Cost of departmental staff travel
Melbourne – Royal Melbourne Show (Victoria) 21 Sep 2010	\$1508.84	1 officer	\$784.11	Nil	Nil
Hobart (Tasmania) 22-23 Sep 2010	\$1792.90	1 officer	\$1184.60	1 officer	\$1045.96
Brewarrina and Bourke (New South Wales) 1 Oct 2010	\$11 511.00 Charter	2 officers	Nil	1 officer	TBC
Perth, Mukinbudin and Lake Grace (Western Australia) 4-7 Oct 2010	\$4254.10	2 officers	\$8141.14	1 officer	\$3793.22

¹ Domestic travel costs for the minister are met by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (DoFD), with the exception of car costs, which are met by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. Travel costs for ministerial staff are met by DoFD.

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Question: CPD 09

Division/Agency: Corporate Policy Division
Topic: Items returned during the caretaker period
Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. Did the Government, Minister or his office return any documents to the Department once the caretaker conventions began?
2. Did these documents include Ministerial submissions, briefs or notes?
3. How many unread, unsigned or undealt with Ministerial submissions, briefs or notes were sent back?
4. What was the date of the earliest such document that was sent back from the Minister's office and the date of the last?
5. Did the Minister or his office request prior to the calling of the election that no more submissions, briefs or notes be sent?

Answer:

1. Yes.
2. Yes.
3. 68 unsigned ministerial submissions and briefs were returned to the department.
4. The earliest item was dated 19 April 2010 and the latest item was dated 16 July 2010.
5. No.

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Question: CPD 10

Division/Agency: Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Caretaker period

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. What type of work did your portfolio engage in during the 2010 election campaign?
2. Did you receive any requests for information from the Government, your portfolio Ministers or any other Ministers?
3. Will the Department be releasing its Incoming Government Brief ('Red Book')? If yes, when and why? If no, why not?
4. Will the Department be releasing its Incoming Government Brief ('Blue Book')? If yes, when and why? If no, why not?

Answer:

1. The portfolio engaged in ordinary business consistent with the caretaker conventions.
2. Yes, as part of ordinary business consistent with the caretaker conventions.
3. See answer to CPD 05.
4. See answer to CPD 05.

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Question: CPD 11

Division/Agency: Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Commissioned Reports

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio since Budget Estimates 2010? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.
2. How much did each report cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?
3. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

Answer:

1. Nil.
2. Not applicable.
3. Not applicable.

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Question: CPD 12

Division/Agency: Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Appointments

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?
2. What is the gender ratio of appointments made to boards since Budget Estimates 2010?
3. Are you implementing the government target of 40 per cent women appointed to boards?

Answer:

1. As at 2 November 2010:

Portfolio board name	Current gender balance
Cotton Research and Development Corporation	4 male 5 female
Fisheries Research and Development Corporation	7 male 2 female
Grains Research and Development Corporation	6 male 2 female
Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation	5 male 4 female
Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation	5 male 4 female
Sugar Research and Development Corporation	6 male 3 female
Australian Fisheries Management Authority Commission	6 male 3 female
Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation	5 male 3 female
<i>Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority Advisory Board</i>	<i>Nil – positions have lapsed</i>

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Question: CPD 12 (continued)

Wheat Exports Australia	4 male 2 female
National Rural Advisory Council (NRAC)	5 male 3 female
Statutory Fishing Rights Allocation Review Panel	3 male 4 female
Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee	9 male 2 female
Australian Landcare Council	8 male 9 female
Biosecurity Advisory Council	3 male 5 female
Rural Research and Development Council	4 male 6 female
Horticulture Code of Conduct Committee	4 male 4 female
Regional Food Producers Innovation and Productivity Program Advisory Panel	3 male 3 female
Forest Industry Development Fund Advisory Committee	5 male 0 female
Forest Industries Climate Change Research Fund: Assessment Panel	3 male 1 female
Live Trade Animal Welfare Partnership Project Advisory Committee	6 male 2 female

2. The ratio of men to women is 11:6 (or 1.83:1) of appointments made to boards since May 2010.
3. The percentage of women on the boards listed at the response to question 1 is 39 per cent.

NB:

The above figures supplied in the responses to these three questions may include executive directors of research and development corporations who are board members, but are not appointed by the minister. Also included are ex-officio members, regardless of whether they are a government or industry representative.

Appointments to statutory selection committees have not been included. Registrar appointments are also not included in the above figures.

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Question: CPD 13

Division/Agency: Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Community Cabinet

Proof Hansard Page: (20/10/2010)

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. What was the cost of Minister's travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held since Budget Estimates 2010?
2. How many Ministerial Staff and Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meeting?
3. What was the total cost of this travel?
4. What was the total cost to the Department and the Minister's office?

Answer:

1. As at 20 October 2010, Community Cabinet travel costs for the minister and ministerial staff are met by the Department of Finance and Deregulation (DoFD), with the exception of car costs for the minister, which are met by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF).

The cost of Minister Burke's travel and expenses for the one Community Cabinet meeting held since Budget Estimates is \$4,158.66^{1,2,3}. The meeting was held in Perth, Western Australia on 9 June 2010. No Community Cabinet meetings have been held since Minister Ludwig was sworn in.

	DAFF paid costs	DoFD paid costs	Total paid costs
Minister Burke	\$330.00	\$3,828.66	\$4,158.66

2. Two ministerial staff and one departmental staff member travelled with Minister Burke for the Community Cabinet meeting on 9 June 2010.
3. The total cost of the ministerial staff and departmental staff travel for the Community Cabinet meeting on 9 June 2010 was \$9,199.46.
4. The total cost to the department and the minister's office is **\$13,358.12**^{1,2,3}.

	DAFF paid costs	DoFD paid costs	Total costs
Cost of departmental staff attending Community Cabinet	\$3315.94	N/A	\$3315.94
Cost of the minister and ministerial staff attending Community Cabinet	\$330.00	\$9,712.18	\$10,042.18
Total	\$3645.94	\$9,712.18	\$13,358.12

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Question: CPD 13 (continued)

¹Without consultation with the travellers, the information provided by DoFD relies on an assumption that all travel to and from relevant locations immediately before and after the relevant Cabinet meetings, was for the purposes of attending the Cabinet meetings.

²The above figures include airfares, car hire and travelling allowance (including motor vehicle allowance) claims. They do not include travel by taxis (due to the difficulties determining exact destinations using the electronic information as provided by Cabcharge) or travel on special purpose aircraft (which is administered by the Department of Defence).

³The financial information provided includes additional destinations for the Hon Tony Burke MP and travelling officers for the Perth Community Cabinet meeting combined with industry visits. Given the nature of the flight bookings, the costs of the additional destinations are not able to be disaggregated from the cost of travel to attend the Community Cabinet meeting. Therefore, the cost of this combined visit is greater than if the minister had only attended Community Cabinet.

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Question: CPD 14

Division/Agency: Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Cabinet Submissions

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. How much time is spent preparing papers/submissions for Cabinet and Sub-Cabinet Committee meetings?
2. How often must papers/submissions for Cabinet and Sub-Cabinet Committee Meetings be redrafted or relodged? Please provide example of why this would happen (i.e. last minute policy changes or redate papers due to items not being discussed when initially scheduled).

Answer:

1. The department does not record the time spent preparing papers/submissions for Cabinet and Sub-Committee meetings and, as such, this information is not available.
2. All Cabinet submissions are circulated to other relevant agencies for consultation at the exposure draft and coordination draft stages and can also be circulated at a pre-exposure draft stage if necessary. Iterations to submissions are routinely made at the pre-exposure draft and exposure draft stages and are made for a number of reasons including:
 - updating to reflect new or a change of policy
 - updating to remove outdated information as issues change and time passes
 - updating to address other agency comments
 - updating as budgets are discussed and negotiated with the Department of Finance and Deregulation.

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Question: CPD 15

Division/Agency: Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Commissioned Reviews

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. What is the total number of Reviews both completed and ongoing in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency since Budget Estimates 2010?
2. Please provide a breakdown of reviews completed since Budget Estimates 2010 including:
 - when those reviews were provided to Government,
 - estimated cost of producing each review (and total cost) and
 - if the Government has responded to the review or information about when the Government has indicated it will/will not respond to the review.
3. How many reviews are ongoing?
4. How many reviews have been completed since additional estimates?
5. What further reviews are planned in the portfolio/agency?
6. Will any of these reviews cease due to the 2010 Election?

Answer:

1. Thirteen major reviews were either completed or are ongoing since Budget Estimates in May 2010.
2. Two major reviews have been completed since Budget Estimates in May 2010. These reviews, their dates of conclusion and their cost are as follows:

Review title	Date provided to government	Estimated and total cost	Government response to the review
Review of the Sugar Industry Reform Program (SIRP) 2004 to 2008	October 2010	\$420 000	Internal departmental review – not provided to government.

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Question: CPD 15 (continued)

Review title	Date provided to government	Estimated and total cost	Government response to the review
Wheat Export Marketing Arrangements - Public Inquiry	October 2010	The review was undertaken by the Productivity Commission at nil cost to the department.	The government will consider the Productivity Commission's recommendations and consult with industry representatives before finalising a response.

3. Eleven major reviews in the portfolio are ongoing. These reviews, their anticipated dates of conclusion and their estimated cost are as follows:

Review Title	Anticipated End Date	Estimated Cost
Internal government review of biofuels policy	Under consideration by government.	\$109 615 (DAFF costs) This was a joint review by DAFF and Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism (DRET). DRET has policy lead for this review.
Primary Industries Ministerial Council Equine Influenza Expert Review Panel (PIMC EI)	Report received in October 2009 and remains under PIMC consideration.	\$330 500 Of this, \$320 000 was shared by the Commonwealth and states in accordance with an agreed ministerial council formula.

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Review Title	Anticipated End Date	Estimated Cost
An Independent Evaluation and Audit of the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement Industry Development Program	17 December 2010	\$78 379
Feasibility of alternatives to the cancellation provisions under the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1991</i>	31 December 2010	\$132 500
Review industry training associated with AQIS co-regulatory arrangements	28 February 2011	\$93 912
Review and revision of the 2004 National Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks	28 February 2011	\$141 938
Review of AQUAPLAN 2005-2010, Australia's National Strategic Plan for Aquatic Animal Health	April 2011	\$15 000
1994 National Recreational Fishing Policy Review	June 2011	\$197 436
Caring for our Country Review	June 2011	Up to \$500,000
Review of codes of practice for assessment against "Forest practices related to wood production in plantations: National Principles"	30 June 2011	\$517,000

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Question: CPD 15 (continued)

Review Title	Anticipated End Date	Estimated Cost
Efficiency & Effectiveness Review of the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	July 2011	\$49 500 (Joint review between DAFF and the Department of Finance and Deregulation. DAFF will meet the cost of the review).

4. Three major reviews have been completed since additional estimates in February 2010 (two of these are also mentioned in part 1 of this question).

Review title	Date provided to government	Estimated and total cost	Government response to the review
Review of testing protocols of imported seafood	13 May 2010	\$57 860	The government has noted the findings of the review, the recommendations of which are being implemented.
Review of the Sugar Industry Reform Program (SIRP) 2004 to 2008	October 2010	\$420 000	Internal departmental review – not provided to government.
Wheat Export Marketing Arrangements - Public Inquiry	October 2010	The review was undertaken by the Productivity Commission at nil cost to the department.	The government will consider the Productivity Commission's recommendations and consult with industry representatives before finalising a response.

5. Two further major reviews are planned in the portfolio/agency.

The department plans to conduct a review of the Pilot of Drought Reform Measures in Western Australia in 2011.

The department is also planning a review of the *Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines*.

6. No reviews will cease due to the 2010 election.

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Question: CPD 16

Division/Agency: Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Stationery Requirements

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. What are the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. special type of paper, envelopes)?
2. What are the cost of these items? Is the Department/portfolio agencies paying for these?

Answer:

1. The minister and parliamentary secretary require printed 'with compliments' slips and envelopes in various sizes – DL, C4, B4 and C3. These items are printed on standard Tudor Rp 100 percent recycled paper and Tudor RP Recycled 300gsm paper. The paper is 100 percent and 70 percent Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certified Post Consumer recycled pulp under the FSC credit system and is Certified Carbon Neutral under the Greenhouse Friendly Program. The minister and parliamentary secretary use electronic letterhead and do not require printed A4 letterhead.
2. The total cost for the initial supply of these items was \$5,786. In accordance with the minister's and parliamentary secretary's entitlements, the department paid these costs. The ongoing cost of stationary supplies will depend on the use of these items.

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Question: CPD 17

Division/Agency: Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Communications

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. How many DAFF staff undertake communications/media advisory roles? How many are currently assigned to MDB consultations?
2. What was the total cost of communications/media in DAFF in 2009-10? And the expected cost for this financial year?
3. What is the total budget of the Corporate Communications branch of DAFF for 2010-2011? And what was the budget in 2009-10?
4. What campaigns or other form of advertising are scheduled for 2010-2011?
5. When will these run?
6. What is the cost of each of these?

Answer:

1. Please refer to proof Hansard page 20 of 20 October 2010.
2. Please refer to response to CPD 04.
3. Please refer to response to CPD 04.
4. Please refer to proof Hansard page 21 of 20 October 2010.
5. Communication activities for the WA Drought Pilot began on 5 May 2010 and will continue in 2010-11. The pilot will end 30 June 2011. Communication activities for the Australia's Farming Future (AFF) program began in February 2009 and will continue in 2010-11 and 2011-12. The major communication activity for AFF in 2010-11 is a series of information sessions on the program's research findings. The department will continue non-campaign biosecurity and quarantine awareness marketing and communications activities as needed in 2010-11.
6. The amount allocated for communication activities to support the WA Drought Pilot in 2010-11 is \$530 000. The amount allocated for communication activities to support the AFF program in 2010-11 is \$1.2 million. Approximately \$300 000 has been allocated to non-campaign biosecurity and quarantine awareness marketing and communications activities in 2010-11.

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Question: CPD 18

Division/Agency: Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Electoral reports

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. Are there plans to publish a full suite of electoral reports on the Department's website? If not, why not? If so, when? What data will be included?
2. Did the Department prepare electorate level reports for the Government Ministers for the 2010 election? What data is included in these reports? How often is this updated? Why is this material not publicly available? Please provide copy of latest reports.
3. Has electoral specific data been used by the current Government in any grants scheme since November 2007?

Answer:

1. There are no plans to publish a full suite of electoral reports on the department's website as the department does not collect this information.
2. No.
3. The department does not use electoral specific data when administering grants schemes. To meet the *Commonwealth Grant Guidelines*, the department is required to advise the minister or parliamentary secretary if a recommended application falls within his electorate.

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Question: CPD 19

Division/Agency: Corporate Policy Division

Topic: Media Monitoring

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Colbeck asked:

1. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office in the 2009/10 financial year? Which agency or agencies provided these services.
2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Department and its agencies in the 2009/10 financial year? Which agency or agencies provided these services.

Answer:

1. The total cost of media monitoring for the department in 2009-10 financial year was \$283 127. The service was provided by Media Monitors Australia Pty Ltd. Media monitoring is provided daily to the department and is supplied electronically to the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary's offices at no extra cost.
2. Please see answer 1.