Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Tuesday, 29 October 2019] p8440d-8441a

Hon Colin De Grussa; Hon Alannah MacTiernan

DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT — STAFF

- 2504. Hon Colin de Grussa to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:
- (1) I refer to staffing within the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and ask, will the Minister please provide the following information and breakdowns for the number of staff working under each of the following:
 - (a) Director General;
 - (b) Deputy Director General, Sustainability and Biosecurity;
 - (c) Deputy Director General, Industry and Economic Development;
 - (d) Managing Director, Research Development and Innovation; and
 - (e) Managing Director, Capability and Performance?
- (2) For each of the staff identified in (1)(a)–(e), will the Minister please provide the:
 - (a) position title of each staff member;
 - (b) employment level of each staff member;
 - (c) full time equivalent hours of each staff member;
 - (d) geographic location of the office each staff member works from; and
 - (e) portfolio area each staff member is aligned to (i.e. regional development, agriculture or fisheries)?

Hon Alannah MacTiernan replied:

- (1) As at 30 September 2019:
 - (a) 64
 - (b) 756
 - (c) 353
 - (d) 267
 - (e) 248
- (2) (a)–(d) [See tabled paper no 3340.]
 - (e) Staff are not assigned to portfolios of the former agencies, nor is it possible to allocate staff based on former agencies' portfolios. The restructure of the Department's functions and positions to implement the 2017 Machinery of Government changes, has resulted in the realignment of functions and movement of staff from narrow subject-matter specific roles held in these legacy agencies, into broader roles which can provide seamless services across the Department's remit.

While some staff members necessarily continue to provide expertise in one or other area, identification of these staff members would be a significant forensic task and would not provide a meaningful narrative. The outcome of this increasingly embedded merging of staff expertise is the development of a synergy of know-how and strengthening of resource capacity across the previous subject matter areas, rather than defining staff by reference to former agency portfolios.