

FISHERIES — DEPARTMENT — STAFF

3371. Hon Colin de Grussa to the minister representing the Minister for Fisheries:

I refer to the *2020–2021 Budget Paper No. 2, Volume 1*, page 230 in relation to the fact that the 2019–2020 Actual Total Cost of Services is \$50.1 million below the 2019–2020 budget due to unfilled staff vacancies, and I ask:

- (a) how many staff vacancies are there in the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development as of October 2020; and
- (b) can the Minister outline a timeframe for when can we expect these staff vacancies to be filled?

Hon Alannah MacTiernan replied:

- (a) As at 31 October 2020, the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development has a total of 76 recruitment processes in progress.
- (b) This number of recruitment processes is not unusual for an organisation of similar employee size to the Department. It is expected that the vacancies will be filled progressively over next three months.