

OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE — STAFFING

4282. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Minister for Environment

- (1) How many staff were employed in the Office of Climate Change ('the Office') as of 25 October 2010 (excluding staff members on secondment or on leave)?
- (2) Have staffing numbers in the Office declined since June 2010?
- (3) Does the Office currently have a Director on permanent appointment; and
  - (a) if no, how long has the Office been without a Director?
- (4) Has the Office yet delivered to the Minister, or has the Minister instructed the Office to prepare, either a draft document or an Issues Paper for the climate change adaptation and mitigation strategy that was promised by the Liberal Party prior to the 2008 Election; and
  - (a) if not, why not?
- (5) What is the period of proposed public consultation for this new strategy?
- (6) Has any money been allocated in the Office's budget to engage consultants to assist in development of the Strategy or conduct public consultation; and
  - (a) if yes, given the significant delays in the delivery of this Strategy, has any money yet been disbursed to consultants?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

- (1) 12.
- (2) No
- (3) The Level 9 Director's position has been vacant since 20 November 2009 but has been occupied on an acting basis. The office has been under the direction of the department's Director of Strategic Policy and Programs (a Class 1 position).
- (4) The Government's election commitment was "to work with industry, scientists, local government and conservation groups to develop a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy covering each major sector of Western Australian industry as well as urban planning agencies and state water and energy utilities". A working draft of the proposed Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy (CCAMS) has been prepared for consultation within government and subsequent public consultation.
- (5) The form and period of public consultation is yet to be decided.
- (6) The costs of developing CCAMS largely consist of salaries costs. As of 31 December 2010 contract payments of \$36,800.00 to Ernst & Young and \$107,224.41 to AECOM have been made to assist in the preparation of CCAMS.