

SOUTH WEST DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION — PROJECTS

645. Hon Adele Farina to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Regional Development:

I refer to the South West Development Commission's key efficiency indicators for service to regional development as detailed in the *South West Development Commission's 2012–13 Annual Report*, and I ask:

- (a) the average cost per hour of service for regional development for 2012–13 was estimated to be \$178 but the actual figure was \$202, what was the cause of the 13.5 per cent increase in this cost;
- (b) page 75 of the annual report suggests the decrease in project hours and the increase in the average cost per hour is the result of a reduction in staff, yet the 2013–14 Budget papers indicate there were 24 full time equivalents at the South West Development Commission in both 2011–12 and 2012–13, are these two documents not at odds with one another; and
- (c) please detail the reductions in staff as cited in the *2012–13 Annual Report*?

Hon Ken Baston replied:

- (a) Reduction of allocated project budget compared to initial estimates and increased annual leave above initial estimates.
- (b) No.
- (c) Two positions were vacant for part of 2012/13 and were subsequently abolished as part of a restructure commencing in 2013/14.