

Division 71: Water —

[Supplementary Information No B50.]

Question: Mr D.J. Kelly asked for additional information about the “Public Sector Workforce Reform 2013–14 Mid-year Review Adjustment” line item reconciled with the savings that were identified in the previous budget.

Answer:

The spending changes in last year’s budget papers related to savings in 2013-14 and the three forward estimates years are summarised in the table below. The adjustment to the Public Sector Workforce Reform in the 2014-15 budget papers is also included.

Spending Changes :	2013-14 Estimated Actual	2014-15 Budget Estimate	2015-16 Forward Estimate	2016-17 Forward Estimate
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
As per 2013-14 Budget papers:				
Organisation Reform and Efficiency	(1,733)	(1,785)	(1,785)	(1,785)
Program Rationalisation	(1,972)	(2,047)	(2,217)	(2,217)
Public Sector Workforce Reform	(1,873)	(1,645)	(3,241)	(5,193)
Sub-total	(5,578)	(5,477)	(7,243)	(9,195)
As per 2014-15 Budget papers				
Public Sector Workforce Reform 2013/14 Mid-Year Review Adjustment	4,801	4,700	5,709	5,726

[Supplementary Information No B51.]

Question: Mr C.J. Tallentire asked: How many applications for a water licence were refused and how many gicalitres do those refusals represent?

Answer:

24 applications for water licences were refused from 1 July 2013 to 22 May 2014. The total volume of water these represented was 2.129 gicalitres.

[Supplementary Information No B52.]

Question: Mr D.J. Kelly asked for the number of people who applied through the voluntary severance scheme and a breakdown of the positions that were accepted as being separated, and for the number of people who applied through the scheme but were not accepted.

Answer:

A total of 76 people submitted expressions of interest for the Voluntary Separation Scheme. 31 were accepted from the following positions. 44 were not accepted. One was approved as a substituted severance.

Extract from Hansard
 [ASSEMBLY — Thursday, 22 May 2014]
 p679a-681a
 Mr Dave Kelly; Mr Chris Tallentire; Mr Mick Murray

Positions abolished under the Voluntary Separation Scheme 2013-14		
Position Title	No.	
Corporate Strategy and Reform		
Manager Corporate Communications		
Program Manager Finance		
Snr HR Consultant		
HR Consultant		
Communications Coordinator		
Manager, Corporate Governance		
Corporate Strategy & Reform Total	6	
Policy and Innovation		
Director		
Principal Policy Officer		
Program Coordinator		
Policy Officer		
Manager		
Policy Officer		
Policy & Innovation Total	6	
Regional Delivery & Regulation		
Regional Manager		
Program Manager		
Senior Natural Resource Management Officer		
Senior Natural Resource Management Officer		
Project Officer		
Natural Resource Management Officer		
Supervising Technical Officer		
Regional Delivery & Regulation Total	7	
Science and Planning		
Manager		
Program Manager		
Senior Hydrogeologist		
Program Manager		
Senior Hydrogeologist		
Senior Policy Officer		
Environmental Officer		
Project Coordinator		
Environmental Officer		
Scientific Officer		
System Administrator		
Technical Officer		
Science & Planning Total	12	
	31	

[Supplementary Information No B53.]

Question: Mr C.J. Tallentire asked: For how long does a large water licence application have to be advertised? How many licences have had to be advertised for this financial year?

Answer: Licensees have to advertise for one day in a local paper and The West Australian. 67 water licences were issued this financial year (up until 22 May 2014) for volumes above 100 000 kilolitres.

[Supplementary Information No B54.]

Question: Mr D.J. Kelly asked whether the operators of a market garden in the northern suburbs were water licence holders; and, if so, whether they were operating within their licence.

Answer: The operator in question has seven licences to take water. One licence is currently under investigation.

[Supplementary Information No B55.]

Question: Mr M.P. Murray asked: How many new bores have been allocated to the south west Yarragadee aquifer and how many gigalitres of water will be pumped out of that aquifer in a 12-month period?

Answer: Eight new water licences (12 new bores) were issued from 21 May 2013 to 22 May 2014 to allow water to be taken from the South West Yarragadee. The total draw for these licences is 0.1 gigalitres.

[Supplementary Information No B56.]

Question: Mr C.J. Tallentire asked whether the drop-off in commonwealth grants and contributions is the result of the federal government winding up the National Water Commission and the National Water Initiative.

Answer: The breakdown of the Commonwealth grants and contributions is provided in the table below:

Program	2013-14 Estimated Actual	2014-15 Budget Estimate	2015-16 Forward Estimate	2016-17 Forward Estimate	2017-18 Forward Estimate
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Water for the Future					
Urban Waterways Renewal	288	0	0	0	0
City of Geraldton Greenough Stormwater Harvesting Efficiency Project	1,475	100	0	0	0
Implementation Program for the National Framework for Compliance and Enforcement Systems for Water Resource Management	1,295	1,329	671	0	0
Solution & Design Common Registry Solution	282	0	0	0	0
Provision for new Commonwealth funded projects	1,749	2,025	2,025	1,771	1,771
Total	5,089	3,454	2,696	1,771	1,771

The Implementation Program for the National Framework for Compliance and Enforcement Systems supports the promotion and facilitation of the implementation of National Water Initiative commitments. This was funded as part of the Water for the Future program administered by the Commonwealth's Department of Environment.