

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD — RESTRUCTURE

**260. Hon DARREN WEST to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:**

I refer to question without notice 159 asked on 11 March regarding a possible restructure of the Department of Agriculture and Food.

- (1) Will the restructure require any reduction of staffing, and if yes —
  - (a) how many staff are likely to be affected; and
  - (b) will any redundancies be offered?
- (2) Which sections of DAFWA will no longer operate as a result of the restructure?

**Hon KEN BASTON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1)
  - (a) Yes. There will be one less executive director. There may also be a reduction in the number of directors in line with overall reduction in staff numbers over the past four years since the current structure was put in place.
  - (b) No.
- (2) The regional operations and development directorate will cease. The new directorates—irrigated agriculture, grains industry and livestock industries—will have overall responsibility for regional project activities and services in each regional area previously led by the regional operations and development directorate. The other two directorates—biosecurity, and regulations and business support—will also have regional responsibilities.