

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES — FISH EYE ONLINE SERVICE

3717. Hon Adele Farina to the Minister for Fisheries:

I refer to the Fish Eye Online Service, and I ask:

- (a) how much did it cost the Department of Fisheries to develop the computer program delivering the service;
- (b) how many commercial fishers currently use the service;
- (c) is it intended, commencing next year, for commercial fishers to be charged to recoup the cost of developing the program and how much will they be charged;
- (d) is the Minister aware of technical problems with the computer program; and
- (e) will commercial fishers be charged regardless of whether or not they are able to access and use the online service?

Hon Ken Baston replied:

- (a) Fish Eye is the name used to describe an information technology project that has modernised various systems and process used in fisheries management in Western Australia. The project has replaced an outdated licensing system and built a catch and effort system capable of receiving both electronic and paper based returns from fishers. The project has also increased the on line services available to fishers. Expenditure on the various components of this project totalled \$11 million at 30 September 2015.
- (b) The use of Fish Eye is best addressed by examining the services that have been used by fishers. Fish Eye provides for:
 - Catch and effort statistics from fishers to be lodged electronically
 - Licence renewals to be conducted electronically
 - Commercial fishers to trade in quota in real time and analyse their results
 - 3 143 catch returns were submitted electronically by fishers in the West Coast Rock Lobster fishery in the 2014/15 season
 - 2 555 catch returns were submitted electronically by fishers in the West Coast Rock Lobster fishery in the 8 months of the 2015/16 season.
 - 84 catch returns were submitted electronically by fishers in the Abalone fishery since it went live in April 2015.
 - 232 Commercial Fishing Licences have been renewed electronically.
 - 26 temporary transfers of quota in the rock lobster fishery have been completed electronically.
 - 227 licence holders and fishers are registered users of Fish Eye.
- (c) Fishers will be required to repay half of the capital cost of developing Fish Eye. The costs will be recovered interest free over a 10 year period with contributions commencing the year after the relevant fishery has access to Fish Eye. The amount each fishery contributes is detailed in *Attachment 1*
[See tabled paper no 3658.]
- (d) A small number of technical problems with some of the components have been resolved.
- (e) No