

RECOGNISED BIOSECURITY GROUPS

456. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

- (1) What was the total state funding for each of the state's recognised biosecurity groups for each financial year:
 - (a) 2017–18;
 - (b) 2018–19;
 - (c) 2019–20 and
 - (d) 2021–22?
- (2) Why is there a wide range between fund levels of different groups?
- (3) How are the RBGs to seek additional funding?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following response is provided on behalf of the Minister for Agriculture and Food.

- (1) (a)–(d) I have been provided with a table of total public funding amounts for collection for 2017–18 to 2021–22, including declared pest rate and state-matched funds for recognised biosecurity groups to access.

I seek leave to have the response incorporated into *Hansard*.

[Leave granted for the following material to be incorporated.]

Declared Pest Account Funds available to RBGs to access 2017–2022					
Rangelands	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22
Carnarvon Rangelands Biosecurity Association	641,158.20	661,471.60	694,558.00	620,177.67	627,482.57
Goldfields–Nullarbor Rangelands Biosecurity Association	605,112.80	592,685.40	618,549.12	610,839.72	635,555.72
Kimberley Rangelands Biosecurity Association	671,745.40	673,672.20	666,068.40	509,809.68	509,809.78
Meekatharra Rangelands Biosecurity Association	411,567.60	434,239.60	455,637.40	434,775.03	446,216.43
Pilbara Regional Biosecurity Group	396,284.20	417,108.80	406,127.80	341,628.46	342,248.26
Agricultural & South West					
Blackwood Biosecurity Incorporated	n/a	280,740.00	485,960.00	485,840.00	487,880.00
Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association	n/a	211,832.20	266,493.40	312,500.40	346,709.60
Eastern Wheatbelt Biosecurity Group	350,550.00	354,030.00	354,580.00	354,560.00	357,010.00
Esperance Biosecurity Association	n/a	220,440.00	221,900.00	106,100.00	105,900.00
Leschenault Biosecurity Group	n/a	n/a	361,800.00	344,760.00	341,460.00
Midlands Biosecurity Group	n/a	n/a	n/a	327,401.00	347,680.20
Northern Biosecurity Group	n/a	n/a	312,116.60	362,629.00	378,569.20
Peel Harvey Biosecurity Group	n/a	477,780.00	542,940.00	544,560.00	548,040.00
Southern Biosecurity Group	n/a	171,410.00	187,032.00	186,356.00	187,162.00

*n/a – Recognised Biosecurity Group not established at this time.

- (2) Fund levels vary depending on an RBG's operational area size, regional location and local pest management priorities outlined in the operational plan they submit each year.
- (3) RBGs may request the Minister for Agriculture and Food to consider an increase to the declared pest rate with supporting evidence to justify the need. They can also apply for grant funding from other organisations when available.