

COMMUNITIES — STAFFING — KIMBERLEY

Question without Notice 1424 — Answer

HON JACKIE JARVIS (South West — Minister for Agriculture and Food) [5.06 pm]: I would like to provide a response to Hon Wilson Tucker's question without notice 1424 asked on Tuesday, 14 November. I seek leave to have the response incorporated into *Hansard*.

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

I thank the Honourable Member for some notice of this question.

The Department of Communities advises that like other employers and industries, it is facing market challenges such as skilled labour shortages. To attract and retain staff, particularly frontline workers, the State Government has invested \$3.7 million under the Temporary Regional Attraction and Retention Incentive (RARI) scheme. As was announced on 22 June 2023, under the RARI scheme, eligible staff may receive up to \$13,000 in additional financial support in the Kimberley region.

As at 31 October 2023, the Department of Communities headcount in the Kimberley region is 300 with 74.1 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) positions with ongoing recruitment campaigns. It is important to note that the headcount of employees is not directly comparable to FTE positions.
