

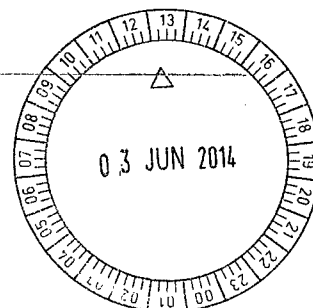


PUBLIC

9/6/2014

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**Hon Ken Baston MLC
Minister for Agriculture and Food**



Our Ref: 47-04561

Ms Hannah Moore
Committee Clerk
Estimates and Financial Operations Committee
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Ms Moore

PRIOR QUESTIONS AHEAD OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BUDGET ESTIMATES

Please find attached answers to 21 questions posed by the Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations as per the Chairman's letter of 16 May 2014.

These questions were asked ahead of the Committee's hearing of the budget for the Department of Agriculture and Food (DAFWA), to be held on 13 June 2014.

I request that the information provided in Attachment 3 of the response – which provides details on DAFWA recipients of a voluntary severance payment – be kept private by the Committee.

The request is sought because, even though names were neither sought nor provided, the combination of position title, age and region – in conjunction for the reasons for payment being awarded – would enable some of the recipients to be individually identified.

Yours sincerely

**KEN BASTON MLC
MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD**

Attachment: Answers to prior questions from the Standing Committee

03 JUN 2014

ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FOR THE 2013-14 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS
FRIDAY, 13 JUNE 2014

Friday, 13 June 2014

Department of Agriculture and Food

Question No 1: Hon Ken Travers MLC asked -

What studies, strategies or plans is the Department currently working on?

Answer:

The Department is finalising its Strategic Plan. This plan aligns the Department's approach and investment with the development priorities of the Minister for Agriculture and Food.

Question No 2: Hon Ken Travers MLC asked -

When is it expected that the study, strategy or plan will be completed?

Answer:

The plan was formally endorsed by the Minister for Agriculture and Food on 26 May 2014. This represented the final approval stage in the plan's development.

Question No 3: Hon Ken Travers MLC asked -

What is the current estimated date when the plan will be publically released?

Answer:

The plan is currently being prepared for publication by mid-June 2014.

Question No 4: Hon Ken Travers MLC asked -

What is the estimated cost of the study, strategy or plan and how much will be spent in the 2014/15 financial year?

Answer:

The development and publication of the plan is estimated to cost \$42,000, of which \$37,000 is for DAFWA staff salaries and on-costs. These funds will be expended in 2013-14.

It is estimated that a further \$20,000 will be spent on communicating the plan to staff and industry during 2014-15.

Question No 5: Hon Ken Travers MLC asked -

Does the study, strategy or plan involve anyone who is not a direct employee of the Department and, if so, who?

Answer:

Specialist services were sought in regard to the graphic design and printing of the plan. These services were provided by *BrainCells* at a cost of \$5,089.92.

No further external expenditure is expected in regard to this plan.

Question No 6: Hon Lynn McLaren MLC asked

I refer to Budget Paper No 2 Volume, "Details of controlled Grants and Subsidies, Research Grant allocation" at page 576 and ask –

a) Please explain the process of allocation of Grants

Answer:

There are different types of grants, and the allocation process varies slightly between each. Allocations are based on 3rd party collaborative research agreements such as research organisations where DAFWA is the lead agency responsible for the outcome of the agreement. Allocations are based on contractual arrangements, and payment is made on the basis of meeting milestones and reporting requirements in accordance with the agreement.

Direct grants are based on agreed outcomes, and payment is made in accordance with the agreement and contractual arrangements.

A number of grants are paid in accordance to the *Community Services in Partnership* Policy, which was developed by the public and not-for-profit sectors to build and support a more mature funding and contracting relationship. Some grants are based on the Commonwealth Primary Industry Standing Committee (PISC) requirements, with these are paid to other jurisdictions for incidents under national contribution funding agreements.

b) What amount is targeted for InterGrain

Answer:

The amount for InterGrain in 2014-15 is based on the Barley Transitional Funding Agreement 2010. This is a commercial agreement for which DAFWA receives additional shares in return for its investment by way of providing discounted services to InterGrain.

The obligation was \$400,000 in 2013-14 with a further \$400,000 in 2014-15. This will be the final year of this arrangement.

c) *What amount is targeted for research related to genetically modified organisms*

Answer:

DAFWA is planning to undertake research projects in relation to genetically modified organisms amounting to \$2.25m over the next four years. Note that this is additional to DAFWA's expenditure on ensuring its New Genes for New Environments facility complies with all Office of the Gene Technology Regulator requirements for such facilities.

Other proposals are being developed and the amounts are unknown at this stage.

d) *Please provide a list of the agencies, businesses and research centres that received funding during this year*

Answer:

The list of agencies is provided as Attachment A.

e) *The difference between budgeted and actual research grant allocations for 2013-14 is \$500,000. What body received the additional \$500,000 and why*

Answer:

In 2013-14 DAFWA received funding of \$133,000 for the resolution of native title in the South West of Western Australia. The remaining \$367,000 was movement during the mid-year review from Subsidies and Other Grants to Research Grant Allocations.

Question No 7: Hon Robin Chapple MLC asked –

I refer to the Departments \$300 million 'Seizing the Opportunity Initiative' Budget Paper on page 570, and ask-

a) *Who are the partners in this project?*

Answer:

The 'Seizing the Opportunity Initiative' is a whole-of-government initiative. The initiative is funded under the *Royalties for Regions* program and, as such, is led by the Department of Regional Development. In reference to the 10 projects that my Department has responsibility for, our key partners are the Departments Regional Development, Water, State Development, Training and Workforce Development, and Lands along with the Regional Development Commissions, industry, and other Government and Aboriginal stakeholders.

b) *What are the objectives?*

Answer:

The overall objective of the initiative is to deliver strategic investment that will remove barriers to agriculture and food sector development in regional Western Australia. The initiative seeks to grow Western Australia's agriculture and food businesses, generating substantial economic and social benefits to the State.

c) *What kind of issues are to be addressed?*

Answer:

The agrifood industry is facing unprecedented opportunities and challenges for growth. The barriers that are limiting the sector's ability to grasp these opportunities include the need to:

- increase access to capital and improve the profitability of agricultural businesses;
- improve productivity growth to remain competitive in a global marketplace;
- manage risks from variability, volatility and production constraints, and changing consumer expectations and the social licence to operate; and
- improve leadership and management, while attracting new entrants to the industry.

Industry and Government view the current situation as an opportunity to double the real-term value of agriculture and food to the state's economy by 2025. The suite of projects will address these challenges through transformational approaches.

d) *Please provide more details on the expected expenditure?*

Answer:

The following table lists the expected name, lead agency and budget (over four years) for each of the 14 projects. All projects are being funded through *Royalties for Regions* and as such are being developed in accordance with that program's due diligence principles and objectives, including being delivered in the regions, through a mixture of government and non-government partners.

As with all *Royalties for Regions* proposals, the release of funds is subject to scrutiny by the Departments of Regional Development and Treasury; and endorsement by Cabinet.

Seizing the Opportunity Agriculture Initiative Projects	Value	Lead Agency
1. Boosting Grains Research and Development	\$20m	DAFWA
2. Helping Grain Growers Manage Risk	\$10m	DAFWA
3. Northern Beef Futures	\$15m	DAFWA
4. Sheep Industry Business Innovation	\$10m	DAFWA
5. Boosting Biosecurity Defences	\$20m	DAFWA
6. Infrastructure Audit and Infrastructure Investment Fund	\$77m	DRD
7. Water for Food	\$40m	DoW
8. Agricultural Sciences Research and Development Fund	\$20m	DAFWA
9. Building a Positive Profile for WA Agriculture	\$19.25m	DAFWA
10. Boosting Business Skills of Agrifood Businesses	\$20m	DAFWA
11. Food Industry Innovation	\$5.75m	DAFWA
12. Asia Market Development/Brand WA	\$13m	DAFWA
13. Development of the Muresk Institute	\$10m	DTWD
14. WA Open for Business	\$20m	DRD

Question No 8: Hon Robin Chapple MLC asked -

Regarding the Strategic Plan, what community consultation has taken place to develop the plan?

Answer:

The new plan is intended to cover the period 2014 to 2017. It is based on the Department's previous strategic plan, which was originally intended to remain in place until mid-2015.

The primary purpose of the new plan is to realign the department's industry development agenda with the priorities of current Minister for Agriculture and Food. As such, consultation has centred on a series of workshops with key industry leaders in between 2012 and April 2013.

Question No 9: Hon Ron Chapple MLC asked -

a) What strategies does the Department have to work with affected business as they seek to restore their financial wellbeing or leave the industry?

Answer:

The Department's strategies are guided by the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) on National Drought Program Reform. This forms the basis of a nationally consistent approach across all Australian jurisdictions. The IGA aims to:

- assist farm families and primary producers adapt to and prepare for the impacts of increased climate variability

- encourage farm families and primary producers to adopt self-reliant approaches to manage their business risks
- ensure that farm families in hardship have access to a household support payment that recognises the special circumstances of farmers
- ensure that appropriate social support services are accessible to farm families
- provide a framework for jurisdictions' responses to needs during periods of drought

The following measures are being implemented under the IGA:

- a farm household support payment
- continued access to Farm Management Deposits (FMDs) and taxation measures
- a national approach to farm business training
- a coordinated, collaborative approach to the provision of social support services
- tools and technologies to inform farmer decision making.
- Future programs related to the objectives of this agreement will be consistent with the principles for reform agreed by the Standing Council on Primary Industries (SCoPI)
- Future programs providing temporary in-drought support will be consistent with the principles and processes agreed by SCoPI.

b) What financial support is included in this project?

Answer:

There is no direct funding into the IGA program for financial support to farmers. However, Western Australia provided its own Assistance Package in response to a number of dry seasons up until early 2013. This involved direct grants of \$25,000 to 239 farm businesses across the wheatbelt and Farm Exit Support Grants to assist those who decided to leave the industry. More recently, the Farm Business Assessment Scheme has provided grants up to \$10,000 to wheatbelt farm businesses to help them to look at the financial situation facing their business and assess their available options.

The WA Government is also in negotiation with the Commonwealth Government on eligibility for the Drought Concessional Loan Scheme (announced in February 2014 by the Prime Minister). This Scheme aims to help drought affected farm businesses access loans of up to \$1 million at a concessional rate of 4% to restructure eligible business debt.

Question No 10: Hon Robin Chapple MLC asked -

Regarding the working to safeguard the State's "enviable biosecurity status and its land, native vegetation, biodiversity and water resources", and I ask-

a) What strategies does the Department have to address the issue raised by the Commissioner for Soil Conservation as summarised on page 164 of the Department's Annual Report.

Answer:

In response to the issues identified in the conclusions of the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (p 164) the department, with industry, promotes sustainable production systems through the following:

In regard to salinity:

- Promoting varieties and species with better salt tolerance for use in salinity prone areas;
- Continuing to regulate drainage to avoid adverse off site impact of salinity;
- Promoting crop production systems that maximise water use and minimise ground water recharge that causes salinity;

In regard to wind erosion, by encouraging farmers to:

- Manage stubble grazing over summer to maintain adequate cover;
- Use reduced disturbance seeding systems which significantly reduce water and wind erosion;
- Retain stubble on wind erosion prone soils;
- Undertake “Smart burning” of header trails;
- Sow crops as early as possible which reduces erosion by increasing ground cover during high rainfall events;
- Address non wetting soils by application of wetting agents and deep soil inversion;
- Seek specific property advice where growers experience serious soil erosion and if necessary where that fails, DAFWA will issue Soil Conservation Notices.

In regard to soil acidity:

- Co-investing with federal and State bodies in research development and extension to manage soil acidity and other constraints such as non-wetting soils and compaction. Through the \$1.6 million Grains Research and Development project for example, DAFWA aims to substantially increase lime use by farmers over the next five years;
- Working with other agencies to ensure ongoing access to lime resources.

In regard to nutrient export by:

- Working with land owners in targeted priority catchments to carry out on-farm soil testing to improve productivity while minimising adverse environmental impacts.
- Working with the Swan River Trust and the Chemistry Centre to evaluate soil amendments that bind nutrients and their effect on water quality and agricultural productivity.

In regard to the rangelands:

- Providing support to the Pastoral Lands Board, including implementation of Rangeland Condition Monitoring which is designed to build pastoral leaseholders’ understanding of the impact of their management on rangeland condition.
- Undertaking the beef industry development program, to build leaseholder’s capacity to apply sustainable stocking rates and develop strategies to manage livestock numbers in seasonal variability.

b) How does the Commissioner's assessment of wide salinization, acidification, soil erosion and loss of fertility match the Departments assessment of "enviable" land status?

Answer:

The State has an "enviable biosecurity status" due to our isolation, which DAFWA is working to safeguard. DAFWA is also working to safeguard the State's land, native vegetation, biodiversity and water resources. Management of these natural resource assets are a challenge due to our climate and fragile soils. Our 'enviable biosecurity status' is not to be confused with the factors associated with the inherent resource condition.

c) What percentage of the 538 FTE workforce mentioned on Page 573 working on this performance indicator work on improvement of soil condition? What percentage work on biosecurity issues?

Answer:

Sixteen percent of the 538 FTEs mentioned work on the improvement of soil condition. Sixty seven percent work on biosecurity issues.

Question No 11: Hon Ron Chapple MLC asked –

How did the Department measure the percentage of achievement towards the key performance indicators mentioned on page 571?

Answer:

The department has four effective indicators. The first indicator compares the extent of co-investment that organisations outside of the State Government contribute to projects led by DAFWA against the State government's investment through DAFWA.

The other three indicators are based on an annual survey, in which respondents are asked to rate DAFWA's impact on their industry in regard to profitability, innovativeness and sustainability. Respondents are asked to rate DAFWA's impact, over the past 12 months, on a scale from 0 to 10, where zero is no impact and 10 is exceptional. Each KPI reports the percentage of respondents who rate DAFWA's impact at 6 or above.

The survey is designed, undertaken and interpreted by Painted Dog, an independent survey company. Responses are gained from a total of 400 business managers or owners.

a) What agencies, farmers and businesses were consulted?

Answer:

Individual respondents are drawn randomly by Painted Dog from a contact list of some 13,000 agrifood businesses supplied by DAFWA. Responses are gained from a total of 400 businesses.

Respondents are grouped into producers, intermediaries (such as processors, transporter and exporters) or agricultural consultants. Producers are further grouped according to their major product: grains, livestock or horticulture. Grain and livestock producers are further filtered to remove small-scale operations that contribute little to the overall economy of those industries.

b) What community consultation was involved in this process?

Answer:

Consistent with DAFWA's role as an economic development department, this survey and the performance indicators focus on businesses rather than communities. DAFWA consults with, and gains the views of, communities through a range of other processes, such as the Tipping Point Conference hosted by DAFWA – through the State NRM Office – held in Busselton in May 2014.

Question No 12: Hon Robin Chapple MLC asked

I refer to page 574, and ask -

Please provide an update to the capital works on the Agriculture Headquarters Redevelopment – Australian Export Grain Innovation Centre, including costs, timelines for completion of capital works, current and future users, percentage of the building used by non-government agencies/business?

Answer:

The project has a budget allocation of \$234m, with a scheduled completion date in 2020-21. DAFWA and Australian Export Grain Innovation Centre will be accommodated in the building. There are no formal agreements to include any non-government agencies/business in the project.

Question No 13: Hon Robin Chapple MLC asked

I refer to page 574, and ask -

Please explain the projected expenditure reduction in the New Climate Environment Facilities in Merredin and Katanning

Answer:

There is no reduction in the funding for The New Climate Environment Facilities in Merredin and Katanning. The project had a total cost of \$3.0 million; the 2013-14 amount of \$675k is the unexpended carry over amount from the 2012-13 year. The construction phase of this facilities development project is now complete.

Question No 14: Hon Lynn MacLaren asked –

I refer to page 579 and please explain the variation in State contributions to natural resources management between 2012 and 2015.

Answer:

The State Natural Resource Management (NRM) Program was initially approved \$30 million in 2009-10 followed by \$34 million over five years in 2010-11.

The amounts between 2012 and 2015 indicated on page 579 of the budget papers reflect the cash flowing of projects receiving those funds and/or re-cashflowing of projects following progress reports.

Question No 15: Hon Lynn MacLaren asked –

I refer to page 579, the “Caring for our Country” is not budgeted in 2014-15, and ask -

a) Please explain why?

Answer:

Administrative arrangements for the Commonwealth Government’s “Caring for our Country” program changed during 2013-14 when funds were no longer required to be channelled through the State.

b) What agencies are going to fulfil the objectives of the projects?

Answer:

“Caring for our Country” is a Commonwealth program jointly administered by the Commonwealth Department of Environment and the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture.

c) What community consultation has preceded the abolition of the program?

Answer:

The abolition of the “Caring for our Country” program resulted from the election of the Federal coalition government in September 2013. Neither the State Government nor its agencies were privy to the nature or extent of community consultation preceding the Commonwealth’s decision to abolish the program.

Question No 16: Hon Robin Chapple MLC asked –

I refer to page 580-581, regarding the future of the Rural Business Development Corporation, and please explain the significant expenditure reductions (see also page 584 under 'Service Appropriation ')?

a) How does the significant budget cut affect the fulfilling of the Regional Business Development Corporation Act 2000?

Answer:

The decrease in 2014-15 compared to 2013-14 in appropriations provided to deliver services is due to the cessation of the State Assistance Package which closed for applications during 2013-14.

b) What agency will fulfil the objectives which the RBDC undertook so far

Answer:

The RBDC is continuing its normal operations.

c) How will this change affect the workforce of the Corporation

Answer:

The RBDC has no staff. Mr Robert Delane, Director General of DAFWA, is also CEO of the RBDC. The RBDC has a memorandum of understanding with DAFWA, under which DAFWA provides staff and other resources needed for the RBDC to undertake its functions.

d) Page 584 contains a budget of \$100,000 for research grants that were not spent in 2013-2014, why not?

Answer:

No new research projects were identified during 2013-14.

e) Page 586, grants and subsidies will be significantly reduced in 2014-2015, please explain why

Answer:

The grant schemes operate for a finite period, and most existing schemes closed for new applications in or before 2013-14. They will cease by 30 June 2014.

The Farm Business Assessment 2014 Scheme will close for applications on 30 November 2014 and funding of \$300,000 has been provided in 2014-15.

f) Please provide details about cashflow from financing activities

Answer:

Under the Commonwealth Farm Finance Concessional Loans Scheme the RBDC can borrow a total of \$50 million from the Australian Government. These funds are to provide loans to farm businesses under that scheme.

The amount of \$4 million shown for 2012-13 relates to the repayment of a Treasurer's advance used to fund grant payments to farm businesses under the Western Australian "Pilot of Drought Reform Measures" in advance of receiving reimbursement from the Australian Government.

Question No 17: Hon Robin Chapple MLC asked –

I refer to page 583, regarding the Commonwealth Concessional Loan Scheme, and ask-

a) How many applications were received?

Answer:

Forty four applications were received for round one.

b) How many loans have been granted?

Answer:

Fourteen applications have been approved as at 21 May 2014.

c) What amount has been handed out?

Answer:

One loan of \$200,000 has been dispersed as at 21 May 2014. It is expected that at least 10 of the 14 currently approved loans will be dispersed before 30 June 2014.

d) What amount has been returned to the Commonwealth?

Answer:

The Commonwealth made up to \$25 million available to Western Australia under this scheme for 2013-14, of which a part advance of \$15 million was paid to the RBDC in January 2014. Of this \$15 million, a total of approximately \$6 million will be on-lent to farm businesses, with the RBDC returning the balance of \$9 million to the Commonwealth.

e) What additional state funding or financial assistance has been provided to WA farmers.

Answer:

No additional state funding or financial assistance has been provided to WA farmers in relation to the Commonwealth Concessional Loan Scheme.

f) Please explain the figures on Commonwealth Grants in the table at Page 586 bottom, especially how the budget and actuals for 2013-14 compare with the total amount made available of \$25million per year.

Answer:

The figures on Commonwealth Grants in the table at Page 586 bottom do not relate to the Commonwealth Farm Finance Concessional Loans Scheme. They relate to Commonwealth funding received for the Western Australian "Pilot of Drought Reform Measures".

Question No 18: Hon R Chapple asked

I refer to page 583, regarding the \$10,000 loans, under the Farm Business Assessment 2014 Scheme to farmers in Yilgarn and Westonia, and ask -

a) How many farmers have applied for the farm loan?

Answer:

As at 21 May 2014 three farm businesses have applied for the grant.

b) How many loans have been granted?

Answer:

As at 21 May 2014 one grant has been approved.

c) What is the average loan amount?

Answer:

It is a \$5,000 grant with a further grant of up to \$5,000 available to eligible farm businesses.

Question No 19: Hon Alanna Clohesy MLC asked

I refer to "Spending changes" at page 569 and ask -

How did the Department meet the 2013-14 Procurement savings of \$2.17m and how is it planning to achieve the estimated savings of this \$3.65m budget

Answer:

DAFWA's procurement savings in 2013-14 were gained from a range of initiatives including but not limited to reductions in:

- airfares and travel expenditure of approximately \$300k;
- temporary labour hire and consultancy expenditure of \$800k,
- our Risk Cover premium of \$650k; and
- general consumable expenditure of approximately \$100k.

For 2014-15 the reduction will be achieved by further reductions in travel – due to the introduction of video facilities – and in operating expenses.

The reductions in operating expenses will come about primarily through:

- a decrease in the number of staff from the recent VSO process;
- changes to DAFWA's organisational structure; and
- a reduction in the number of projects the department runs, which will reduce administration costs, and operational expenses such as lease and hire costs.

Question No 20: Hon Alanna Clohesy MLC asked

Please outline DAFWA's progress in implementing each recommendation made in the Auditor General's Report 18 Managing the Impact of Plant and Animal Pests including whether the Department will meet the timeframes in each recommendation.

Answer:

DAFWA has formed an inter-agency group including the Department of Parks and Wildlife, Swan River Trust and Department of Fisheries to address the recommendations. DAFWA's progress against the recommendations is itemised in Attachment 2.

Question No 21: Hon Alanna Clohesy asked -

Please list the roles, locations and ages of applicants who have received voluntary severance and briefly outline why each of these positions were identified as surplus to requirements.

Answer:

A listing of the roles, locations and ages of all applicants who have received voluntary severance is provided in Attachment 3.

ATTACHMENT 1: Agencies, businesses and research centres that received funding 13/14
(refer Q 6)

Community services

Albany Agricultural Society Inc
Balingup Progress Association Inc
Beverley Agricultural Society
Bindoon and Districts Agricultural Society Inc
Bridgetown Agricultural Society
Bruce Rock and Districts Agricultural Society Inc
Brunswick Agricultural Society Inc
Bunbury Agricultural Society (Inc)
C Y O'Connor Institute
Canning Agricultural Horticultural and Recreational Society Inc
Carnarvon Festival Inc
Central Midlands Agricultural Society (Inc)
Chapman Valley Agricultural Society Inc
Collie Agricultural Society
Corrigin Agricultural Society (Inc)
Dalwallinu & Districts Agricultural Society Inc
Dardanup Bull and Barrel Festival Inc
Donnybrook Apple Festival Inc
Dowerin Events Management (Inc)
Esperance & Districts Agricultural Society
Experience Gidgegannup Inc
Gidgegannup Agricultural Society Incorporated
Harvey Agricultural Society Incorporated
Kalamunda and Districts Agricultural Society Inc
Kalgoorlie Boulder Community Fair Society Inc
Katanning Agricultural Pastoral and Horticultural Society (Inc)
Kellerberrin and Districts Agricultural Society Inc
Kelmscott Agricultural Society
Kojonup Pastoral & Agricultural Society (Incorporated)
Koorda and Districts Agricultural Society Inc
Kununurra Agricultural Society
Margaret River and Districts Agricultural Society Inc
Merredin and Districts Agricultural Society (Inc)
Mt Marshal & Districts Agricultural Society (Inc)
Mullewa District Agricultural Society
Narrogin Agricultural Society Inc
North East Farming Futures Group (Inc)
North Midlands Agricultural Society Inc
North West Expo Inc
Northampton District Agricultural Society Inc
Osborne Park Agricultural Society

Partners in Grain
Perenjori Agricultural Society
Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia Inc
Rural Financial Counselling Service Wa
Southern District Agricultural Society Busselton Inc
Swan View and Districts Agricultural And Art Society
Tambellup Agriculture Society
Upper Blackwood Agricultural Society Inc
Wagin Agricultural Society Inc
Walortim Farm
Waroon Agricultural Society Inc
Warren District Agricultural Horticultural and Industry Society
Wheatbelt Men's Health Inc
Williams Gateway Expo (Inc)
Yeenyellup Trust
Yilgarn Agricultural Society
York Agricultural Society Incorporated

Primary Industry Steering Committee Payments

Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry
Department of Environment and Primary Industries
Plant Health Australia Limited
Primary Industries and Resources SA
Rural Industries Research & Development Corporation
Queensland Dept of Agriculture
Animal Health Australia

Third Party Grants

Agricultural Produce Commission
Badan Tenaga Nuklir Nasional
Curtin University of Technology
Department Of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry
Future Farm Industries CRC Ltd
Micrometeorology Research and Education Services
Murdoch University
North Australia Beef Research Council
Primary Industries and Resources SA
Dept of Trade and Investment Nsw
Queensland Dept of Agriculture
University of WA
University of Queensland

Direct Grants

Department Of Agriculture (Federal)
G. Menegola & Co
Grain Industry Association Of Western Australia (Inc)
RSPCA WA Inc

ATTACHMENT 2: DAFWA's progress against recommendations to the Auditor General's report on managing the impact of plant and animal pests (refer Q. 20)

Recommendation	Due by:	Current progress (as at 27/5/2014)
Re WA pest management framework: ensure that an effective framework for the collaborative management of pests across the state is established and that key roles of government agencies are defined	30 June 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-agency Working Group formed • Advanced draft prepared • Final draft proposed by due date
Re state-wide plan for managing declared pests: develop a state-wide plan for the management of all declared pests	30 June 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-agency Working Group formed and planning consultant appointed • Advanced draft prepared for review by Biosecurity Senior Officers Group • Final draft proposed by due date
Re current declared pest information: ensure that information on the spread, abundance and impact of high priority pests is accurate, current and complete	On-going	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State-wide Plan will describe information management processes and contain actions for on-going improvement.
Re transparent declaration processes: approve its draft policies and criteria to declare pests and establish a transparent process that is visible to external stakeholders	30 June 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant declaration policies and processes are being finalised • The State-wide plan will ensure information provided is consistent across agencies and is available for external access • Will be complete by the due date
Re periodic review of declared pests: establish a program under which the threat posed by potential and declared pests is subject to periodic documented review	30 June 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant review processes are developed within the State-wide Plan • Final draft proposed by due date
Re pest prioritisation processes: develop effective prioritisation processes that ensure its operational resources are directed to combating the highest threats	30 June 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant prioritisation processes are developed within the State-wide Plan • Final draft proposed by due date
Re monitoring and evaluation: develop an effective monitoring and evaluation regime to determine whether planned operational outcomes are being achieved	31 Dec 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework and plan will be developed based on the State-wide Plan by the due date
Re compliance enforcement: where appropriate, make greater use of enforcement mechanisms under the BAM Act to ensure landholders meet their responsibilities to control pests on their land.	On-going	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAFWA is developing an appropriate Compliance Strategy and capacity for enforcement of compliance under the <i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act</i> • Cross-agency arrangements for responsibilities under the BAM Act will be described in the State-wide Plan