

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

QUESTION PRIOR TO HEARING

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Hon Colin de Grussa MLC asked:

- 5) I refer to Budget Paper 2, Volume 1, Division 16, Page 217, line item "Agricultural Research Grant Allocation". Funding for this line item is budgeted at \$4 655 000 in 2019-20 and \$4 709 000 in 2020-21, but increases to \$16 879 000 in 2021-22 and 2022-23 and I ask:
- a) What are these additional funds for?

Answer:

This is an error in the budget statements and will be corrected at the next opportunity.

Following the Machinery of Government, the grants and subsidies in 2021-22 and 2022-23 need to be realigned. The Agricultural Research Grant Allocations should be \$4.2 million in both 2021-22 and 2022-23. Therefore, there are no additional funds in the Agricultural Research Grant Allocations in those years.

The amount required to be realigned relates primarily to grants for regional development.

- b) How will they be distributed?

Answer:

There are no additional funds in the Agricultural Research Grant Allocation to be distributed. Any amounts realigned which primarily relate to regional development, will be distributed under the normal process for such grants.

