



The Hon. Adam Marshall MP
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Western New South Wales

4/10/2019

Director – Budget Estimates Secretariat
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Director

Please find attached the Budget Estimates post-hearing responses in relation to the hearing on 10 September 2019 for the portfolios of Agriculture and Western NSW.

Please find enclosed:

- answers to questions on notice
- answers to supplementary questions
- transcript corrections
- transcript amendment and clarification.

A hard copy will be delivered to your office shortly.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Adam Marshall'.

Adam Marshall MP
Minister for Agriculture and Minister for Western NSW

Encl.

Minister Marshall – Transcript Corrections

Page 18

The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: Is he under the Government Public Sector Employment Act?
Mr HANSEN: With his engagement, his engagement contract will be subject to the same Act, yes.

Correction: It's not the same Act

This will need to be amended with the following reply: Mr HANSEN: With his engagement, his engagement, his engagement contract will be subject to the *NSW Public Works and Procurement Act 1912*.

Page 23 and Page 56

Reference to \$16 million available.

Clarification:

The department had \$16 million set aside for the Business Adjustment Program. By the time the subsidised share trading market (SSTM) opened the government had already approved and funded 112 Fishing Business Buy-outs at a total cost of \$2,240,000, leaving only \$13,760,000 available to be spent in the SSTM.

The Director-General simply meant to say “all of the remaining subsidies were available to be spent”.

Page 69:

Reference to 31.6% variation to RAA budget and treatment of drought funding.

Clarification:

The revised budget 2018/2019 increased to \$164.3 million from an original budget of \$40.5 million as a result of additional funding throughout the period as part of the Emergency Drought Relief Package.

The recurrent reduction seen in 2019-20 to \$112.3 million is not a cut to recurrent operational and service delivery budgets of the RAA, but rather a one-off distribution adjustment within the overall drought funding envelope. This distribution adjustment was based on program demand as at May 2019 when the 2019-20 budget was finalised.

When taking into considering accrued expenditure and distribution in 2018-19 and the application of accounting standards, the year on year funding for Drought and indeed the programs are compatible.