



The Hon. John Ajaka MLC

Minister for Ageing
Minister for Disability Services
Minister for the Illawarra

Mr Stewart Smith
Director
Budget Estimates
Room 812
Legislative Council
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000

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11 September 2014

Dear Mr Smith,

With regards to the Budget Estimates hearing, held on 19 August 2014 on the Illawara portfolio, I enclose the following documents:

1. Answers to Questions taken on Notice during the hearing.
2. Answers to Supplementary Questions on Notice.

Should you require any further information, please contact Nicolle Nasr in my office on (02) 8574 6400 or nicolle.nasr@minister.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



John Ajaka MLC

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The Illawarra

QUESTION 1 – Page 25

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: Minister, last year you said in answer to questions that it would be ideal if a single coordinated cooperative deer control program was utilised in the Illawarra area with the primary objective of controlling these animals. Since then there has been no advance in that regard and feral deer continue to be a significant problem in the Illawarra. What is the Government doing about this?

The Hon. JOHN AJAKA: I will take that on notice. I would say that really is a question for the relevant Minister but I am happy to take it on notice, refer it to the relevant Minister and come back to you.

ANSWER

The South East Local Land Services coordinates the Northern Illawarra Wild Deer Management Program currently operating in the Illawarra and they will continue to monitor the resourcing and efficacy of that program. Any further questions should be referred to the Minister for Primary Industries.

QUESTION 2 – Page 26

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: What is the membership of the body that has been assigned the role of determining the successful applicants?

The Hon. JOHN AJAKA: The initial advisory panel in relation to how the Restart commenced and how the successful applicants were determined no longer has a role. The fund itself is administered by Infrastructure NSW, in my understanding.

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: The advisory panel has now been disbanded and the further decisions are being made by Infrastructure NSW?

The Hon. JOHN AJAKA: Treasury, Department of Premier and Cabinet [DPC], Office of Finance and local representatives made up that original body. That body no longer has a role now in the actual administration of it after the successful applicants were determined through Treasury, DPC, Office of Finance and a number of local representatives. Their role was to work with the community to come down to the successful applicants which I as Minister then ticked off on.

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: Minister, could you take it on notice to provide the detail of the membership of the advisory body and the decision-making process that will follow over the next few months?

The Hon. JOHN AJAKA: I am happy to do that, Mr Shoebridge.

ANSWER

The Restart NSW Illawarra Infrastructure Fund Assessment Panel consisted of Mr Colin Bloomfield, Professor Gerard Sutton and Mr Alex Darling and officers from Infrastructure NSW, NSW Treasury and the NSW Office of Finance. As stated, this panel has been disbanded. Infrastructure NSW is the agency responsible for the ongoing administration of the Fund.