

Agriculture and Western NSW

Responses to Questions on Notice

Hearing: Monday 2 March 2020

Question number	Question	Response
QoN #1 on page 11	<p>The CHAIR: I will just table this document, if I could, and I will give the Minister a copy. It is that letter that actually went out to the commercial fishing advisory during the share trading scheme and talked about essentially changing the rules. I will read it to you: I accept the recommendations of the Council in regard to the BAP Regulation Consultation Process. Regarding the Council's recommendation on transfer of new species shares, in the first instance I would like to allow fishing business owners and fishers to have first opportunity to benefit from the new quota shares ... So there is a previous commitment before the share trading scheme that this would not occur. They have changed the rules halfway through the share trading scheme and then potentially those people on the Commercial Fishing Advisory NSW Council who had gone away re-entered the share trading scheme with that knowledge. I will put to you that the former Minister has, by accident or deliberately, facilitated potentially insider trading on the share trading scheme.</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: Are you asking me if that is the case?</p> <p>The CHAIR: I am asking for some commentary around it or a commitment that you will go away and look at this because you spoke about there being no hidden documents and now I have given you one.</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: I cannot provide any commentary on that letter; I have just seen it. But Mr Hansen or Mr Turnell might be able to.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: I would have to take that document and have a look at where it came in terms of time lines and so forth. The fact that it has obviously been provided openly to the commercial fishing advisory committee—I have only just seen this. The Government had communicated throughout that its prioritisation in the very first instance was always going to be to allow only existing fishing business owners and fishers to participate, which is what this seems to be further committing to, and instead saying that any opportunity for additional flexibility in allowing transfer of those shares to any persons would have to come after this</p>	<p>The letter referred to and tabled was unrelated to the share trading market. It related to proposed transfer rules for new species quota shares that had not yet been issued at the time of the Subsidised Share Trading Market (SSTM) and thus could not be traded in the SSTM.</p> <p>These proposals had already been circulated to the whole of the commercial fishing industry for comment.</p>

<p>process and further down the track that would need to be considered. I do not think that is inconsistent with the messages and the rules at that point in time. But again, if you let me take this on notice, we will have a look at this and come back to you.</p>	
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

<p>QoN #2 on page 12</p>	<p>The CHAIR: Was that in addition to the buyouts? Were the buyouts at an additional cost on top of that \$16 million?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Mr Chair, I think the \$16 million included also money available for buyouts. I think that was the total assistance package that was available for the industry. That total amount of what would be available was available at each round of the share trading scheme.</p> <p>The CHAIR: Assuming that is correct—and you are looking at the laptop so I am assuming you were just looking for some clarification—how much was spent on the buyouts then, because figures were quoted last time that it was, I think, \$2.24 million on fishing buyouts. Minister Niall Blair said that 235 buyouts were done, which would equate to \$4.7 million. That was done on the floor of the House. So if he has said that and then you have confirmed that he has misled the House, is that \$2.4 million correct?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: I will get to that number over the course of the questions, if we can. Given the fact that you are wanting us to confirm variations between numbers, we will make sure two different time periods as well, and buyouts continued to occur for an extended period of time. We will just make sure and confirm back those numbers for you, Chair.</p>	<p>\$4.32 million dollars was the total spent on fishing business buyouts.</p>
----------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #3 on page 12</p>	<p>The CHAIR: Thank you. Can you quickly talk about the probity that occurred because I know that you referenced that in the debate, Mr Marshall? What was the exact date that O'Connor Marsden from OCM was appointed as the probity auditor to prepare a review?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: I do not have the exact date here in front of me, Mr Chair; Mr Hansen may, or we might have to take that on notice on the specific date and provide that later in the hearing, perhaps this afternoon. No, I think we will have to take that on notice. We cannot have that information just now.</p>	<p>31 July 2017</p>
<p>QoN #4 on page 12</p>	<p>The CHAIR: How much of the \$16 million and the fishing buyouts was paid from the Treasury and how much of it was paid from the commercial fishing trust?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: Mr Hansen might have the information.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: We will come back to the next session with that break-up for you</p>	<p>A total of \$20.66 million was paid out - \$16 million from Treasury and \$4.66 million from the Commercial Fishing Trust.</p>

<p>QoN #5 on page 13</p>	<p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: No, it says, as part of the assessment process, the authority will obtain the title searches to confirm ownership of the land offered as security. But even if accepting what you, Mr Hansen, are saying is correct, Minister, why are we not just exempting primary producers from having to pay this \$350?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: Are you talking about the bushfire Special Disaster Loan or the farm innovation loan?</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: Yes, Special Disaster Loan.</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: I would have to take that on notice, Mr Mookhey</p>	<p>As part of the Disaster Recovery Arrangements between the Commonwealth and NSW Governments, the cost of title and other searches are not covered.</p> <p>For 2019-20 the cost of a title search is \$13.95 per title reference.</p>
----------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #6 on page 19</p>	<p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: Thank you. All I was asking Mr Witherdin to do was to address the issue of the staffing increases over the years, which I will pass to him for in a moment. In answer to your question, Mr Mookhey, I can advise that I have been to the Expenditure Review Committee and to Cabinet multiple times and secured millions and millions of dollars of additional money for the Department of Primary Industries and Local Land Services—or our group, if you like—in respect to drought and bushfire relief. If you want the exact figures, I am happy to take that on notice. I can assure you that I am a very strong advocate.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: I do want the exact figures.</p>	<p>Since 2 April 2019 to 2 March 2020 a total of \$172.2 million has been provided to Department of Primary Industries (\$122.2 million) and Local Land Services (\$50.0 million) in relation to Drought and Bushfires.</p>
----------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #7 on page 20</p>	<p>Mr JUSTIN FIELD: Could you provide the Committee with a list of those members? Is it published yet?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: I think it is on the website.</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: It should be.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Yes. It is public and on the website but we can make sure you have a copy of that</p>	<p>Marine Park Advisory Committee details can be found on the Department of Primary Industries website - https://www.marine.nsw.gov.au/advisory-bodies/marine-park-advisory-committees</p>
----------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #8 on page 23</p>	<p>The CHAIR: Jason Masters is obviously one of the company directors, I assume. Howard Elliott was the one who did it but it was Jason Masters who signed the conflict declaration, not Howard Elliot. One would imagine that you would have the person that was doing the work being the one that would sign the conflict of interest document or you would have them both sign a conflict of interest.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Yes, although it would not be an unusual step for a senior partner to have the work done, carried out and have their internal audit process enable them to give confidence to the senior partner that they have seen internal documentation to sign off and it is appropriate for them to be able to sign off on it. That is not an uncommon practice across auditing and accounting or consultancy firms.</p> <p>The CHAIR: Was any work done to ascertain whether anyone with O'Connor Marsden currently owned fishing businesses or shares?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: I would have to take that on notice.</p>	<p>Yes. The contract with O'Connor Marsden addressed conflicts of interest. "C 3.1 The Service Provider undertakes that at the date of this Agreement, no conflict of interest exists or is likely to arise in the performance of the Services. The Service Provider must notify the Principal, in writing, immediately upon becoming aware of the existence, or possibility, of a conflict of interest."</p>
<p>QoN #9 on page 23</p>	<p>The CHAIR: You might also have to take this on notice. Do you know whether now or before the adjustment program whether any Ministers, members of Parliament or staffers of DPI owned fishing businesses or shares?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: I would have to take that on notice.</p>	<p>The Share Register is publicly available at https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/commercial/shareholding-information-for-share-management-fisheries</p>

<p>QoN #10 on page 24</p>	<p>The CHAIR: Why wasn't the probity audit report given to the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5 when it was holding its inquiry?</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: I cannot answer that question. I will take it on notice.</p> <p>The CHAIR: You might also take on notice why was it not released to commercial fishermen until a very later date?</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: I will take that on notice as well.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Just to be clear, those two questions are: Was it available to standing committee—</p> <p>The CHAIR: It was not available.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: It was not completed at the time of standing committee No. 5's independent inquiry into the commercial fishing process.</p> <p>The CHAIR: I want to know why it wasn't given to the general purpose standing committee that was looking into the process.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Yes.</p> <p>The CHAIR: And why it was not made available to commercial fishermen until a lot later.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Okay. Do you know what date it was made public? Do you have that in front of you?</p> <p>The CHAIR: No, I do not. I just know that it was not given to the general purpose standing committee.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: We will track down these dates but I am assuming that the only reason it was not given to them was that it was still being completed and not available to us and therefore not available for the Committee otherwise it would have been provided to the Committee. And that time frame on completing might also be the reason and rationale for the delay in it being made available to commercial fishers but we will get the date on which we actually had it finalised.</p> <p>The CHAIR: The report states that a review was done of a random sample of 10 fishing businesses throughout the process. There is some dispute over the figures of how many commercial fishers we have, but if we take your response last time there was around 1,000. A random sample of 10 fishermen out of 1,000, any</p>	<p>The probity audit report was provided to DPI in January 2018. In May 2018, the Minister confirmed with the Committee that reports from both the probity advisor and the probity auditor had been received, and these were published on the website in June 2018. The Standing Committee No. 5 inquiry was completed in February 2017. The follow up Standing Committee No. 5 inquiry reported in September 2018. O'Connor Marsden made the decision on how many fishing businesses to sample in the review.</p>
-----------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

mathematician will tell you that is statistically irrelevant. Anything less than 100 in this case would be statistically irrelevant. A probity report has been done on a figure that is not even relevant. Why were there only 10 sampled?

Was that a decision by DPI or O'Connor Marsden?

Mr HANSEN: The framework for what we would audit and what we would look into was probably set by the APAC Probity Advisory and Auditing Consultants who have worked with us on what framework of checking and audits would be required throughout the process because they were the ones who set up the actual probity framework for the process. O'Connor Marsden and Associates' job was actually to check that we complied with that framework and did what was required.

The CHAIR: O'Connor chose the 10, not DPI?

Mr HANSEN: No, I am saying it was probably set up in the APAC Probity Advisory and Auditing Committee. As consultants, they were the ones who set up the framework for what checks throughout the process, what percentage of people, what percentage of participants involved in the program as opposed to total fishers, what would be appropriate to check probity throughout, and to make sure things were working. As opposed to O'Connor Marsden, who were the ones who came along and checked at the end. I am happy to take that on notice and we will read through that probity report—given your interest in it—over the lunch break.

<p>QoN #11 on page 25</p>	<p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: And you appointed Mr Matt Tripet as the Social Benefits of Recreational Fishing member of the advisory council, is that correct?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: If you say that I did, yes. I would have signed off on the advice of the department. I do not know that particular individual.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: Do you have any recall as to when precisely you signed that off?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: Not unless the department has the date. I can get that information for you later in the day if you would like.</p>	<p>20 December 2019</p>
-----------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------

<p>QoN #12 on page 26</p>	<p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: We will get to that. I am asking specifically about was there any public selection process, any criteria, any advertisement, any expression of interest, anyone that would have allowed anybody else to be appointed to this council?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: Yes. I believe there was. Mr Turnell?</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: So expressions of interest were put out for membership and anyone can apply. Mr Tripet chose to apply.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: When was that put out?</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: I would have to take that on notice to get the exact date.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: Where was the expression of interest [EOI] published?</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: Again, I will have to take that on notice but it was advertised widely—</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: How many other applications came for this position?</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: For positions on the council?</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: No, for this position?</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: For this position. I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: Did any other application come forward for this position?</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: For positions—</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: For the position of Social Benefits of Recreational Fishing.</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: I would have to look at his application and see exactly what he applied for.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: How long was the EOI process open to the public for?</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: I believe it was six weeks but we can get a firm date for you today.</p>	<p>Expressions of interest for that advisory council role opened on 30 August 2019 and closed on 29 September 2019. The EOI was published in the Sydney Morning Herald, online at the Department of Primary Industries' (DPI) website and sent via a DPI Recreational Newsletter, Newscast, which is sent to over 350,000 recipients. As provided in the hearing, twenty-nine applications were received.</p>
-----------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #13 on page 29</p>	<p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: In this investment plan or advice \$400,000 of it is coming from the saltwater trust and \$100,000 is coming from the freshwater trust and DPI is putting it out to tender. Mr Hansen, you might know this: When is the tender going to complete?</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: It has not gone out yet.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: When is it going out?</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: I am not sure.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: Is it going out?</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: It will go out surely. I just do not have a date.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: Was this considered by either of the expenditure review committees?</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: Yes, I believe it was.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: Do you know which date?</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: Not on hand, no.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: Because we have checked the records of published meetings that are on the website and it is not sourced in any of them.</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: I will have to check that myself but that surprises me.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: Do you think you can come back to us by this afternoon and tell us?</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: I hope to, yes.</p>	<p>Yes. A Trust application was reviewed by the Recreational Fishing Saltwater Trust Expenditure Committee on 7 November 2018 and the Freshwater Committee on 8 November 2019.</p>
-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #14 on page 31</p>	<p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: Sure. Mr Zandstra is engaged by the Department of Primary Industries, as was canvassed at the last estimates hearing, and he has to abide by all the usual public sector policies about advising of conflicts of interest and suchlike. He is also appointed with the help of the DPI and industry advisory panel, which has a lot of representatives from processors—farmers, in particular—right through the supply chain. So it is not just Mr Zandstra that is the only voice that is being heard in that capacity; he uses a lot of other voices and other people around the table. But, as I said, he has got to comply with the Department of Primary Industries or the public sector policies around declaration of conflicts and avoiding those et cetera. Is that correct, Mr Hansen?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: That is right.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Does he have a statement of duties?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: Yes, he does.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Can you please, on notice, give us a copy of that?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: Yes.</p>	<p>Mr Zandstra's responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gather industry input and feedback on the delivery of key NSW Government initiatives to support the dairy industry, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Establishing a NSW DPI dairy business advisory unit ii. A campaign to encourage consumption of local fresh milk iii. Investment in research and development iv. Extension support services v. The NSW Cattle Underpass Scheme - Collaborate with and support the NSW Agriculture Commissioner and ACCC Dairy Specialist to bring processors, retailers and farmers together to discuss the issues affecting the industry, and explore possible solutions. - Act as the chair of the NSW dairy industry advisory panel, to develop a NSW dairy industry action plan with recommendations for industry and government. - Support implementation of the mandatory dairy code and evaluate its effectiveness. - Gather information regarding dairy related matters and their impacts on NSW industry participants to inform decision making. - Represent the NSW Government at industry, regional and community meetings to provide information and identify issues to inform decision making.
-----------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #15 on page 32</p>	<p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: That is only during one particular period and I have met with him multiple times and talked to him a lot. That period was when?</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: From October till December.</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: Yes.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: So you met with him once.</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: In that time frame that could be the case, yes</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: That is really not numerous.</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: That is one particular time frame, and that does not include—</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: When have you met with him since?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: I would have to take that on notice, but numerous times.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Can you please take that on notice and let us know?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: Yes, sure, I am happy to.</p>	<p>Since September 2019, I have met with Mr Zandstra face to face, on three occasions.</p>
-----------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #16 on page 32</p>	<p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Was the Fresh Milk and Dairy Advocate paid \$800 to attend that particular meeting on 26 September?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: No, I do not believe so. Mr Hansen?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: His rate is \$800 a day. I do not know whether he billed for that day or he did not. I do not know what else he did on that day to justify or not whether he billed or not.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Can you take that on notice as well?</p>	<p>On 26 September 2019, the Advocate invoiced Department of Primary Industries (DPI) for \$770. His activities on that day included meetings with DPI staff and the Minister in Sydney, return travel from Nowra to Sydney and a telephone meeting with the Australian Dairy Plan Joint Transition Taskforce.</p>
-----------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #17 on page 32</p>	<p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: The date that the Minister has recorded is 26 September. Can you also tell us how long that meeting lasted and what advice was provided and was it provided in writing?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: Again, I would have to take that on notice, if that is okay.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: I am happy for you to take it on notice.</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: I have got a reasonably good memory but not that good.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Hence, I am very happy if you would take those questions on notice.</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: I am happy to.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Given the fact that he was appointed three days before, I daresay that was probably a start rather than a "let me bring recommendations to you" type meeting.</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: Anyhow, we can provide that to the Committee.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: To be clear, after that first initial meeting you did not meet with him again until the new year?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: Again, I would have to take that on notice. As I said, I have had numerous conversations with him and meetings. I will get all that information for you, Mr Primrose, not a problem.</p>	<p>The meeting went for 30 minutes and was followed by a broader meeting with members of Parliament for 1 hour.</p>
-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #18 on page 33</p>	<p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: So you met with him once on 26 September and then, being an advocate for such an important industry, seeking your guidance and whatever, you did not meet with him again until the new year.</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: I will answer that a couple of ways. First of all, I would have to go back and check with my office because, as an employee of the department, meetings with the advocate are not required to be disclosed. But I think my office would have disclosed the initial meeting with the advocate, just for probity sake. But probably after that no such declarations were made because they are not required. It is no different to meeting with one of my staff from DPI. But I will check that and provide that in the advice back to the Committee. Secondly, Mr Johnsen meets with the advocate very, very regularly and has actually just finished a trip down to the South Coast with the advocate, visiting bushfire-affected dairy farmers. I will get all that information for you and the Committee, but I can assure the Committee there is no shortage of communication.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Can I ask Mr Johnsen, how many times have you met with the advocate?</p> <p>Mr MICHAEL JOHNSEN: I could not tell you off the top of my head an exact number, but I have met with him a number of times. As the Minister said, I have just finished a tour of the South Coast. I have met with Mr Zandstra previously before, late last year, down in Nowra; I have had a couple of physical, face-to-face meetings with him around Parliament here; and I have regular phone discussions with him as well.</p>	<p>The Dairy Advocate and the Parliamentary Secretary have fortnightly teleconferences.</p> <p>In addition, they have met formally on the following occasions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3/12/19 • 16/2/19 • 17/2/20 • 18/2/20 <p>The Parliamentary Secretary attended part of the Dairy Industry Advisory Panel meeting, chaired by Mr Zandstra and they continue to speak on a regular basis.</p>
-----------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #19 on page 33</p>	<p>[continued]</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Was he paid \$800 on each of those occasions?</p> <p>Mr MICHAEL JOHNSEN: I will refer that question directly to Mr Hansen, who has already taken it on notice.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Not for the meetings with you, but can I please, Mr Hansen?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: We can do that, Mr Primrose, sure.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Has the advocate completed a work plan?</p> <p>Mr Adam MARSHALL: Yes, he has. Mr Hansen might be able to talk to you about that but, yes, I believe he has.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: The first stage of the work plan was obviously to bring together the advisory panel. We interjected and changed quite a bit of the work plan when the fires moved. I know during that period between Christmas and New Year—</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Given that my time is up and given how important I think we all regard the dairy industry to be, can I ask you to take that on notice and table that to us?</p> <p>Mr Adam MARSHALL: Certainly.</p>	<p>No. The Advocate invoices at an hourly basis at a rate of \$100/hr + GST; hence a daily rate of \$800 for a typical day. See Appendix 1 for the work plan.</p>
-----------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #20 on page 37</p>	<p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: In 2017 a person was successfully prosecuted for cruelty inflicted on a lobster that was being cut up at a Sydney fish market. Minister, are you aware of any individual corporation that has been prosecuted under POCTA for cruelty to fish or fishes?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: I am not, no.</p> <p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: Okay.</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: That is not to say that there has not been, it is just that I am not aware.</p> <p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: Can you take it on notice and find out if there have been any cases?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: Sure.</p>	<p>There have been no such cases.</p>
-----------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------

<p>QoN #21 on page 39</p>	<p>The CHAIR: Thank you. Just a brief history lesson: Under the general purpose standing committee, the former Minister Niall Blair said he would commit to giving that Committee a socioeconomic study. If we fast-forward, we know that that was not a study, it was just a framework on how to do one. It was done by Jacki Schirmer from the Australian Capital Territory university and she stated in her recommendation that it should clearly communicate what subsidies were applied and how, as part of the three rounds of the subsidised share market, to ensure transparency and clear communication. If that was the recommendation from a framework that was hidden and not released until someone brought it up, why did the probity report redact the information about what subsidy was spread across the three rounds?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: I am not aware why the parts of that were redacted. Mr Turnell, did the department make that decision?</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: I would have to take that on notice.</p>	<p>The table in the probity audit report was redacted by O'Connor Marsden because it summarised information from briefings provided to O'Connor Marsden in confidence.</p>
-----------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #22 on page 40-41</p>	<p>The CHAIR: Going back to that figure, Mr Hansen, of \$4.32 million in buyouts, can we have some breakdown of that? Do you have that available at all? And was that on top of the \$16 million or was that included in the \$16 million? Mr HANSEN: My understanding is it is included in the \$16 million. In terms of breakdown, 216 fishing businesses times by \$20,000 per business—</p> <p>The CHAIR: How many fishing business packages were sold using this extra money?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: You are talking about share packages now, not just the fishing business?</p> <p>The CHAIR: Yes.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: We will have to come back to you on that. That is a different question.</p>	<p>The 174 buyouts were funded out of the \$16 million. There were 42 buyouts (\$840,000) after the SSTM that were from additional funding.</p>
--------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #23 on page 42</p>	<p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: So the first you learned that the drought coordinator was removed was when it was in the media?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: No. I was certainly made aware of the decision not long after the decision was made. I cannot exactly recall how but I am pretty sure I knew about it before it appeared in the media.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: And presumably before Mr Laurie knew about it?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: No. I said after the decision was taken I was informed but I cannot recall how or who. But certainly before it appeared in the media, yes.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: On notice are you able to check your records and come back to us on those questions of both how you were informed and who informed you?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: Sure. Happy to.</p>	<p>I was informed of the decision by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.</p>
<p>QoN #24 on page 44</p>	<p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: You are not worried about whether or not your office is complying with the GIPAA laws?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: I am happy to take that on notice but this document you have given me was already on the public record.</p>	<p>My office met the requirements of the <i>Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009</i>.</p>

<p>QoN #25 on page 44</p>	<p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: What representations as a local member did you provide to Minister Pavey? Mr ADAM MARSHALL: I have to go back through my records, but representations on behalf of the Moree Plains Shire Council, on behalf of Tourism Moree and a number of business owners and a number of industry representatives—just standard representations that local members do.</p>	<p>In my capacity as the Member for Northern Tablelands I forwarded a number of representations from local organisations, including Moree Plains Shire Council, Tourism Moree as well as multiple businesses and primary producers.</p>
<p>QoN #26 on page 45</p>	<p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: I look at the projection of rental costs in terms of millions: It is 3.506 for 2018-19 and the budget for 2019-20 is 0.241. Can you explain why there is a significant reduction in expected rental costs to your department going down from \$3.506 million to \$241,000?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: I will ask Mr Witherdin to cover off on that, but we certainly have not removed or closed any of those offices.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Are you expecting to close any of those offices? Mr ADAM MARSHALL: No. In fact, that would be in contravention of the Government's policy around regional jobs.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Can someone please explain why? Mr ADAM MARSHALL: Mr Witherdin? Mr WITHERDIN: I am not sure what your source of that is.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: It is a Treasury document—Statement of Comprehensive Income, projection budget AASB 101, detailed Local Land Services.</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: I will take the detail of that on notice but I make it very clear that we are not closing any offices, other than in towns where we are co-located and have two offices. When you look back to our predecessor organisations—both Catchment Management Authorities and Livestock Health and Pest Authorities—we made that dual occupancy in towns. There is still a number that we do. We are combining those. We have one footprint in each town.</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: That is a good point. That might be the answer, actually.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Please take it on notice.</p>	<p>Reduction of rental costs is attributable to the changes in accounting recognition of lease payments arising from the introduction of accounting standard AASB 16 Leases. 2019-20 is the first year these changes came into force, which explains the apparent drop in rental expense between 2018-19 and 2019-20. Under the standard, a right of use asset is recognised on the balance sheet, and expenditure recognised in the form of depreciation and lease interest.</p>

<p>But you can imagine the concern when the Treasury document says that last year the rent paid was \$3.5 million and now we are talking about \$241,000.</p>	
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

<p>QoN #27 on page 48</p>	<p>Ms ROBINSON: We have an Agricultural and Animal Services Functional Area plan, which falls under the State plans in the emergency management structure. The Hon. EMMA HURST: Yes, I have seen that one. I had a quick look at that document, but it focuses primarily on producers only and it is quite technical; it is not very easy to read.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: There is one other which is a planning preparedness guide, which we have for all animal owners. It talks about the steps that you should take in preparing for where are your safe zones should there be a fire coming or a flood coming, what to do with animals, how early do you move them, where do you move them to? That is for all domestic and farm animals. So there is that; I just cannot for the life of me think of what the title on the front of the brochure is.</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: We will take it on notice and get the name, probably before the end of the day.</p>	<p>The Department of Primary Industries has the following emergency management plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Livestock safety in emergencies- Pet Safety in emergencies- Horse Safety in emergencies- Planning for emergencies - a guide for animal holding establishments <p>All of these plans can be found at https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/climate-and-emergencies/emergency/community/before-an-emergency</p>
-----------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #28 on page 49</p>	<p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: If that farmer does not have the phone number, does that mean that they cannot use the new biosecurity regulations? Mr ADAM MARSHALL: They can certainly put the sign up. I think—I would have to get some advice on the technicality about whether if you have a biosecurity plan and you have all that but you do not put a number on or the number is rubbed off over time with sunlight or someone has rubbed it off, does that disqualify them? That is getting a bit beyond my— The Hon. EMMA HURST: Do you want to take that on notice? Mr ADAM MARSHALL: We might take it on notice, yes.</p>	<p>Signs tell visitors that the property is subject to a biosecurity management plan and that they must not enter without the approval of the farmer (owner/occupier) or it may be an offence under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>. The signs provide details of how a visitor can contact the farmer for the purpose of inspecting the biosecurity management plan and understanding their biosecurity obligations if approval is given for them to enter the property.</p>
-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #29 on page 49</p>	<p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: I only want to know about the illegal hunting side of it.</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: One group of alleged offenders are not illegal hunters, and it is alleged that the other group of alleged offenders are illegal hunters of the two groups, if I can put it that way, that have been charged and are currently before the courts.</p> <p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: Thank you, that is very useful. Are authorities receiving fewer complaints, are you aware, of illegal hunting?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: I am not sure.</p> <p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: Or would the department be collecting that sort of information?</p> <p>Mr ADAM MARSHALL: I would say the New South Wales police would be collecting that information because they are the authorities that tend to enforce this law—unless Mr Hansen is aware of something that I am not.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: No, but we would have an ongoing tracking record in terms of the number of complaints or issues raised about illegal hunting and we can get hold of that information.</p>	<p>The Department of Primary Industries' Game Licensing Unit (GLU) co-regulates hunting with NSW Police. During the 4 month period from 12 November 2019, the GLU recorded 143 incidents. However given this is only a four month period and given the events of the 2019/20 summer, no trend is able to be interpreted. NSW Police also have data on illegal hunting incidents and investigations. In addition NSW Police often take more serious matters forward on behalf of the GLU, particularly where firearms offences are involved.</p>
-----------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #30 on page 50-51</p>	<p>The CHAIR: Straight from their annual report in respect of applications for assistance summaries. It specifically details fishing buyouts. In 2019 it is not represented in the table form. It just stipulates that there was \$83,000 attributed to the business adjustment program. There was probably even a lesser amount in terms of buyouts if you dissect it all. Something is going wrong between what you are telling us and what the RAA are reporting on.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Again, I do not have that specific page in front of me, which makes it hard in respect of questions.</p> <p>The CHAIR: Yes.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: But there were 216 fishing businesses bought out at \$20,000 each, which is where we get the \$4.32 million. As with the number of these things, without being able to see it to give it context, so for instance, before lunch we had a conversation about why the probity and audit report was not provided to standing committee No. 5 in respect of its consideration about commercial fishing reforms. I think we talked about the time it was in June 2017 that the appropriate advisers got appointed. In July 2017 O'Connor Marsden and Associates got appointed. The standing committee No. 5 inquiry—I do not know whether it is this one you were talking about reported on 24 February 2017. That was a couple of months before those auditors were appointed.</p> <p>The CHAIR: Going back to these figures, and I know you do not have them in front of you, are you willing to take on notice and find out why there is a discrepancy between what RAA are reporting on and what you are—</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Sure and we will try to get that done this afternoon while we are still here.</p>	<p>These figures are net and reflect payment of \$20,000 per buyout less any outstanding debt. It does also not include 62 fishing business buyouts (\$1.24 million) in the Subsidised Share Trading Market.</p>
<p>QoN #31 on page 51</p>	<p>The CHAIR: Do you have some data on those fishing buyout packages as to how much was spent on them and how many fishing business packages were bought out with that money?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: In respect of how many packages of shares and businesses, yes, we do. We can get a hold of that.</p> <p>The CHAIR: Just on notice would you be able to provide a breakdown of that?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Yes, that should be fine</p>	<p>In total, 216 fishing businesses received a \$20,000 buyout payment (total \$4.32 million). This figure includes 112 buyouts before the Subsidised Share Trading Market (SSTM), 62 buyouts during the SSTM and 42 buyouts after the SSTM. \$2.24 million was the total spent on buyouts prior to the SSTM.</p>

<p>QoN #32 on page 52</p>	<p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: So far, up until November, the \$800 a day gives you an amount of \$9,000—that is between September and November? Ms LORIMER-WARD: But he does not always charge—he often invoices only on an hourly rate, so if he only worked for an hour and a half that day, he will only bill for that. The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: How much would he be paid for an hour and a half? Ms LORIMER-WARD: It is pro-rataed to the \$800. I would have to get you that on notice. The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Okay, thank you. The Hon. TREVOR KHAN: I assume about \$150. The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: I will let the department work that out. Can you also tell me—you can take this on notice as well—how many times he has visited the mid North Coast, the Riverina and the South Coast? Ms LORIMER-WARD: I would have to take that on notice. My understanding is that he has been to the mid North Coast at least once and definitely to the South Coast a number of times. The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Okay, can you take that on notice? Ms LORIMER-WARD: Yes.</p>	<p>\$150 + GST.</p> <p>The Fresh Milk and Dairy Advocate has been contacting farmers throughout NSW and has spoken with farmers on the mid-north coast, central west, far south coast and Shoalhaven regions.</p> <p>The Fresh Milk and Dairy Advocate has invoiced Department of Primary Industries for one trip to the South Coast (16-17 Feb).</p>
<p>QoN #33 on page 52-53</p>	<p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: How much has it cost to date to provide that support? Ms LORIMER-WARD: I would have to provide that on notice.</p>	<p>This cost has been absorbed within existing Department of Primary Industries resources.</p>

<p>QoN #34 on page 53-54</p>	<p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: When do you expect the next meeting to take place? Ms LORIMER-WARD: I don't have that date but a date has been set. The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Can you take that on notice? Ms LORIMER-WARD: Yes, I am happy to. The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: How long was that meeting? Ms LORIMER-WARD: I would have to take that on notice. The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Can you tell me when the panel members were appointed? Ms LORIMER-WARD: I can. The selection committee was convened on 5 December and then that advice was provided—actually, I do not have the exact date that they were appointed. The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Can you take that on notice? Ms LORIMER-WARD: I can take that on notice.</p>	<p>The next meeting is planned for 25 March 2020.</p> <p>Meetings to date have occurred on: 21 Jan 2020 (10am-4pm) and 18 Feb 2020 (12pm-4pm).</p> <p>Panel members' letters of offer were dated 13 December 2019.</p> <p>The following members and appointment dates are:</p> <p>Tim Bale - 19.12.2019 Sergio Garcia - 18.12.2019 Tony Burnett - 23.12.2019 Sheena Carter - 13.12.2019 Phil Ryan - 13.12.2019 Robert Cooper - 14.12.2019 Scott Barnett - 18.12.2019 Ian Lean - 17.12.2019 Ken Garner - 17.12.2019 Michael Jeffrey - 22.12.2019</p>
--------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #35 on page 54</p>	<p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: How will that role differ from the Fresh Milk and Dairy Advocate? Ms LORIMER-WARD: They are an employee of the department and their role is to work on business development programs. It is much more a capacity building program for the industry, not an advisory position. The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Okay. Is there a statement of duties for that position? Ms LORIMER-WARD: Yes, there is. The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Can you make that available to us, please? Ms LORIMER-WARD: Yes</p>	<p>A Dairy Liaison Officer was appointed temporarily to the Bega Local Command Centre (LCC) immediately following the New Year's Eve fire event for a period of approximately two weeks.</p> <p>The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) has appointed a Development Officer Dairy Farm Business Management. The recommended applicant has accepted the role and commenced duty on 23 March. The primary purpose of the role and key accountabilities are defined in the role description and included below.</p> <p>Primary purpose of the role The role undertakes collaborative activities to deliver research, development and education programs; contribute to policy development; and develop products and systems to enhance the profitability and sustainability of the NSW dairy industry with an emphasis on risk management and farm business management skill.</p> <p>Key accountabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Partner with industry and other stakeholders to define opportunities for and impediments to sustainable growth of the dairy industry and develop projects to address these - Collaborate with research, development, extension and education colleagues and providers to develop and deliver projects that address key risks and opportunities for the dairy industry in NSW - Prepare high level advice, discussion papers, reports, briefs and submissions that are informative, sound and aligned with agency requirements to contribute to the development of policies and initiatives - Provide timely information and advice to government and industry on current and emerging issues and dairy industry development opportunities that will enhance NSW's economic position. - Assess and support the successful adoption of new dairy farming systems and technologies that are profitable and
-----------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

		<p>sustainable and aligned with industry and community needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Represent DPI Agriculture in internal and external committees and groups to contribute to policy development and informed decision making- Manage and monitor projects, overseeing all aspects of project planning, development and implementation, including developing project plans, coordinating resources, meeting reporting requirements, and supporting project-related activities, to ensure project outcomes are achieved on time, to quality standards and within agreed scope and budget in line with established agency project management methodology- Comply with work standards for Extension/Development Officers according to the level of appointment in the Professional Officer Progression Criteria (1-4) scale in the Crown Employees (NSW Department of Industry) Professional Officers Award
--	--	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #36 on page 54</p>	<p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: How will that role differ from the Fresh Milk and Dairy Advocate?</p> <p>Ms LORIMER-WARD: They are an employee of the department and their role is to work on business development programs. It is much more a capacity building program for the industry, not an advisory position.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Okay. Is there a statement of duties for that position?</p> <p>Ms LORIMER-WARD: Yes, there is.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Can you make that available to us, please?</p> <p>Ms LORIMER-WARD: Yes.</p>	<p>See answer above.</p>
<p>QoN #37 on page 55</p>	<p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: What date was he [Mr Tripet] appointed?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: That is another bit of information that I will track down for you. I am sorry.</p>	<p>18 November 2019.</p>

<p>QoN #38 on page 57</p>	<p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: I accept what you say about the drought getting longer and that having an impact of people's commercial judgement. Is the Government considering changing the criteria for the farm innovation loan in response?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: A number of changes have been made over the past 12 months to the criteria.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: I accept that and on notice, if you do not mind, if you will provide what they are it would be useful. Just going off the figures, if it has gone from \$321 million to what we would probably project as being close to \$90 million up to \$95 million, the implication is that perhaps more change is needed.</p>	<p>In October 2019, the following changes were made to the guidelines. The amount that could be loaned was increased from \$250,000 (total of \$500,000 outstanding) to a maximum of \$1,000,000 with a maximum of \$1,000,000 outstanding at any one time.</p> <p>The was an update so that applicants could apply more than once in a 12 month period, and also that it would not be necessary "for a second application to be approved on condition that the previous application had been fully drawn." Clause were added stating that, "You must permit the NSW Rural Assistance Authority (RAA) or any other person authorised by the NSW RAA to enter the property to enable inspection of the works.", and "Payments will be made on receipt of eligible tax invoices and the NSW RAA may inspect the works as per above to ensure it is eligible and compliant."</p> <p>Clause added, noting that, "When asking for financial information, the RAA will ask for personal tax returns in addition to financial information for all business entities with which the applicant has a formal interest including companies, partnerships and self-managed super funds."</p> <p>In December 2019, the following change was made to the guidelines: An addition was made to the eligibility requirements, stating that, "You do not have gross off farm assets exceeding \$5,000,000 (excluding funds in a registered superannuation fund). (As described above).</p>
-----------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #39 on page 57</p>	<p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: Do you use the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority [APRA] guidelines on responsible lending?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: As a guide, yes. But I can take it on notice for more details if you want.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: APRA changed those guidelines 12 months ago to effectively relax them. Have you made those changes as well?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: I would have to take that on notice, sorry.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The Australian Prudential Regulation Authority [APRA] guidelines are specifically for residential lending, however the Rural Assistance Authority does adhere to the key responsible lending obligations, which are broken down into three steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make reasonable inquiries about the consumer - Make a preliminary assessment whether the proposed credit contract is not unsuitable for the consumer. - If requested, provide a written assessment that the credit contract is not unsuitable. <p>The RAA takes into consideration Australian Prudential Regulation Authority [APRA] guidelines.</p> <p>The APRA issued a paper on the Review of APRA's prudential measures for residential mortgage lending risks 29 January 2019. As a specialist rural and small business lender, the mortgage lending review was considered and did not translate into any change requirements for the RAA.</p>
-----------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #40 on page 58</p>	<p>Mr HANSEN: That is right. I went back to the broader group, the Marine Estate Agency Steering Committee, to say, "This is the final list. Give all agencies a chance to consider and provide any feedback on it." They were happy with that list and we then issued letters congratulating people and asking them to confirm their acceptance for being appointed into those roles.</p> <p>Mr JUSTIN FIELD: Has everyone confirmed at this point?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: I will have to take on notice as to whether we have received everyone's notice back. I am not sure whether everyone has come back.</p>	<p>All members (12) have accepted their appointments</p> <p>Six (6) alternate members have accepted their appointment. Two (2) alternate member acceptances remain outstanding as of 4 March 2020.</p> <p>(Note that an update will need to be requested closer to the submission date, as these members may accept by the 31 March)</p> <p>Marine Park Advisory Committee details can be found on the Department of Primary Industries' website - https://www.marine.nsw.gov.au/advisory-bodies/marine-park-advisory-committees</p>
-----------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #41 on page 59</p>	<p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: The last time we were in budget estimates we talked about the New South Wales code of practice for the welfare of animals using rodeo events. It states that by mid-1989 calf roping with be phased out in a form that permits the abrupt stopping of calves when roped. However, 30 years after the deadline the event of calf roping still continues. The only change has been the introduction of Ropersmate roping device which is alleged to prevent young calves from being abruptly stopped when caught around the neck. I just want to know a little bit more about this Ropersmate roping device that has been sanctioned by the department. Do you have any information about who developed it? Was it developed specifically by the rodeo industry or external to them?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: That is something I will have to take on notice. I am not aware. Unless there is someone else at the table—</p> <p>Ms ROBINSON: We will take it on notice.</p>	<p>The Ropersmate Roping Device website states the device was developed in conjunction with industry.</p>
---------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #42 on page 59</p>	<p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: You might want to put this one on notice as well. Are you aware of a 2016 Queensland study that found an increased concentration of stress hormone in the blood of animals after roping when using the Ropersmate device? And similarly a 2020 Australian study that simile found a significant increase in anxiety for the animals?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: I do not need to take that on notice. I was not aware of either of those two.</p> <p>The Hon. TREVOR KHAN: But it is hardly surprising.</p> <p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: You might want to put these questions on notice also. Do you know if there is any testing that actually simulates the impact of roping on calves in order to assess the true impact on the animals? Have calves been used in any research?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: No, sorry.</p> <p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: Could I get you to put that on notice?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Yes.</p>	<p>The Department is aware there has been research into the impact of roping on calves in a 2016 publication - Sinclair, M., Keeley, T., Lefebvre, A.C. & Phillips, J.C., (2016) Exploring the Use of a Qualitative Behavioural Assessment Approach to Assess Emotional State of Calves in Rodeos. Animals (2016) Apr 28;6(5). pii: E30. doi: 10.3390/ani6050030.</p>
---------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #43 on page 60</p>	<p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: In the last budget estimates, we also spoke about the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for poultry and the public consultation on the standards, which finished two years ago. Can you give me an update on those?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: The agricultural Ministers meeting two weeks ago agreed on the selection of an independent panel to take all the work that had been done in the public consultations, in the reviews and in the work of agencies up to this point in time, and to bring back to Ministers a recommended standards and guidelines for poultry. The Commonwealth is managing that process—that contracting process—for independent individuals and it will be managing the contract process and time frame with those experts to provide that advice back to agricultural Ministers with an update due to be provided to them at their next meeting in the middle of the year.</p> <p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: Can you tell me who the membership is for that panel?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: I would have to take that on notice because I am not sure whether the Commonwealth has actually secured the services of the three individuals.</p>	<p>To date no members have been appointed, the Commonwealth Government is still contacting the Panel members.</p>
---------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #44 on page 60</p>	<p>Mr HANSEN: I assume the progress report they get in the middle of the year will more than likely have not only an agreement on the path they will take, the time line and their initial view about where we need to go.</p> <p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: And with the panel members, can I put it on notice what you can advise me about the membership for that panel?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Yes.</p>	<p>To date no members have been appointed, the Commonwealth Government is still contacting the Panel members.</p>
---------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #45 on page 61</p>	<p>Dr MOLTSCHANIWSKYJ: We undertake research and we will put out for procurement contractors to assist us with our research, should we need to do that.</p> <p>The CHAIR: Was one of them Troy Billin, a commercial crab trapper in the Clarence River?</p> <p>Dr MOLTSCHANIWSKYJ: I am not aware of who was procured to undertake any research with us, but they would have been people with the resources and facilities to assist us.</p> <p>The CHAIR: Are you able to take that on notice and find out whether it was Troy Billin?</p> <p>Dr MOLTSCHANIWSKYJ: I will take that on notice.</p>	<p>There are two research projects currently underway in NSW relating to Mud Crabs.</p> <p>Project 1: Informing adaptive management of portunid fisheries in New South Wales. This project aims to investigate how changes in the environment may influence spawning, migration, and the ability for young Mud Crabs and Blue Swimmer Crabs to survive to adulthood. This research is being done in multiple estuaries along the mid-northern NSW coast, including the Clarence River. The outcomes of this project will provide information to support setting Total Allowable Catches for the commercial fishing industry and the potential future stocking of crabs in NSW estuaries. Mr Troy Billin was contracted for a single research trip to trap crabs in the Clarence River that were tagged and released, and their movements tracked by DPI scientists.</p> <p>Project 2: Observer project: commercial trapping in estuaries. This project involves on-board sampling to describe bycatch and interactions with protected, threatened and endangered species in commercial trap fisheries targeting Mud Crabs and Blue Swimmer Crabs in seven NSW estuaries. It is an important part of the NSW Marine Estate Management Strategy, and to date has resulted in the monitoring of more than 370 individual fishing trips by more than 40 NSW commercial fishers. Mr Troy Billin was one of these fishers.</p>
---------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #46 on page 62</p>	<p>The CHAIR: Mr Witherdin, I will ask about aerial shooting conducted by the LLS. What is the annual budget for helicopter shoots?</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: I would need to take that one on notice. The CHAIR: You might also need to also take this question on notice: What is the uptake from private property owners when you send out letters saying, "Can we come over and shoot over your property?" What is the uptake in terms of percentage of people telling you to go away and people saying, "Yes, sure."</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: Yes, I would need to take that on notice as well.</p>	<p>Local Land Services (LLS) undertakes nil-tenure baiting programs statewide. These programs do not distinguish budgets by individual control methodologies (eg aerial v ground baiting v trapping). Best practice control methodologies, including aerial baiting, are decided at the regional level in consultation with Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plans, committees and community pest management groups. LLS has adopted a nil-tenure approach to vertebrate pest management, in accordance with the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015. Land managers participate on a voluntary basis in areas that are aligned with the priorities in the Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management plans. Each LLS region receives confirmation back from participants and then the aerial shooting program is developed on the basis of landholder acceptance.</p>
---------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #47 on page 62</p>	<p>The CHAIR: Have you made any representations to Forestry after these fires, requesting access to State forests to cull injured animals or burnt animals, including forests that have not been affected by the fires?</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: Has LLS made representations?</p> <p>The CHAIR: Has LLS made representations requesting access to State forests?</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: Certainly not that I am aware of.</p> <p>The CHAIR: Would you able to take it on notice and see whether anyone from LLS has made representations?</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: Sure</p>	<p>NSW Forestry Corporation will be participating in aerial shooting programs post bush-fires, in accordance with Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plans.</p>
---------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #48 on page 62</p>	<p>The CHAIR: Dr Moltschaniwskyj, I will come back to you potentially. Can you advise us what is happening with the commercial fishery for octopus in New South Wales? What research is being made available?</p> <p>Dr MOLTSCHANIWSKYJ: My understanding is that a new developmental fishery permit has been awarded. On the back of that, we are applying for funds to the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation [FRDC] to undertake some research alongside that licence to inform stock assessment and the future of that fishery. We are yet to hear whether we have been successful with those funds.</p> <p>The CHAIR: Has no decision been made on that fishery yet?</p> <p>Dr MOLTSCHANIWSKYJ: On the fishery or the research around it?</p> <p>The CHAIR: No, the fishery.</p> <p>Dr MOLTSCHANIWSKYJ: The fishery, as in, has the development licence been awarded?</p> <p>The CHAIR: Yes. Dr MOLTSCHANIWSKYJ: Yes. On the aspect of research, we are waiting for the FRDC to get back to us with a contract.</p> <p>The CHAIR: Have you consulted with the recreational sector about how that will impact it?</p> <p>Dr MOLTSCHANIWSKYJ: I will have to take that question on notice.</p>	<p>Yes. A stakeholder consultation paper was published on the Department's website on 25 September 2019 and submissions closed 4 November 2019. The consultation paper was also sent directly to 143 recreational fishing clubs by email and an additional 326 clubs by hardcopy mail where there was no email address available.</p>
---------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #49 on page 63</p>	<p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: Mr Hansen, we might pick up on getting the latest information on where we are in terms of the Drought Assistance Fund. I think we finished off the Farm Innovation Fund. In the last estimates hearing, I asked you for a geographical breakdown of this personal assistance. You said you would take it on notice and I was eagerly awaiting for 21 days to read the information but, sadly, it did not come back with postcode-based data. I do not know why. Are you in a position to provide us with postcode-based data on the disbursement of the farm innovation loan funds?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: That should not be a problem.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: It was not a problem last time, hence I was eagerly anticipating it but it did not come back.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: I am sure that we are able to do that. If not, we would be more explicit as to the reason why we cannot when we come back.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: The last time you provided effectively the excerpt from the annual report, which was useful but not what we asked. Postcode-based distribution of the Farm Innovation Fund loans would be very helpful.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Okay</p>	<p>The distribution of Farm Innovation Fund loans (see Appendix 2) is provided by Local Government Area, not postcode, due to the Rural Assistance Authority's financial reporting system.</p>
---------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #50 on page 64</p>	<p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: No, the one you just described as being more under the State governments control—the \$50,000, seven-year repayment, two-year free interest.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: That has had 2,528 applications to date.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: From what period?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: That is from the life of the loan. I would have to take on notice the break-up in terms of the past 12 months.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: Can we get on notice a month-by-month breakdown to date, if that is possible?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Yes</p>	<p>Refer to Appendix 3.</p>
---------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------

<p>QoN #51 on page 68</p>	<p>Mr JUSTIN FIELD: For your information, the Minister, in answers to questions on notice, suggested it was the day of the decision. We might take it at that. What direction has since been issued to staff with regard to how they are to engage in the enforcement of rules around the Batemans Marine Park? I assume there would have been some sort of formal direction that went out, some transition arrangements or the like?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Yes, there have been work instructions issued around the policing of compliance activities around the marine park and to basically enforce in line with the Government's intended decisions with regard to those changes at those five sites.</p> <p>Mr JUSTIN FIELD: Are you able to provide those instructions?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Yes, that should be fine.</p> <p>Mr JUSTIN FIELD: Those instructions would have been the same to marine park staff or fisheries staff because essentially they are the same pool of staff these days—right?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: For compliance staff, yes.</p> <p>Mr JUSTIN FIELD: At the moment, as I understand it, changes are not being made to the formal printed products that are out there with regard to the marine park, marine park maps and the like. How is the community being informed—for instance, when they are at the tourist centre at Narooma and they grab a marine park map but it is not accurate? How is that information going out to communities about the amnesty arrangements?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: It is mainly online at the moment. It has been the tool and the method used both by the app and via the website, where we have put updated information there.</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: Yes, we have produced some other material, the detail of which escapes me at the moment but I know there were some temporary signs, as well as some other pamphlets to go with those marine park maps. But I can find more detail and take it on notice.</p>	<p>The following actions were undertaken to distribute advisory materials prior to the bushfire emergency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary corflute signage was installed at all sanctuary sites and/or at nearest boat ramps • Pamphlets distributed to Narooma tourist info centre and local tackle shops • Follow-up distribution of pamphlets to Narooma tackle shops after the initial bushfire emergency • Information was made available on the marine park website at https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/marine-protected-areas/marine-parks/batemans-marine-park. <p>A map and advisory materials are publicly available at:</p> <p>https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/image/0007/1192660/Batemans-marine-park-infomap-Final.png https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/marine-protected-areas/marine-parks/batemans-marine-park/faq</p>
---------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Mr JUSTIN FIELD: If you could, I would appreciate that. I understand about \$600 was allocated for the printing of temporary corflutes, I assume for the particular zones. Would it be possible for you to provide an image of the signage that went up?

Mr TURNELL: An image of the signage?

Mr JUSTIN FIELD: Yes. I have asked people and they have not seen them, that is all. Will you confirm what date the signs were put up at those five sanctuary zones? That would be greatly appreciated as well.

Mr TURNELL: Sure.

<p>QoN #52 on page 69</p>	<p>Mr JUSTIN FIELD: I think the Marine Estate Management Authority used to regularly publish updates around the time line of the whole program. It has been fairly elaborate over a period of time. Will you continue to do that?</p> <p>Dr REICHELT: Yes, absolutely, that is our intention. I think, for us, we are just moving forward with the two pilots and what Mr Hansen relayed is my understanding. Yes, we like to post updates on the progress and we are potentially finished stage one and about to embark on stage two. That is about all the fine detail I have got. If there is anything more I can give you before the end of the day I will do that.</p>	<p>Further updates on the marine park management planning pilots will be provided at https://www.marine.nsw.gov.au/marine-estate-programs/marine-park-management-pilots</p> <p>Regular updates and news on the Marine Estate Management Authority's schedule of works are provided in the annual reports published and via newsletters at https://www.marine.nsw.gov.au/knowledge-centre/publications</p>
---------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #53 on page 72</p>	<p>The CHAIR: While you are looking into that, are you aware that there actually are no provisions in the Fisheries Management Act that spell out requirements or processes for leasing of shares? I think it was Justice Beazley, in the case of Elliott versus the Government, who actually commented on Minister Niall Blair and the leasing of shares, that he actually did not know his own Act because there is no framework that spells out how the leasing of shares can occur.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: I am not sure and we will take on notice that last one, but access shares are specific to regions. Again, I am confused.</p> <p>The CHAIR: What about quota shares?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: The original question you asked with regards to being able to transfer—</p> <p>The CHAIR: What about quota shares? Can you transfer quota shares across regions?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Again, let me—</p> <p>Dr MOLTSCHANIWSKYJ: Take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Yes.</p>	<p>Quota can be transferred throughout the state, subject to certain rules.</p>
---------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #54 on page 72</p>	<p>The CHAIR: So the Minister made the decision to award \$1 million to three fishing businesses owned by one person? They were offered \$704,000 for two hand-gathering endorsements and \$200,000 for mud crabs. So the Minister would have made that decision?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: That is certainly not a decision that we would have made on our own. We can look in about the shares or what was purchased for that amount.</p> <p>The CHAIR: While you are doing that, can you also check whether the Minister considered the fact that this person was also the chair of the Newcastle co-op, was on the Catchers Trust and was also on the board of the Sydney Fish Market and various other boards around commercial fishing and whether that played a role in deciding whether he got favourable treatment?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: I can.</p>	<p>The details of the price received by each shareholder for the purchase of their fishing business and/or shares is confidential and the Minister was not provided any details of individuals involved.</p>
---------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #55 on page 74</p>	<p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: I refer to the NSW Weed Action Program. How much funding has been allocated by NSW Treasury to the Weed Action Program for 2019-20?</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: For 2019-20, \$11.15 million for the regional subprogram component and that is then allocated from LLS out to local government.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: How much was expended in 2018-19? [QoN1]</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: I do not have that information in front of me but, yes, I am happy to take that on notice.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Will you also take on notice 2017-18? [QoN2]</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: Yes, so the two prior years to this, yes.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: You have indicated that funds have been allocated by LLS to local councils. How much of that \$11.15 million has been allocated to council so far? [QoN3]</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: I would need to take that on notice.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Without being able to be specific would you expect, given we have four months to go of this current financial year, that the bulk of it would have been allocated to councils or not?</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: Yes, that is a reasonable expectation.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: I can say that you believe that Local Land Services and your department have actually allocated already to local government the bulk of the \$11.15 million so they can undertake action under the NSW Weed Action Program. [QoN4]</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: As I said earlier, I will need to confirm that. I do not have the figures in front of me but I am happy to take them on notice.</p>	<p>The NSW Weeds Action Program funding was (total): 2017-18 \$ 11,733,600 2018-19 \$ 12,500,000 2019-20 \$12,660,000</p> <p>The Department of Primary Industries contracted \$11,046,500 to Local Land Services on 17 February 2020 for the 2019/20 financial year. As of 9 March 2020, \$7,354,015 has been contracted to Local Government. The remaining \$2,042,485 will be contracted to Local Government this financial year.</p> <p>The bulk of WAP funding to Local Government has already been allocated this financial year. \$7,354,015 (78%) was contracted in the first month after receipt of the Weed Action Plan contract from DPI to Local Land Services. The remaining \$2,042,485 will be contracted to Local Government this financial year.</p>
---------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #56 on page 76</p>	<p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Given that you have been able to elucidate on this matter, are you able to enlighten me about how much of the \$11.15 million has actually been allocated to local government this year?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Actually the \$11.15 million that David is referring to has in addition to it a \$1.5 million additional allocation this year as well that I have just been pointed to. So it is actually \$12.66 million in this year's as well.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: That is \$12.66 million, so it is not only \$11.15 million?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: No, that is right.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: How much of the \$12.66 million has been allocated to local government?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: I would have to take that on notice. I do not have that.</p>	<p>See answer to QON 55.</p>
---------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------

<p>QoN #57 on page 76</p>	<p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: How much has gone out and, given we have only got four months to the 2017-18 figures. Can I ask you in relation to the Aboriginal Landcare Education Program ALEP, has one full-time equivalent staff member been appointed to ALEP? If so, what does that staffing look like?</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: Certainly there is a budgeted position there under the Landcare program, the \$22.4 million over four years.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: How much specifically for this program?</p> <p>[QoN1] Mr WITHERDIN: I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: But it would be an amount to allow, let us say, one full-time equivalent staff member or would there be more?</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: That is my understanding.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Has that person been appointed?</p> <p>[QoN2] Mr WITHERDIN: I am not sure. I will take that on notice.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: What happens to the funds that are not used if the equivalent of the full-time equivalent person is not allocated for the full year? What happens to that \$250,000, the amount that is left over?</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: You are talking—</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: End of the financial year.</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: To the Landcare program?</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: You have allocated whatever the amount of money is. My guess is that it is about \$250,000 if there is one full-time equivalent staff and all the on costs. So whatever the amount is, my first question was what percentage has actually been appointed, over what period</p>	<p>\$1 million over four years, including the employment of an Aboriginal Program Officer and delivery of an Aboriginal engagement program. Landcare NSW (LNSW) have budgeted 1 FTE at \$131,000 per annum with \$119,000 per annum for engagement activities more generally.</p> <p>LNSW has consulted widely on the development of a role description and work plan, with recruitment to be undertaken by June 2020. No person has yet been appointed.</p> <p>The \$1 million is committed to the Aboriginal Landcare program element and will be used for the purposes described in the original funding agreement between LLS and LNSW. The \$1 million has been contracted to LNSW in full for the four year program. The funds will not be lost.</p>
---------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

of time? And if that position is not filled, what happens to the outstanding funds at the end of the financial year? Does it roll over to the next year or is it lost?

[QoN3]

Mr WITHERDIN: Normally with most Treasury funds, recurrent funding, there is not provision to carry over from year to year. But we would certainly expense all of that money within the Landcare program. If I look back at the last program, I am pleased to say that all of the funds allocated to that were expensed as part of that. I expect the same will happen this time. In relation to this specific position, I will need to take advice on that and come back to you.

<p>QoN #58 on page 77</p>	<p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: How many times did it [the NSW RAA Board] meet in 2019?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: That is information we have but I do not have it right in front of me. Ms Lorimer-Ward might have it?</p> <p>Ms LORIMER-WARD: There were four meetings that were face-to-face meetings and then there were three teleconferences. Actually there were more than three, there were several teleconferences.</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Adam Boyton. Apologies to Adam if he is listening.</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: How many times has it met this year?</p> <p>Ms LORIMER-WARD: This calendar year or the financial year?</p> <p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: This calendar year. Let us make it this financial year. It will be easier.</p> <p>Ms LORIMER-WARD: I would have to take that on notice.</p>	<p>The Rural Assistance Authority board has met 10 times so far this financial year.</p>
---------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #59 on page 77</p>	<p>The Hon. PETER PRIMROSE: Can I ask similar questions then about the New South Wales dairy farm training program? Can you talk about how that is operating?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: That training program has actually been waiving the fees associated with dairy farm traineeships that have been delivered through Tocal Agricultural College. I would have that actual number here with regards to the number of traineeships that have been provided over the last two years. We can provide that to you on notice.</p>	<p>Department of Primary Industries offers training courses for the dairy industry in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- AHC30216 Certificate III in Agriculture (Dairy Production traineeship)- AHC30116 Certificate III in Agriculture (agriculture traineeship)- AHC40116 Cert IV in Agriculture (agriculture traineeship)
---------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #60 on page 79</p>	<p>[QoN1] The Hon. EMMA HURST: I have some questions about rabbit calicivirus. Mr Hansen, at the last budget estimates hearing you said that a broad spectrum rabbit haemorrhagic disease virus [RHDV] is currently being investigated. Can you tell me where that research is up to and how close the vaccine is to being released?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: I do not know if there has been any progress or any further report that I have either since our last conversation on this one. I will see whether there are any updates and come back to you on that.</p> <p>[QoN2] The Hon. EMMA HURST: You might want to put this one on notice as well. Do you know if the research being conducted on this is being done on live animals or in vitro?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: I could not tell you off the top of my head. I will see if I can find out for you.</p> <p>[QoN3] The Hon. EMMA HURST: You can take it on notice. Are you aware of any research that has been conducted on non-lethal biocontrol of wild rabbits. I believe there is something called virally vectored immunocontraception, which may be less inhumane in killing the rabbits with viruses. Do you know if there is funding or any research into this? Have you heard of it? Mr HANSEN: I have not heard of it, but again that is promising if there are additional tools that are being looked at to add to the toolkit with regard to control and one that we will look into and see where that is up to.</p>	<p>Research to develop a multivalent inactivated vaccine that provides broad protection is progressing well. Recent results have shown that there is a very high likelihood of success, with complete protection shown against all strains of rabbit haemorrhagic disease virus that are known to be present in Australia. As an interim measure, a pilot vaccine against the most virulent strain (RHDV2) of these viruses is currently with the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) for approval. As soon as a permit is issued, production of this pilot vaccine will commence for use by veterinarians within 2-3 months.</p> <p>Research is being conducted on live animals.</p> <p>An Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre report states that between 1992 and 2005 various research programs were undertaken on the development of non-lethal biocontrol options specifically aimed at reducing the fertility and fecundity of rabbits. Recombinant myxoma viruses were constructed that induced an auto-immune response to components of the reproductive tract, resulting in infertility but high levels of infertility were not maintained in the long term.</p>
---------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #61 on page 80</p>	<p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: Does the department have any specific policy on how to deal with formal complaints that are made under the Animal Research Act?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: Yes.</p> <p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: Are you able to provide any details on that policy—</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: We can. The Hon. EMMA HURST: —in regard to specifically if the department is required to advise complainants of basic crucial information in regard to when research protocols that are the subject of their complaint have actually completed?</p> <p>Ms ROBINSON: I am pretty sure that the complainants will get a response letter in regard to the finalisation, but we can confirm that.</p> <p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: Thank you.</p>	<p><i>The Animal Research Act 1985</i> specifies requirements for making, investigating and determining formal complaints about an accredited research establishment, licensed animal supplier and holder of an animal research authority.</p> <p>To make a complaint it must be in writing, specify the grounds on which it is made, be signed by the complainant, and be lodged at the office of the Secretary. The Act specifies the grounds on which a complaint can be made about an accredited research establishment, an animal supply licence and an animal research authority.</p> <p>The Secretary (or delegate) must refer all complaints to the Panel for investigation and the Panel must investigate and provide a report to the Secretary. The Panel has delegated this function to Department of Primary Industries' officers so that they are able to undertake investigation and prepare an investigation report, which is provided for the consideration of the Panel.</p> <p>After considering the Panel's report, the Secretary (or delegate) must determine the complaint by either cancelling, suspending, cautioning or reprimanding, or dismissing.</p> <p>The Secretary (or delegate) is not able to cancel or suspend an accreditation, licence or authority unless: notice has been served on the holder of the intention to cancel or suspend, and reasons for the cancellation or suspension, and the holder has had a reasonable opportunity to make submissions to the Secretary in relation to the intended cancellation or suspension, and</p>
---------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

		<p>the Secretary has considered any such submission.</p> <p>As soon as practicable after determining a complaint, the Secretary (or delegate) must cause written notice of the determination to be served on both the holder of the accreditation, licence or authority the subject of the complaint, and the complainant. The determination may be to cancel or suspend the accreditation, licence or authority, caution or reprimand, or dismiss the complaint. As such, in the case of a determination to cancel or suspend an animal research authority, the complainant would be advised.</p> <p>The cancellation or suspension of an accreditation, licence or authority takes effect at the expiration of 14 days after written notice of the cancellation or suspension is served on the holder, subject to any order made by the Civil and Administrative Tribunal under Division 2 of Part 3 of Chapter 3 of the <i>Administrative Decisions Review Act 1997</i>.</p> <p>As soon as practicable after cancelling an authority, the Secretary is to cause notice of the cancellation to be given to each accredited research establishment.</p> <p>There is no requirement under the Act to inform complainants of the completion of research that occurred under an animal research authority that is the subject of a complaint.</p> <p>The <i>Animal Research Act 1985</i> makes it an offence to disclose information obtained in connection with the administration or execution of the Act unless the disclosure is made:</p>
--	--	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- with the consent of the person from whom the information was obtained- in connection with the administration or execution of the Act- for the purposes of any legal proceedings arising out of the Act or of any report of any such proceedings- in accordance with a requirement imposed under the Ombudsman Act 1974, or- with other lawful excuse. <p>Information on the complaint process is published on the Animal Ethics Infolink website at https://www.animaethics.org.au/accreditation-and-licensing/complaints</p> <p>Information on the complaint process and the number of complaints is reported and published in the Animal Research Review Panel annual reports.</p>
--	--	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #62 on page 80</p>	<p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: Do you have any information about the species of animal that the complaint is made about? Is that recorded?</p> <p>Ms ROBINSON: I am not sure. I will have to take that on notice.</p> <p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: If you could also take on notice how many complaints are received in regard to primates?</p> <p>Ms ROBINSON: Formal complaints?</p> <p>The Hon. EMMA HURST: Yes please.</p>	<p>The Department keeps records of all formal complaints received.</p> <p>The <i>Animal Research Act 1985</i> makes it an offence to disclose information obtained in connection with the administration or execution of the Act unless the disclosure is made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - with the consent of the person from whom the information was obtained - in connection with the administration or execution of the Act - for the purposes of any legal proceedings arising out of the Act or of any report of any such proceedings - in accordance with a requirement imposed under the <i>Ombudsman Act 1974</i>, or - with other lawful excuse.
---------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #63 on page 81</p>	<p>The CHAIR: Is there any work being done around share forfeiture to correct what is potentially a costly exercise for someone who has not necessarily done the wrong thing?</p> <p>Mr TURNELL: The issue has been raised from time to time over the years, but I am not aware of any particular work happening right now. But I can take it on notice and find out.</p>	<p>The <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i> and the regulations under the Act include offence provisions and administrative sanctions to support the sustainable harvest of fisheries resources and to promote a viable commercial fishing industry.</p> <p>Licensed commercial fishers who commit an offence may be issued a verbal or written warning, a penalty notice or be prosecuted. They are also liable for certain administrative sanctions in some cases.</p> <p>For some of the more serious offences in some fisheries the owner of a fishing business may also be liable, depending on the specific circumstances of the offence. In the Lobster and Abalone fisheries this can include share forfeiture.</p> <p>NSW Department of Primary Industries is considering, in consultation with industry, a Penalty Demerit Scheme for a consistent approach to the application of administrative sanctions across the NSW commercial fishing industry.</p>
---------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #64 on page 82</p>	<p>The CHAIR: Going back to the business adjustment program, an information sheet was provided for financial institutions. It is dated July 2013. Is there an updated version of that at all or is that what financial institutions and commercial fishermen are still relying on in terms of seeking loans from private financial institutions?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: I am not aware whether it has been updated or not. I am happy to have a look and provide you with whatever the latest version of that one is.</p>	<p>There is no updated version of this document as it is still relevant, however Department of Primary Industries made the 'Hunter to Harvester' guide available on the website so that fishers can learn how to adapt their businesses to quota management.</p>
<p>QoN #65 on page 82</p>	<p>Mr BARNES: If those positions are in metropolitan areas and a person leaves and the position is no longer required, of course at that point in time people who are leading business units make a decision about whether they are required to be filled or not.</p> <p>The Hon. DANIEL MOOKHEY: How many positions have not been backfilled in the past 12 months? And, on notice, how many of them have been metropolitan and how many have been regional?</p> <p>Mr BARNES: I am happy to take that on notice.</p>	<p>Regionally based FTE for the Regions, Industry, Agriculture & Resources Group increased from 2,561.6 as at 1 July 2019, to 2,646.2 as at 29 February 2020. Metropolitan based FTE increased from 870.7 to 909.1. The FTE reflects the responsibilities of the newly formed Regions, Industry, Agriculture & Resources Group. A modest increase as the financial year progresses is common, as new programs, initiatives and time-bound projects are resourced.</p>

<p>QoN #66 on page 84</p>	<p>Mr JUSTIN FIELD: I have one question to whoever wants to take it. There has been a lot of discussion about the impacts of fires on national parks and State forests. Mr Hansen, are you aware of how many hectares of private native forestry—areas that were sort of approved for active clearing over the next 12 months—were impacted by fire?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: That is probably a question best directed to LLS.</p> <p>Mr JUSTIN FIELD: Mr Witherdin?</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: I do not have that at my fingertips but I am happy to take it on notice.</p> <p>Mr JUSTIN FIELD: Yes, if you could take it on notice. There are assessments being done on public lands. Are there any assessments on wood supply and biodiversity impacts on private forested land as a result of the fires?</p> <p>Mr WITHERDIN: Okay, I will take that on notice as well</p>	<p>Approximately 200,000 hectares of Private Native Forestry Plans have been impacted by the recent fires. Private Native Forestry Plans are in place for up to 15 years.</p> <p>Local Land Services is working directly with landholders impacted by the fires on a case by case basis to understand the impact of bushfire on their property, and provide advice on land management options for economic and environmental outcomes.</p>
---------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>QoN #67 on page 84</p>	<p>The CHAIR: You will probably need to take this on notice, Mr Hansen. The new ministerial fishing in New South Wales advisory council was announced. Can you, on notice, provide the names of all the people who applied for it and the affiliations that they advised on their applications, the names and affiliations of all the members on the selection panel and short-listed candidates they recommended to you as the Minister?</p> <p>Mr HANSEN: I would have to take advice on what I can provide to you on notice without breaching privacy provisions. Whatever we can provide we will do so.</p>	<p>The <i>Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998</i> prevents the Department from disclosing personal information to the Committee.</p> <p>The assessment panel for the selection of members consisted of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter Turnell, Group Director Recreational & Aboriginal Fisheries • Darren Reynolds, Acting Group Director, Commercial Fisheries & Aquaculture • Cara Brooks, Program Leader Fisheries Programs & Performance • Richard Stevens OAM, Chairperson MFAC • Stuart Richey, Chairperson CommFish NSW • Professor Johann Bell, Chairperson RFNSW
---------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Appendix 1 – Question on Notice #19 on page 33

Dairy Advocate – work plan

Dairy industry stakeholder engagement

The Dairy Advocate will seek to engage with a broad range of dairy industry stakeholders, including dairy farmers, processor representatives, industry organisations and relevant government agencies.

Dairy Industry Advisory Panel

The Dairy Advocate will work with NSW DPI to establish a Dairy Industry Advisory Panel and develop terms of reference for the panel. It is anticipated that the panel will meet approximately monthly. The panel will assist the Dairy Advocate to prepare an industry action plan and to formulate advice for government. The panel will also assist with stakeholder engagement.

Dairy Advocate deliverables

Dairy Industry Advisory Panel

1. Establish panel by EOI process
2. Develop terms of reference for the panel
3. Chair regular meetings of the panel

Dairy Industry Action Plan

1. Determine the process for developing the action plan and for consultation
2. Develop a timeline for delivery
3. Identify resources and assistance required
4. Determine purpose and scope of the plan

Supporting implementation of the mandatory code

1. Brief the government as required on the draft code
2. Engage with ACCC
3. Monitor and report to government on the effectiveness of the mandatory dairy code in addressing the concerns of dairy farmers in NSW

Bringing farmers, processors and retailers together

1. Determine whether a forum or other event is required and, if so, when and for what purpose

Providing advice to government on issues affecting the industry

1. Participate in regular meetings with NSW DPI and the office of the Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW
2. Provide advice on delivery of dairy election commitment
3. Provide advice to the government on matters relating to the dairy industry

Appendix 2 – Question on Notice #49 on page 63

Farm Innovation Fund - Loans Approved (by LGA)

Loans as at 23 February 2020

LGA	Contracts Approved #	Amount Approved \$
ALBURY	2	450,000
ARMIDALE REGIONAL	16	3,290,500
ARMIDALE/DUMESQ	10	1,556,000
BALLINA	2	500,000
BALRANALD	24	4,990,600
BATHURST	16	2,485,800
BEGA VALLEY	5	858,000
BELLINGEN	6	1,085,000
BERRIGAN	30	7,535,150
BLAND	55	9,217,009
BLAYNEY	8	1,044,000
BOGAN	39	6,907,700
BOMBALA	2	324,000
BOOROWA	6	1,106,000
BOURKE	19	2,825,835
BREWARRINA	16	2,476,800
BROKEN HILL	6	891,780
BYRON	1	200,000
CABONNE	57	8,741,280
CAMDEN	1	75,000
CARRATHOOL	32	7,562,898
CENTRAL DARLING	19	3,786,687
CLARENCE VALLEY	3	725,000
COBAR	21	3,217,900
COFFS HARBOUR	4	1,330,000
CONARGO	3	600,000
COOLAMON	27	3,564,607
COOMA-MONARO	8	1,200,000
COONAMBLE	48	8,934,686
COOTAMUNDRA	14	2,024,603
COOTAMUNDRA GUNDAGAI	10	2,436,443
COROWA	27	5,713,472
COWRA	44	8,970,100
DENILIQUIN	12	2,570,000
DUBBO	44	7,100,720
DUNGOG	1	100,000
EDWARD RIVER	18	4,016,000
EUROBODALLA	2	300,000
FAR WEST	19	2,997,200
FEDERATION	20	3,973,794
FORBES	64	11,763,122
G'BURN MULWAREE	12	1,958,100
GILGANDRA	37	4,768,045
GLEN INN SEVERN	13	1,226,000
GLOUCESTER	3	140,000
GREATER HUME	59	9,803,828

DISCLAIMER: Data in this report is based on the Customers primary LGA

Farm Innovation Fund - Loans Approved (by LGA)

Loans as at 23 February 2020

LGA	Contracts Approved #	Amount Approved \$
GREATER TAREE	2	90,300
GRIFFITH	55	12,809,728
GUNDAGAI	12	2,257,800
GUNNEDAH	39	7,812,557
GUYRA	10	1,062,300
GWYDIR	75	12,270,613
HARDEN	3	545,000
HASTINGS	4	700,000
HAWKESBURY	1	100,000
HAY	17	4,020,000
HILLTOPS	37	5,990,909
INVERELL	43	6,315,500
JERILDERIE	14	3,018,168
JUNEE	21	4,267,651
KEMPSEY	1	43,500
KIAMA	2	450,000
KYOGLÉ	7	906,934
LACHLAN	88	16,482,215
LEETON	31	5,729,782
LISMORE	3	447,108
LIVERPOOL PLAIN	14	2,838,300
LOCKHART	39	5,665,524
MAITLAND	1	250,000
MID-COAST	3	388,000
MID-WESTERN	18	2,637,814
MOREE PLAINS	94	21,092,817
MURRAY	22	4,031,340
MURRAY RIVER	18	4,069,500
MURRUMBIDGEE	38	8,041,000
MUSWELLBROOK	1	145,000
NAMBUCCA	2	80,000
NARRABRI	70	14,205,493
NARRANDERA	43	7,361,939
NARROMINE	70	13,607,745
ONBERON	6	1,097,500
ORANGE	4	830,000
PARKES	51	7,090,023
PORT STEPHENS	1	250,000
QUEANBEYAN-PALERANG	1	250,000
RICHMOND VALLEY	4	693,000
SHOALHAVEN	5	755,000
SINGLETON	2	304,000
SNOWY MONARO REGIONAL	16	3,223,438
SNOWY RIVER	3	597,390
SNOWY VALLEYS	11	1,117,600
TAMWORTH	24	4,114,690

DISCLAIMER: Data in this report is based on the Customers primary LGA

Farm Innovation Fund - Loans Approved (by LGA)

Loans as at 23 February 2020

LGA	Contracts Approved #	Amount Approved \$
TEMORA	43	6,156,489
TENTERFIELD	9	1,106,900
TUMBARUMBA	5	1,110,000
TUMUT	1	20,100
UPPER HUNTER	17	3,054,000
UPPER LACHLAN	17	2,533,371
URALLA	12	1,964,200
URANA	12	2,262,745
WAGGA WAGGA	51	7,784,920
WAKOOL	4	750,000
WALCHA	12	1,760,063
WALGETT	78	14,252,490
WARREN	41	8,140,317
WARRUMBUNGLE	57	8,659,305
WEDDIN	20	3,040,140
WELLINGTON	13	1,763,000
WENTWORTH	21	3,843,800
WINGECARRIBEE	2	484,000
WOLLONDILLY	2	350,000
WOLLONGONG	1	145,000
YASS VALLEY	3	649,212
YOUNG	19	2,615,140
Grand Total	2,351	\$419,846,029

DISCLAIMER: Data in this report is based on the Customers primary LGA

Appendix 3 – Question on Notice #50 on page 64

Special Disaster Loan – Bushfires

February

Application	Applications	Total \$ Value	Applications	Total \$ of apps	Applications
<\$50K	142	\$ 8,028,722.00	22	\$ 974,000.00	80
>\$50K	15	\$ 4,030,000.00	0	\$ -	14
Total	157	\$ 12,058,722.00	22	\$ 974,000.00	94

March (up to 11 March)

Application	Applications	Total \$ Value	Applications	Total \$ of apps	Applications
<\$50K	31	\$ 1,443,912.00	0	\$ -	0
>\$50K	8	\$ 3,125,000.00	0	\$ -	1
Total	39	\$ 4,568,912.00	0	\$ -	1

© State of New South Wales through Department of Planning, Industry and Environment 2020. The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (March 2020). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that the information upon which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment or the user's independent adviser.