

**Question on Notice
No. 420
Asked on 28 March 2006**

QUESTION:

MR MESSENGER asked the Minister for Environment, Local Government, Planning and Women (Ms Boyle)—

Since 2003, the Government should have allocated \$500,000 per year to the Green Rewards Program, making a total of \$2m and as only \$111,000 has been expended on this program between 2003 and 2006 this should leave a total of \$1.889m in the remaining budget for the Green Rewards Program; if not, will she advise:

- (a) where has the money for the Green Reward Programs gone (reported separately for 2003/2004/2005 and the current year to date),
- (b) what funding is currently remaining in the Green Rewards Program and does it include all the unspent moneys from previous years and
- (c) where previously unspent Green Rewards Program funding is within the budget and what, if any, future funding commitment will be made under the program?

ANSWER:

- (a) The EPA has never received a budget allocation for the Green Rewards Program. Rather a Treasurer's Advance, up to a maximum drawdown of \$435,000, has funded the recent trial, where eligible Nature Refuge landowners can request re-imbursement for true and direct government charges of land tax and transfer duty only.

In this context, Green Rewards reimbursements for true and direct costs were approximately \$24,200 in 2004, \$11,300 in 2005, and \$77,000 for the year to date.

- (b) Not applicable
- (c) Not applicable