

QUESTION ON NOTICE
No. 507
Asked on Thursday, 15 March 2007

MR HORAN asked the Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries (MR MULHERIN)-

QUESTION:

With reference to any reserve, contingency or emergency funding, or funding used for one-off grants, expended by his department/s at the discretion of the minister or chief executive officer—

- (1) Will he provide for 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date, details of all items of expenditure from such fund/s and or one-off grants including (a) reason for expenditure, (b) total amount, (c) the date each item of expenditure was approved and (d) the person/s responsible for approval of expenditure?
- (2) What is the uncommitted balance of these funds at present?
- (3) Why are the reserve or contingency funding or one-off grants used rather than approved grant funds?

ANSWER:

The Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries annually directs less than 1% of Outputs funding as per the Ministerial Program Statement to an “Emergent Priority Fund”. The Emergent Priority Fund is not discretionary funding.