

QUESTION ON NOTICE
No. 833
Asked on Tuesday, 5 June 2007

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

QUESTION:

With reference to the new Biosecurity Unit—

- (1) Will he detail the structure of the unit including the numbers of staff, their job classifications and which department their position came from prior to the creation of the unit (reported separately)?
- (2) What is the current budget allocation for the unit and how much of the budget was transferred from other departments (reported separately)?

ANSWER:

- (1) The current management structure of Biosecurity Queensland consists of a Chief Executive Officer and a Chief Biosecurity Officer. Reporting to these positions are seven General Managers and a Director Biosecurity Science. Five of these positions manage programs, Animal Biosecurity, Plant Biosecurity, Chemical Use and Food Safety, Animal Welfare and Invasive Plants and Animals, while three manage operational delivery as General Manager Operations, Director Biosecurity Science and General Manager Fire Ant Control Centre. This latter position also manages the Tramp Ant Eradication Programs.

Biosecurity Queensland currently has 695 positions. While the Machinery of Government negotiations with the Department of Natural Resources and Water (NRW) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are nearly complete, there is still some fine tuning being undertaken and these numbers may change.

The staff numbers (excluding casuals but including funded vacant positions) and classification of Biosecurity Queensland by agency of origin are:

DPI&F

A total of 505 positions comprising the following officers: 5 Senior Executive Service (SES), 6 Senior Officers (SO), 95 Professional (PO), 175 Technical (TO), 88 Administrative (AO) and 136 Operational (OO)

NRW

A total of 190 positions comprising the following officers: 1 Senior Executive Service (SES), 1 Senior Officer (SO), 39 Professional (PO), 59 Technical (TO), 48 Administrative (AO) and 42 Operational (OO)

EPA

Funding equivalent to 0.5 of an administrative position (AO)

- (2) The total budget for Biosecurity Queensland is approximately \$60 million. As negotiations regarding the final transfers from NRW and EPA are not yet complete, this figure is subject to change. However, the notional transfer from the other agencies is: NRW approximately \$27.434 million and EPA approximately \$46,000.