

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 492

Asked on 5 June 2014

MR MULHERIN asked the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (MR McVEIGH)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the \$4.5m allocation in 2013-14 for the Biosecurity Emergency Response detailed on page 16 of Budget Paper 4—

Will the Minister provide a breakdown of this funding by program, including Queensland's contribution towards national partnership agreements?

ANSWER:

In addition to ongoing national commitments to eradication programs in Queensland and other states, each year there are also a range of unpredicted biosecurity emergency responses that require government intervention.

In 2013-2014 an additional \$4.5 million was provided by the Government to the Biosecurity Emergency Response fund to be allocated to new or recent biosecurity emergency responses and to ongoing National Cost Sharing arrangements.

Two separate allocations totalling \$1.49 million were directed to the Red Witchweed response in Mackay.

Another allocation of \$0.81 million has enabled the Department to respond to the Red Imported Fire Ant detection in Yarwun.

This financial year the Department has also managed an incident of Asian Green Mussels and an allocation of \$0.06 million was made from this fund to undertake the response.

A further \$0.64 million has also been directed to the bovine Johne's disease response which continues to affect the Queensland cattle industry.

The balance of \$1.5 million was directed to contributing to the funding of Queensland's ongoing contribution to National Cost Sharing programs including Banana Freckle and Avian Influenza.