

Question on Notice

No. 816

Asked on 11 August 2020

MR M MCARDLE ASKED MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND FISHERIES (HON M FURNER)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)— Will the Minister advise (a) the number of monitoring units which have been ordered and installed (broken down into individual models), (b) the number of units that have been installed and since malfunctioned (broken down into individual models), (c) the average monthly polling costs for fishers (broken down into individual models) and (d) when the VMS implementation/management investigation being undertaken by the Queensland Ombudsman will be finalised and made public?

ANSWER:

Queensland commercial fishers must have a vessel tracking unit on their vessel in order to fish. Commercial fishers can choose from a number of units that meet minimum standards and negotiate a relevant commercial contract with a range of third-party providers.

As such the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries does not collect or hold information relevant to parts (a), (b) and (c) of the question.

In respect to part (d) of the question, I can advise that the department is cooperating fully with the Office of the Queensland Ombudsman. It is noted that the investigation is ongoing and is yet to be finalised by the Office of the Queensland Ombudsman.