

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 92

asked on 25 February 2021

MRS D FRECKLINGTON ASKED THE MINISTER FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND MANUFACTURING AND MINISTER FOR WATER (HON G BUTCHER)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the government's water discount election commitment—

Will the Minister outline (a) what crops will be eligible for the 50 percent discount under the government's definition of 'horticulture', (b) how will the government calculate discounts and eligibility of water discounts for those growers with both horticulture production and other crops under the same allocation and take and (c) will the government be providing extra resources to conduct enforcement of this new discounting processes and if so, what will this budget allocation be in 2021-22?

ANSWER:

As part of the 2020–21 State Budget, the Queensland Government committed \$81.6 million to subsidise irrigation pricing over the next three years including \$50 million to fund and implement this commitment.

As noted in response to Question on Notice 48 tabled on 26 March 2021, implementation of the government's election commitment on irrigation prices is currently underway in consultation with stakeholders, including finalising arrangements for determining customer eligibility for the 50 per cent discount. These details will be communicated to all stakeholders as soon as possible and, if the Honourable Member would like a briefing on the implementation arrangements once finalised, the Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water will be pleased to assist.