

Question on Notice

No. 90

Asked on Thursday, 15 February 2024

MS A LEAHY asked the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities (HON M FURNER)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the number of full time and part time (full time equivalents) associated with the Wild Dog Barrier Fence reported annually since 2015?

ANSWER:

The number of staff associated with the operations of the Wild dog Barrier Fence since 2015 are outlined as per the table below.

Wild Dog Barrier Fence FTE	
Year	Staff
2015	20.00
2016	20.00
2017	19.00
2018	14.00
2019	19.00
2020	18.00
2021	20.00
2022	19.00
2023	16.00
2024	16.00

The number of staff associated with the Wild Dog Barrier Fence has reduced in line with budget measures to address increasing maintenance and operating costs.

The reduction of patrol officers during this time is an operational decision that has allowed for continuation of operations and at the same time allowed for the program to continue to meet rising costs of materials, vehicles, fuel and plant and equipment expenses that are fundamental necessities for maintaining the barrier fence.

The reduction of staff numbers has been achieved through natural attrition.