

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2010-2011

Questions on Notice

Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water

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QTON - Training programs

Asked by **Mr Seselja** on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 3]

In relation to :

In house training programs provided at a cost of \$58,000 - what was the IT program (\$1,990)? What was the purpose of \$8,023 on time management? Who provided the training for the bicycle fleet?

Mr Corbell: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Information Technology training session aimed to improve information management, particularly email storage, retention and management.

The purpose of the time management training was to review current practices of managing time and workload, and provides training in skills and strategies to enable staff to manage their time more effectively. The cost covered the one full day and one half day training provided and venue hire.

The cycle training for the bike fleet was provided by Cycle Education Pty Ltd (Campbell ACT).

QTON – Bicycle fleet

Asked by Mr Seselja on 21 May 2010: Mr Corbell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 4]

In relation to: Bicycle fleet

Can you provide the form that DECCEW staff are required to fill out to book a bike?
Process for booking bikes for staff use - tabling the form

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

In order to be eligible to use the DECCEW bicycle fleet, staff members must firstly:

- attend a compulsory orientation session that includes road safety and a practical cycling exercise;
- complete the bike fleet application form (attached);
- complete the Physical Activity Readiness Questionnaire (attached); and
- sign the bike fleet Code of Conduct (attached).

Bicycles are booked through a common Outlook Calendar system. On their return to the office, staff members are asked to complete a log book to monitor kilometres travelled.

QTON – Staffing

Asked by Mr Seselja on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 6]

In relation to :

Please provide a break down of the executive level officers?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

This information was provided in response to Question on Notice 694 (attached).

In relation to parts 18 – 20 of the question this matters comes under the responsibility of the minister for Land and Planning Services and not the Minister for Planning.

**Government—training programs
(Question No 694)**

Mr Seselja asked the Minister for the Environment, Climate Change and Water, upon notice, on 18 March 2010:

- (1) What are the overhead fixed costs for the Minister's department and each agency in their portfolio.
- (2) How much has the department and each agency spent on training programs in 2009-10 to date.
- (3) What was the purpose of each training program and how many staff participated.
- (4) What in-house training programs were undertaken in (a) 2008-09 and (b) 2009-10 to date which resulted in no marginal cost to the Government.
- (5) What in-house training programs were undertaken in (a) 2008-09 and (b) 2009-10 to date which resulted in a cost to the Government and what was this cost.
- (6) What is the average oncost for each officer in the Minister's department and each agency in their portfolio in 2009-10 and what is included in this oncost.
- (7) What is the marginal oncost of an additional worker at the current staffing levels.
- (8) What specialist qualifications are required by staff for the Minister's department and each agency in their portfolio to undertake its roles and responsibilities and what skills are currently lacking in department and each agency.
- (9) How many employees are currently employed and what level is each.
- (10) What is the average salary for each employee with a specialist skill that is required for the Minister's department and each agency to undertake its roles and responsibilities.
- (11) What training must employees undertake on a regular basis to maintain their specialist skills and what is the cost of this training.
- (12) What specialist equipment is required for officers to undertake their jobs.
- (13) For each piece of equipment referred to in part (12), (a) how many are required, (b) what is the capital cost of each and (c) what is the running cost.
- (14) Over what period is each piece of equipment, referred to in part (12), depreciated.
- (15) How many graduates are employed in the Minister's department and each agency in their portfolio.

- (b) 2009-10 to date (as at 31 March 2010)
- Time Management: \$8,023; and
 - Training for the bicycle fleet: \$800.
- (6) The Department uses the *Department of Treasury Salary and Admin On-Cost Model* (October 2008) to determine salary on-cost estimates for each generic classification based on an average salary cost of each classification, and a standard figure for administrative on-costs.
- The salary on-costs include estimates for superannuation; employer productivity superannuation contribution; long service leave provision; annual leave loading; workers' compensation premium, and other issues as necessary on a case-by-case basis. The salary on-cost total is 16.41% of the average salary.
- The administrative on-cost model is based on average estimates for IT and communications related costs; accommodation; insurance; training; fleet; other administrative items including OH&S expenses, office machines and equipments, stationery and postage; and a corporate component covering payroll and human resources costs per FTE across Government. The total standard figure for administrative on-costs (in the October 2008 Guideline) was \$15,790.
- The Salary and Administration On-Cost Model is updated annually to assist with budget preparation.
- (7) The marginal oncost of an additional worker is dependant on the level/classification of the employee.
- (8) All Departmental staff are recruited against job specific criteria. All selection processes for Departmental positions are merit based and the best people are appointed to the positions.
- (9) The Department (including the Office of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment) currently employs 108 staff. The break down of classification is as follows:

Classification	No. of staff
ASO4	2
ASO5	14
ASO6	22
SES	8
GAA	1
PO 2	7
SOGC	20
SOGB	12
SOGA	7
SPOC	4
STOC	1
SPOA	2
TO3	5
TO4	3
Total	108

QTON – Solar hot water rebates

Asked by Ms Bresnan on 21 May 2010: Mr Corbell took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 7]

In relation to: Solar hot water rebates

In relation to solar hot water rebates - were there any discussions with them about why Bonner has been a focus and why it has not been extended to other new areas?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

No. The LDA has advised that:

“Bonner is the most recent LDA estate currently available to the public. A range of sustainability initiatives are being assessed for future LDA estates.

The energy saving hot water rebate was one of the key deliverables in the Bonner business plan that was approved by the LDA Board in 2007. The aim was to provide an incentive to make it cost comparable to install high quality renewable energy source hot water systems such as solar or heat pumps, rather than the traditional gas or electric systems. It was a project specific initiative to encourage adoption of these technologies within the industry over this period.”

QTON – Suburban pond projects

Asked by Mrs Dunne on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 15]

In relation to: Suburban pond projects

Please provide the cost of establishing Banksia Street pond. Has this been on budget?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The cost of the project (design, civil works and landscaping) is \$368,000. The project is on budget.

QTON – Suburban pond projects

Asked by Mrs Dunne on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 15]

In relation to: Suburban pond projects

Run-down of the cost of establishing Banksia Street pond, the projected cost for Dickson and Lyneham, and the inter-relation with the Dickson and Lyneham pond, and the Flemington Road pond. The full cost of the Dickson, Lyneham, Flemington complex, how much was spent on Flemington was proposed to be spent on the other two, whether that is on budget.

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

PROJECT	ITEM	COST \$
Banksia St Wetland	Design	38,000
	Civil Works	265,000
	Landscaping	65,000
	Reticulation	Nil
<i>Subtotal</i>		368,000
Flemington Ponds	Design	290,000
	Civil Works	4,636,000
	Landscaping	700,000
	Reticulation	2,500,000
<i>Subtotal</i>		8,126,000

The pond construction (civil works and landscaping) came in on budget.

Dickson & Lyneham Wetlands	Design & community engagement	1,153,500
	Civil Works	9,696,500
	Landscaping	720,000
	Reticulation	2,300,000
<i>Subtotal</i>		13,870,000

QTON – Resource management plans

Asked by Mr Seselja on 21 May 2010: Mr Corbell took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 18]

In relation to: Resource Management Plans

Can you provide a copy of the DECCEW resource management plan?

Mr Corbell: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

DECCEW's Resource Management Plan is attached.

Please contact the Committee Office for a copy of the Resource Management Plan

QTON – Review of Think Water, Act Water

Asked by Mrs Dunne on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 22]

In relation to : Review of *Think water, act water*

Information about review process for *Think water, act water* including budget, flow chart and milestones

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The funding for the review of *Think water, act water* is contained within the existing Departmental budget.

The timeframe of the review process is under development and may be influenced by a number of factors including the nature and complexity of the comments received, and government processes and deliberation.

QTON – Detailed breakdown of initiatives- reconciliation

Asked by Mr Smyth on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 24-24]

In relation to: Detailed breakdown of initiatives- reconciliation

Provide a detailed breakdown of initiatives- reconciliation (p291, BP4 and BP3, page 87)

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

	Amount \$'000
2010-11 Budget - Total Costs (BP4 page 291)	24,923
Less: 2010-11 Initiatives	1,350
	23,573
Less: 2009-10 Estimated Outcome	25,975
Variance	-2,402

The above variance reflects a combination of factors, which are detailed in the following table:

	\$'000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> cessation of initiative funding resulting from budget rollovers from 2008-09 into 2009-10, i.e. Implementation of Climate Change Strategy (\$0.905m)¹, Renewable Energy Targets (\$0.175m), Solar Power Facility (\$0.120m), and Implementation of the Feed-in Tariff (\$0.100m); 	-1,300
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> reduction in funding for one-off Commonwealth Grants; 	-795
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> cessation of FMA Section 16B rollovers, i.e. Feed-in Tariff (\$0.150k), Commercial Bathroom Retrofit (\$0.121m), Solar Power Facility (\$0.090m); 	-361
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> reduction in Commonwealth funding for the Salt Reduction Project; 	-200
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> adjustment to efficiency dividend; 	-184
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> cessation of 2009-10 initiative funding for Plastic Bags; 	-85
Partly Offset by:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> incremental increase in funding associated with the 2008-09 Administration Arrangement transfer from TAMS and the 2008-09 Supplementary Appropriation; 	207

¹ This relates to one-off funding for Community Grants

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increase in funding for ongoing initiatives from the 2009-10 Budget, i.e. ACTSmart, previously Switch your Thinking (\$0.115m), Commercial Waste (\$0.033m), and Community Partnerships (\$0.010m); 	158
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • funding for an increase in clerical wages; 	137
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • revised superannuation contributions; and 	19
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • incremental increase in transfer to TAMS of Animal Welfare Officer. 	2
Variance between the 2009-10 estimated outcome and the 2010-11 Budget	-2,402

QTON – Non-potable water projects

Asked by Ms Hunter on 21 May 2010: Mr Corbell took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 30]

In relation to: Non-potable water projects

BP3-p87 - Cost benefit analysis of non-potable water projects

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

A cost benefit analysis was undertaken in the 2009 CSIRO Report *Canberra Integrated Urban Waterways: Feasibility Study*. This report has been used as the basis of the development of the program to date. A CD of the report and its appendices is attached.

Please contact the Committee Office for a copy of the report.

QTON – Non-potable water projects

Asked by Mrs Dunne on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 30-31]

In relation to: Piped Water Projects

Breakdown of costs for piped water projects? (Gunghalin, Molonglo – Coombes & Wright Ponds, North Weston)

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Valley Ponds – Gungahlin

<i>Total Estimated Costs of Project:</i>	<i>\$m</i>
Design and Supervision	0.40
Construction	4.38
Procurement Fees of 4%	0.18
Insurance	0.04
Other	1.50
Interpretative measures	0.10
Scout Hall and car park landscaping	0.47
Valley Ponds landscaping	0.85
Community engagement / education	0.08
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$8m</i>

North Weston - \$5m

<i>Total Estimated Costs of Project:</i>	<i>\$m</i>
Design and Supervision	0.68
Construction	4.12
Procurement Fees of 4%	0.16
Insurance	0.04
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$5m</i>

DECCEW has no funding for any works associated with Molonglo (Coombes and Wright ponds).

QTON –Savings

Asked by Mr Smyth on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 35]

In relation to: Savings

What is the value of the saving on consultancies?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

In 2010-11 the Department will reduce its consultancy budget by \$108,000.

QTON –Savings

Asked by Mr Smyth on 21 May 2010: Mr Corbell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 35]

In relation to: Savings

What is the value of savings on travel costs?

Mr Corbell: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

In 2010-11 the Department will reduce its travel budget by \$10,000.

QTON – Sponsorships

Asked by Mr Smyth on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 35]

In relation to: Sponsorships

In 2009-10, how much did the department spend on sponsorships? What is the value of DECCEW sponsorships? Please provide a list of these sponsorships

Mr Corbell: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

In 2009-10, to date the Department has spent \$64,500 on sponsorships. The list of sponsorships is provided below:

- 2010 National Business Leaders Forum on Sustainable Development;
- Sustainable House Day;
- Young Achievement Australia;
- Empowering Indigenous Women's Conference; and
- Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative – Wakakirri Story Dance Association.

QTON –Resource Use

Asked by Mr Smyth on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 35]

In relation to: Resource use

Can you provide additional information about the intended reduction in stationery use?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

In 2010-11 the Department will reduce its stationery budget by \$10,000.

QTON –Community organisations

Asked by Mrs Dunne on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 44-45]

In relation to : Community Organisations

Is there any in kind support provided for community partners?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

No.

QTON –Solar panels at Canberra stadium

Asked by Mr Seselja on 21 May 2010: Mr Corbell took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 46-47]

In relation to: Solar panels at Canberra Stadium

Solar panels at Canberra Stadium (generating capacity) - which agency was involved in providing advice to the Chief Minister?

Mr Corbell: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Department of Territory and Municipal Services.

QTON –Solar panels at Canberra stadium

Asked by Mr Seselja on 21 May 2010: Mr Corbell took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 48]

In relation to: Solar panels at Canberra Stadium

Were you advised that the contractor had failed to obtain necessary clearances to commission the system?

Mr Corbell: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

No.

QTON –Solar panels at Canberra stadium

Asked by Mr Seselja on 21 May 2010: Mr Corbell took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 48]

In relation to: Solar panels at Canberra Stadium

Why would the contractors not have obtained the necessary clearances?

Mr Corbell: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The contractor did not provide an explanation to DECCEW.

QTON –Solar panels at Canberra stadium

Asked by Mr Seselja on 21 May 2010: Mr Corbell took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 48]

In relation to: Solar panels at Canberra Stadium

If the clearances had not been obtained, whether it can be clarified that when the metre was running that you saw, was the metre – was it switched on legally. Was it legally able to be switched on?

Mr Corbell: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

DECCEW has no regulatory role in this matter.

QTON –Solar panels

Asked by Mr Seselja on 21 May 2010: Mr Corbell took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 48]

In relation to: Solar panels at Canberra Stadium

What has been the final budget for the solar panels at Canberra Stadium and also Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve? Could you clarify the correct figure for the combined project and also a breakdown of the two?

Mr Corbell: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The combined Tidbinbilla and Canberra Stadium project cost \$467,000.
Canberra Stadium - \$309,000 and Tidbinbilla - \$158,000.

QTON –Nature Conservation Act

Asked by Mrs Dunne on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 49]

In relation to: Nature Conservation Act

When did the review of the Nature Conservation Act commence? When was it scheduled to be completed?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

Preliminary analysis commenced in May 2007. This aspect of the review was completed in June 2008. Due to the complicated nature of the review, and the need for extensive internal consultation, it has not yet been finalised. It is anticipated that a discussion paper will be released for public comment shortly.

QTON –Nature Conservation Act

Asked by Mrs Dunne on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 49]

In relation to: Nature Conservation Act

Can you provide a timeline on the progress of this review?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

As I stated at the hearing, I am unable give a definitive time frame, but I expect a discussion paper in relation to options for the restructure of the Nature Conservation Act will be released shortly for public consultation, and amendments will be brought to the Assembly some time next year.

QTON –Nature Conservation Act

Asked by Mrs Dunne on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 49-50]

In relation to: Nature Conservation Act

Could you provide a timeline of when this project started and where it, where the responsibility has been for the review at various times and in various departments?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

Funding was initially provided for the review of the *Nature Conservation Act 1980* in the 2006-07 financial year. Preliminary analysis commenced in that year.

The Department of Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water has had responsibility for the review since the establishment of the department in November 2008. Prior to this date, responsibility for the review was with the Department of Territory and Municipal Services.

QTON –Nature Conservation Act

Asked by Mrs Dunne on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 50]

In relation to: Nature Conservation Act

How much has the review cost so far?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

In addition to Departmental staff time, in 2007-08 \$25,000 has been spent.

QTON –Nature Conservation Act

Asked by Mrs Dunne on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 50]

In relation to: Nature Conservation Act

What timeframe was originally given for the completion of the Nature Conservation Act?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

Review of the *Nature Conservation Act 1980* was a 2004 election commitment for completion during the Stanhope Government’s second term.

QTON – "OfficeSmart and BusinessSmart programs"

Asked by Ms Hunter on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 53]

In relation to: OfficeSmart and BusinessSmart programs

Can you provide a list of the businesses accredited with OfficeSmart and BusinessSmart programs?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The 25 organisations accredited under the ACTSmart *Office* (formerly know as OfficeSmart) and ACTSmart *Business* (formerly known as BusinessSmart) Programs are attached.

A number of other offices and businesses have signed up to the programs but are not yet accredited.

ACCREDITED ORGANISATIONS

(as of 25/5/10)

Since the program commenced in August 2009, 25 businesses and offices have been accredited.

ACTSmart Businesses accredited

Koala Playschool

Kowalski Recruitment

National Convention Centre Canberra

Fringe Hairdressing

Canberra CBD Limited

Canberra Labor Club City

Canberra Labor Club Canberra

Canberra Labor Club Ginninderra

Canberra Labor Club Weston Creek

Canberra Stadium

Crowne Plaza

DR Fisher Building Projects

Shop Basics Pty Ltd
Waste Away
Zone 3 Canberra
Easycare Landscaping

ACTSmart Offices accredited

Australian Prudential Regulations Authority
Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA)
GHD
Office of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment
ACT Legislative Assembly
Conservation Council ACT Region
Dickson Motor Vehicle Registry
Land Development Agency
Department of the Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water

QTON – "OfficeSmart and BusinessSmart programs"

Asked by Ms Hunter on 21 May 2010: Mr Corbell took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 53]

In relation to: OfficeSmart and BusinessSmart programs

Is there some sort of measurement or some sort of way that you are getting an idea of how much waste is being diverted from landfill through these programs?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The quantity of waste diverted from landfill through the ACTSmart *Office* and *Business* programs is calculated from the difference between an initial audit when a business signs up to the program and a post program audit prior to accreditation.

It is estimated that the participants have diverted 64,655 kg per month of waste from landfill.

QTON –Budget initiative-climate change

Asked by Ms Hunter on 21 May 2010: Mr Corbell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 66]

In relation to: Budget initiative - climate change

In relation to the new initiative - Progressing actions of climate change - Can you give us a bit of a run-down on the amounts and how this money will be spent and maybe provide a line by line allocation for the programs?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

- The allocation of \$1,041,000 in 2010-11 consists of:
 1. \$407,000 to address information gaps and disaggregate data to inform cost effective ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in government operations;
 2. \$305,000 for accessing technical advice, including through the ICRC, on GHG performance against targets and effectiveness of policies and programs; and
 3. \$329,000 for 3 staff (and associated corporate costs)
 - a. 1 FTE for coordinating implementation of an ACT Government Carbon Neutrality Framework;
 - b. 1 FTE for implementation of National Energy Customer Framework and for the National Strategy for Energy Efficiency; and
 - c. 1 FTE for administration and reporting on ACT specific energy efficiency projects.
- The allocation of \$646,000 in 2011-12 consists of:
 1. \$313,000 for accessing technical advice; and
 2. \$333,000 for 3 staff within DECCEW (as above).
- The allocation of \$445,000 in 2012-13 consists of:
 1. \$107,000 for accessing technical advice; and
 2. \$338,000 for staffing within DECCEW (as above).
- The allocation of \$452,000 in 2013-14 consists of:
 1. \$110,000 for accessing technical advice; and
 2. \$342,000 for 3 staff within DECCEW (as above).

QTON –Monergy

Asked by Mr Seselja on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 66-67]

In relation to: Monergy

Monergy - costs to date? Breakdown on these costs? How much has been spent?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

The total cost to 21 May 2010 spent on the Monergy campaign is \$120,860.81. The breakdown of costs is as follows:

<i>Description</i>	<i>Cost (GST exc.)</i>
Creative campaign concept fee	\$25,000.00
Monergy press ads	\$950.00
Monergy web banners	\$750.00
Monergy launch	\$1,116.00
Radio ads production and placement	\$25,286.50
Canberra Show panel	\$800.00
Monergy advertising print placement	\$21,783.81
Bus advertising placements	\$30,067.50
Adshel advertising	\$10,510.00
Design for banner system	\$2,700.00
DL brochure design	\$975.00
Promotional material	\$922.00
	\$120,860.81

QTON – Toilet smart program

Asked by Mr Seselja on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 68]

In relation to : Advertising and marketing

Please provide costs associated with the ToiletSmart program?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

In 2009-10, the costs to 21 May 2010 in promoting ToiletSmart are:

- Promotional material - \$687.50
- Advertising creative and production – \$5,880.00
- Printing - \$1,899.80
- Advertising placement - \$12,992.78

QTON –ACTSmart

Asked by Mr Seselja on 21 May 2010 : Mr Corbell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 68]

In relation to: ACTSmart advertising and marketing

What is the budgeted amount for 2010-2011 for ACTSmart?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Internal budgets have not yet been finalised.

QTON –Advertising and marketing

Asked by Mr Seselja on 21 May 2010: Mr Corbell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 21 May 2010 p 68]

In relation to: Advertising and marketing

What is the total budget for advertising and marketing for 2010-11? Please provide a breakdown of these figures?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Internal budgets have not yet been finalised.

General questions relating to environment issues and DECCEW

ZED SESELJA : To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water

In relation to : General questions relating to environment issues and DECCEW

Climate Change Institute

1. What is the nature of the relationship between the Department and the Climate Change Institute?
2. What interaction does DECCEW have with the Institute?

Green Energy

3. How much does the ACT Government pay per kilowatt hour of non-green energy, and how much does it pay per kilowatt hour of green energy?

Expertise

4. What in-house expertise does the Department have that specifically relates to the effect of climate change, or does the Department outsource this advice?

Civic Petrol Plume

5. Could you please update the Committee on the state of the Civic Petrol Plume?

Mr Corbell - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. In the 2008-09 budget, the ACT Government provided a one-off grant of \$2.5 million (exclusive of GST) to establish the Climate Change Institute at the Australian National University (ANU). A Deed of Grant formalised the arrangements between the ANU, and the ACT, represented by DECCEW.
2. The Deed of Grant provided for collaboration with the Territory on the goals of the ACT's Climate Change Strategy, *Weathering the Change*. DECCEW also interacts with the Institute through research activities including:
 - a. scoping of vulnerability assessments for the ACT and region;
 - b. Climate Change and the Public Sphere research project; and
3. DECCEW is not able to provide this information. The *Government Procurement Act 2001* applies to the *Supply of Electricity to the Australian Capital Territory* contract - C05209, between the ACT and ActewAGL Retail. This provides that contract information such as costs per kilowatt hour are treated as "Confidential Information" because it "would disclose information having a commercial value that would be, or could reasonably be expected to be, destroyed or diminished if the information was disclosed". The Supply of Electricity Contract is managed by the Department of Land and Property Services.
4. The Department has a range of expertise and skills relevant to the effects of climate change. These include science, economic, and engineering

5. In 2008, to assist in the remediation of the Civic Petrol Plume, a further three groundwater wells were installed in Bunda Street, giving a total of 14 active wells in and around the plume. Seven multi phase vacuum extraction (remediation) events have removed over 2,100 kilograms (approximately 2,000 litres) of free petrol product along with over 24,000 litres of impacted groundwater (petrol dissolved in water).

Recent gauging by the Department (Environment Protection Authority) has shown that the extent of the plume has shrunk significantly since the commencement of remediation in 2007.

Parsons Brinckerhoff, the environmental consultants undertaking the remediation, is undertaking a review to determine whether ongoing extraction events are required or whether the monitoring of groundwater and vapour in wells is sufficient to assess and manage the ongoing risks posed by the plume.

The Environment Protection Authority will determine the most appropriate action once it has reviewed the consultant's report and recommendations. The outcomes of the remedial works to date and recommendations on future actions are programmed to be presented to relevant Government agencies and local utility companies in early June.

Higher duties allowance

ZED SESELJA : To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water

In relation to : Higher Duties Allowance

1. Why have 15 staff been on HDA for an average of 14.5 months?
2. Why is each staff member on HDA?
3. Is this length of time for staff to be on HDA consistent with public sector management guidelines and principles?
4. Why are only two of these positions as at March 2010 advertised?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. The average is influenced by a small number of permanent ACT Government employees who have taken on Higher Duties in a program funded or externally funded long term temporary contract position within DECCEW.
2. It would be inappropriate to detail individual staff member's personnel arrangements. In general, staff members take on Higher Duties in recognition of a broader work role, vacancies within the Department or more broadly in the ACT public service.
3. In all but one of the 15 positions listed, the length of time for staff members to be on Higher Duties is consistent with the Public Sector Management Guidelines and principles. The remaining position will be advertised in the near future for permanent filling.
4. Only two of the 15 positions were available for permanent filling, and these positions were advertised.

No waste

ZED SESELJA : To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water

Ref: BP4 page 293

In relation to : No Waste

1. Why has the review of the no waste policy not been complete?
2. How is it progressing?
3. When will it be complete?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. The 2009-10 Budget provided funding for two years to develop a future waste strategy. Work is progressing well.
2. The Department is just under halfway through the project. The Department is developing the policy, having regard to the intersections with other policies that exist, particularly the energy policy and greenhouse gas reduction strategies. The Waste Policy will be released for public comment shortly.
3. The Government expects to release the waste strategy in the 2010-11 financial year.

IT and advertising

ZED SESELJA : To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water

In relation to : IT and Advertising for DECCEW;

1. What is the budgeted cost of the provision of IT services for the Department for 2010-11?
2. What is the budgeted or forecast increase in costs for the provision of IT services in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14?
3. What will be the marginal cost and the average cost of the provision of IT services at the forecast staffing levels in 2010-11?
4. How much will be spent on advertising in 2010-11, and what is forecast to be spent in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14, and how is this spending broken down between i) outputs and ii) design, printing, distribution etc.
5. What form of advertising will be undertaken in 2010-11?
6. What is the purpose of each form of advertising to be undertaken in 2010-11?
7. How much has been spent on graphic design purposes in 2009-10, and how much will be spent on graphic design in 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14?
8. How much has been spent on advertising in 2009-10 to date, and what forms of advertising does this include?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

1. The budgeted IT costs for 2010-11 is estimated to be \$0.458 million.
2. The costs will increase by indexation. IT costs are also affected by staffing levels.
3. The marginal cost of the provision of IT services at the forecast staffing levels in 2010-11 is \$4,201 per FTE.
4. Internal budgets have not yet been finalised.
5. Internal budgets have not yet been finalised.
6. Internal budgets have not yet been finalised.
7. Invoices paid by the Department have not provided a comprehensive breakdown of money spent on graphic design purposes.
8. Approximately \$250,000. This comprises radio, print (including brochures), online, electronic billboard and cinema advertising.

Budget initiatives

ZED SESELJA : To ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change

BP 3

In relation to : Budget initiatives involving DECCEW;

1. For each expense, revenue or capital measure reported in Budget Paper No. 3 which applies to the Department:
 - a. what is the staffing increase required
 - b. what are the IT requirements, including those which are to be purchased “off the shelf” and those which are to be custom built
 - c. what is the average on cost per additional staff member
 - d. what consultancies are required, including the purpose of the consultancy and budgeted cost, and whether the contract for the consultancy will be single select or open tender.
 - e. What are the capital requirements, including any equipment that will be purchased
 - f. Has the Department offset any funding to accommodate any part of the initiative, and what was the offset?
 - g. Will the initiative require any form of regulatory change and if so, what change is required, and will a regulatory impact statement be published prior to it being considered by the Assembly?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:–

The ACT Government prepares its budget on an outputs basis. Data at that level is published in the Budget Papers, along with budgeted financial statements for agencies. Similar information on actual performance is published in annual reports including audited financial statements. Data is not available in the form and at the level of disaggregation requested without diversion of significant resources from DECCEW’s ongoing business that I am not prepared to authorise.

Budget costs

ZED SESELJA : To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water

BP 4

In relation to : Budgeted Costs for DECCEW;

1. What is the budgeted cost for the Department in 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 of
 - a. Electricity
 - b. Internet communications
 - c. Telecommunications
 - d. Travel for senior executive staff
 - e. Travel for non-executive staff
 - f. Local travel, including taxis, bus fares, and vehicles
 - g. Printing
 - h. Paper
 - i. Official entertainment
 - j. Consultant's fees
 - k. Office supplies

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

	2009-10 \$'000	2010-11 \$'000	2011-12 \$'000	2012-13 \$'000	2013-14 \$'000
a. Electricity	72				
b. Internet Communication	9				
c. Telecommunications	65				
d. Travel (not separated to distinguish between senior executive staff and non-executive staff)	170				
e. Travel for non-executive staff	See d. above				
f. Local Travel	26				
g. Printing	110				
h. Paper	Included in k. Office Supplies				
i. Official entertainment	13				
j. Consultant's fees	2,856				
k. Office Supplies	64				

Budget costs for 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 are unavailable as internal budgets have yet to be completed.

Budget costs

ZED SESELJA : To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water

BP 4

In relation to : Budgeted Costs and DECCEW

1. What are the annual depreciation costs for the Department?
 - a. How much depreciation is allocated to small capital items which are used in the day-to-day activities of the Department, and how much is related to major capital works or items?
 - b. What are those major capital works or items specifically and how much is the depreciation for each annually?
2. What capital initiatives will be completed by the Department in 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14?
 - a. What was the original cost of those initiatives when they were first considered by Government?
 - b. What is the current budgeted cost of each initiative?
 - c. What are the ongoing costs to the Budget of the initiative, including running costs and depreciation costs?
3. What capital initiatives (or expenditure on capital equipment) were completed/will be completed by the Department in 2009-10?
 - a. What was the original cost of those initiatives when they were first considered by Government?
 - b. What is the current budgeted cost of the initiative?
 - c. What are the ongoing costs to the Budget of the initiative, including running costs and depreciation costs?
 - d. What was the estimated completion date when the initiative was first considered by Government?

Mr Corbell: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. The depreciation costs for the Department in 2010-11 will be \$192k.
 - a. \$54k relates to small capital items which are used in the day-to-day activities and \$138k relates to capital works.
 - b. The capital works relates to the Dickson and Lyneham ponds. The annual depreciation for this asset is \$138k.
2. The Department will complete the Dickson and Lyneham Ponds in 2010-11 and the North Weston / Molonglo Stormwater Harvesting Scheme, Valley Ponds and Stormwater harvesting scheme in 2011-12.
 - a. The original costs of project is as follows:

i. Dickson and Lyneham Ponds	\$13.870m
ii. North Weston	\$5.000m
iii. The Valley Ponds	\$6.500m
 - b. The budgeted costs are consistent with the original costs above.
 - c. The ongoing costs relate to depreciation, specifically:

i. Dickson and Lyneham Ponds	\$0.138m
ii. North Weston	\$0.088m

iii. The Valley Ponds

\$0.090m

3. The Department has completed the Canberra Stadium solar panels and the Tidbinbilla Nature reserve solar panels in 2009-10.
 - a. The combined original cost of the projects was estimated to be \$0.680 million.
 - b. The budgeted cost for these projects was \$0.756 million. The actual costs for this project was \$0.467 million.
 - c. The ongoing maintenance costs will be the responsibility of the Department of Territory and Municipal Services and the Department of Land and Property Services. The ongoing costs are minimal and will be offset by savings in electricity costs.
 - d. The original estimated completion date was October 2009.

Environmental measures

ZED SESELJA : To ask the Environment, Climate Change and Water

In relation to : Environmental measures for DECCEW;

1. What are the estimated greenhouse gas emissions for the Department in 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14?
2. What initiatives or measures has the Department implemented in 2009-10 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions?
 - a. What is the cost of each initiative
 - b. how much greenhouse gas has each initiative saved?
3. What initiatives or measures will the Department implement in 2010-11 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions?
 - a. What is the budgeted cost of these initiatives
 - b. How much greenhouse gas will each initiative save?
4. How much paper recycling will be undertaken in 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14, what percentage of total paper used is this, and what benchmark will the Department measure its success in recycling against?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. The Department has not forecast projected emissions at this stage. The Department's initial focus is to audit our current processes and collect meaningful and accurate data.
2. DECCEW has and is implementing a number of measures to reduce the Department's greenhouse gas emissions, including increasing the amount of renewable energy purchased by the Department, encouraging staff to turn off appliances when not in use, and the installation of smart meters to monitor electricity consumption.

The Department has also signed up to the CitySwitch program, and encourages staff members to use alternative forms of transport such as the Department's bicycle fleet.

Data on greenhouse gas emissions will be drawn from OSCAR and reported in the Department's Annual Report, however greenhouse gas emissions savings from each initiative cannot be separately reported.

3. DECCEW's Resource Management Plan outlines initiatives, however projected costs and savings have not been calculated.
4. Paper recycling projections have not been made.

Grants programs

ZED SESELJA : To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water

In relation to : Grants Programs and DECCEW;

1. What grants programs within the Environment portfolio will commence in 2010-11, and which grants programs will cease?
2. Which grant programs ceased in 2009-10?
3. For each program above, what is the total cost of the program, including a) the cost to administer the program; b) the cost to advertise the program and c) the total amount of grants that are budgeted to be awarded in 2009-10 and 2010-11?
4. For those grants programs commencing in 2010-11, when is the program scheduled to cease?
5. What process will be used to determine the recipients of the grants?
6. Will grants under each program be contingent upon a contribution from the recipient of the grant?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. No grants programs will commence (ie new grant programs) or cease in 2010-11.
2. A single round of Community Energy Grants were conducted in 2009-10.
3. The total cost for Community Energy Grants program was made up of:
 - a) existing program staff (an estimate of staff cost is not available);
 - b) print and direct mail advertising of approximately \$3000; and
 - c) \$1.0m.
4. Not applicable.
5. Not applicable.
6. Not applicable.

Overhead costs

ZED SESELJA : To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water

BP 4

In relation to : Overhead costs for DECCEW;

1. What are the overhead fixed costs for the Department for 2010-11 and how much is each?
2. How are these costs forecast to change between 2010-11 and 2013-14 (please provide a breakdown by output).
3. What are the variable and marginal costs for the Department for 2010-11 and how much is each.
4. How are these costs forecast to change between 2010-11 and 2013-14, and how has this changed since 2009-10 (please provide a breakdown by output).

Mr Corbell: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. The overhead fixed costs for 2010-11 for the Department are estimated to be \$1.374 million, itemised as follows:

	\$m
a. Electricity	0.074
b. Property Rental	0.474
c. Canberra Connect	0.035
d. IT Costs	0.458
e. Audit Fees	0.072
f. Finance and Human Resources	0.241
g. Insurance	0.020

2. The above costs will vary each year due to a range of circumstances such as indexation, market conditions, asset base etc. The budgeted forward estimates as published in the 2010-11 Budget Papers assumes an indexation rate, and other variations for known impacts. However, the actual breakdown of overhead costs by line item and by output is not yet determined.

This will be done closer to the relevant financial year, taking into account operational requirements, overall budget limits and other prevailing circumstances.

3. All costs of the department are outlined in the 2010-11 Budget papers. The budget is not broken down into fixed, variable and marginal costs for budgeting or management purposes.
4. As mentioned above, the budget is not broken down into fixed, variable and marginal costs for the forward estimates and the information regarding the change from 2010-11 to 2013-14 is currently unavailable. The variation in total cost from 2009-10 to 2010-11 is shown in the budget papers for each output and each line item.

Output programs

ZED SESELJA : To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water

In relation to : Output programs for DECCEW;

1. Please provide a list of initiatives or programs that are run under each output.
 - a. What is the budgeted cost for each in 2009-10 and 2010-11?
 - b. How many staff (by ASL) work in each, and what is level of each staff member?
 - c. What capital equipment is required by each?
 - d. What specialist skills are required by staff in each, and what are the specialists levels?

2. For each program or initiative that was implemented in the 2009-10 budget that relates to DECCEW
 - a. How many staff were budgeted to be employed for the initiative, and how many have been employed to date?
 - b. What was the budgeted cost of the initiative for DECCEW in 2009-10, and how much has been spent to date?
 - c. What capital equipment was required (including the budgeted cost), and has all required capital equipment been purchased, and if so, what was the cost. If not, when will the equipment be purchased?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

The ACT Government prepares its budget on an outputs basis. Data at that level is published in the Budget Papers, along with budgeted financial statements for agencies. Similar information on actual performance is published in annual reports including audited financial statements. Data is not available in the form and at the level of disaggregation requested without diversion of significant resources from DECCEW's ongoing business that I am not prepared to authorise.

Staff management

ZED SESELJA : To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water

BP 4

In relation to : Staff Management within DECCEW;

1. How many staff are currently employed by the Department, and what level is each (please provide a breakdown by output and work area).
2. What was the total staff turnover rate in 2008-09 and 2009-10 to date, and what is the budgeted staff turnover rate for 2010-11 (please provide a breakdown by output class and level).
3. How many positions within the Department are currently unfilled as a result of the Government's staffing freeze?
 - a. When will these positions now be filled?
 - b. How much money has the Department saved as a result of the freeze?
4. How many staff receive a total salary of
 - a. below \$70,000,
 - b. between \$70,000 and \$80,000,
 - c. between \$90,000 and \$100,000,
 - d. between \$100,000 and \$110,000,
 - e. over \$110,000; and.
 - f. For each salary range, how many staff are considered administrative or policy, and how many are considered frontline service delivery staff?
5. How many additional staff will be employed in 2010 (in FTE), and what level is each (please provide a breakdown by output and level).
 - a. How many are administrative or policy staff, and how many are considered frontline service delivery staff?
6. How much will be spent on training programs 2010-11?
 - a. What is the purpose of each training program, and
 - b. how many staff are expected to participate?
7. Will officers attend any training programs in 2010-11 interstate?
 - a. If so, what is the purpose of these training programs?
 - b. How many officers will attend?
 - c. What is the cost of each programs, including travel expenses?
8. What training programmes in 2010-11 will be held which will result in no marginal cost to the Department?
9. What in-house training programs will be held in 2010-11 which will result in a cost to the Department, and what is this cost expected to be?
10. What is the average oncost for each employee within the Department budgeted to be in 2010-11?
 - a. What is included in this oncost?
 - b. What is the marginal oncost of an additional worker at the current staffing levels in 2010-11?
11. What specialist qualifications are required by staff for the Department to undertake its roles and responsibilities?
 - a. What skills are currently lacking in the Department?
 - b. How will these gaps be filled in 2010-11?
 - c. Has the staffing freeze contributed to this shortfall?

12. What is the average salary for each employee who has a specialist skill that is required for the Department to undertake its roles and responsibilities? What will be the average salary in 2010-11 (please provide a breakdown by specialisation, output and employee level).
13. What training must employees undertake on a regular basis to maintain their specialist skills, and what is the budgeted total cost of this training in 2010-11?
 - a. What is the average cost per employee?
 - b. Who will provide the training?
14. What specialist equipment is required for employees within the Department to undertake their jobs, and how will this change in 2010-11? For each piece of equipment:
 - a. how many are required,
 - b. what is the capital cost of each,
 - c. what is the running cost of each?
 - d. Over what period is each piece of equipment depreciated?
 - e. What equipment will be purchased in 2010-11 for this purpose?
15. How many graduates will be employed in 2010-11?
 - a. What is the cost of employing each graduate, and what is the breakdown of these costs, including oncosts?
 - b. How many graduates have been employed on average each year since 2001?
16. How many staff will be recruited in 2010-11, and how much has been spent on recruitment in 2009-10 to date?
 - a. How much is budgeted to be spent on recruitment in 2010-11, and how is this broken down?
17. How much office space is currently leased by the Department, or the ACT Government on behalf of the Department?
 - a. Will this change in 2010-11, if so how will it change and what is the cost of the change?
 - b. What is the cost of the current lease, what is the make-good provision, and when will this lease be complete?
 - c. If a new lease is to be signed in 2010-11, what is the cost of the lease, what is the make-good provision, and when will this lease be complete?
18. How many staff, are budgeted to receive HDA in 2010-11? For each staff member,
 - a. why will they receive HDA?
 - b. How long will they be on HDA?
 - c. What is the budgeted expense for staff receiving HDA in 2010-11?
 - d. Please provide a breakdown by output class and level
19. How many staff are currently on any form of leave indefinitely?
 - a. What are the reasons for these staff being on indefinite leave?
 - b. Please provide a breakdown by output class and level

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

The ACT Government prepares its budget on an outputs basis. Data at that level is published in the Budget Papers, along with budgeted financial statements for agencies. Similar information on actual performance is published in annual reports including audited financial statements. Data is not available in the form and at the level of disaggregation requested without diversion of significant resources from DECCEW's ongoing business that I am not prepared to authorise.

Working groups

ZED SESELJA : To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water

In relation to : Working Groups involving DECCEW;

1. How many working groups, consultation groups, inter-departmental committees, roundtables or other intra-Government committees have been created (or will be created) by the Department in 2009-10?
2. Will any working groups, consultation groups, inter-departmental committees, roundtables or other intra-Government committees be created by the Department in 2010-11?
3. For each group, committee or roundtable in questions 1 and 2:
 - a. What is the cost of creating and maintaining each?
 - b. For how long will each run?
 - c. How many staff will regularly be involved?
 - d. How often will each meet?
 - e. Where will each meet?
 - f. Which departments, agencies or non-government organisations will be represented, and what is the role of each?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

1. One, the Electric Vehicles Interdepartmental Committee.
2. Unknown at this stage.
3. For the Electric Vehicles Interdepartmental Committee (IDC):
 - a. There is no budget or cost for this IDC;
 - b. The IDC is expected run to run until October 2010 but may continue to meet further;
 - c. 12 - five DECCEW staff and seven from other agencies;
 - d. Every 2-3 months as required;
 - e. Macarthur House, Lyneham;
 - f. DECCEW provides the chair and secretariat. Other members are from the Department of Justice and Community Safety, the ACT Planning and Land Authority, the Department of Territory and Municipal Services, Department of Treasury and the Chief Minister's Department.

Environment grants

Shane Rattenbury MLA: to ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate Change and Water

Ref: Budget Paper 3 page 277

In relation to: Environment Grants

The list of activities that will be provided funding under the ACT Environment Grants Program

Includes 'Canberra centenary celebrations'. Could the Minister please explain what connection

the centenary celebrations have with environmental conservation and provide a list of the criteria that will be applied to each grant proposal to assess the environmental conservation merit of the proposal.

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

The guidelines for the ACT Environment Grants indicates that “activities that assist the Territory in celebrating Canberra’s centenary as the ‘Bush Capital’ and National Capital, set within a unique natural environment are encouraged”.

To be eligible for funding, projects, including those celebrating Canberra’s centenary, must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- meet the objectives for the International Year of Biodiversity;
- support community engagement in implementing nature conservation strategies, including action plans for threatened species and ecological communities such as grasslands and woodlands. Specific education projects, involving schools and community groups are a priority;
- encourage responsible management of pets for the protection of biodiversity;
- promote sustainability;
- support or complement ACT Government/community events relating to the management of natural resources;
- deliver a variety of walks, talks and activities on environmental subjects – specialist presenters or interpreters could be involved;
- promote local involvement in environmental activities that could extend to bush or urban park rehabilitation and recovery campaigns;
- involve the local Indigenous community in local environmental initiatives;
- encourage wise use of resources and reduced negative environmental impacts; and
- are likely to have a positive and desirable effect on the environment.

All applications are also assessed as to how well they:

- align with ACT Government environmental priorities;
- deliver a result that benefits the ACT environment;
- demonstrate sound project planning, including achievable milestones, timelines, and project outcomes;

- are realistic and value for money; and
- have demonstrated relevant stakeholder and community support.

Territory (WEST) program

Shane Rattenbury MLA: to ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water

In relation to: the Water and Energy Savings in the Territory (WEST) Program:

1. How much funding will DECCEW contribute towards the running of the Water and Energy Savings in the Territory (WEST) Program in the 2010-11 financial year?
2. Which other ACT Government departments will contribute to funding for the WEST program in the 2010-11 financial year?
3. Does the ACT Government receive from the Commonwealth to administer the WEST program? If so, how much and under what auspices?
4. What involvement does the Department anticipate having with the WEST program in the 2010-11 year?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

1. DECCEW has identified a budget of \$25,000 (ex GST) in the 2010-11 financial year to provide the households energy audits portion of the WEST Program.
2. The Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services.
3. No.
4. The Department will continue its support of the WEST program by funding the households energy audit portion of the program.

Carbon costs

ZED SESELJA : To ask the Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water

In relation to : Carbon Costs

1. What is a reasonable cost per tonne of abatement of greenhouse gases?
2. What price does the market put on greenhouse gas abatement per tonne? Ie, how much would you expect to pay for carbon offsets?
3. What is the most cost-efficient way to abate greenhouse gas emissions?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. Cost per tonne of carbon abated depends upon a number of factors including: the abatement activity targeted, the scale at which the activity occurs, and associated transaction costs; any additional benefits that may accrue from the abatement activity; and the willingness of purchasers/investors to pay at the time of transaction.
2. There are a range of voluntary schemes available nationally and internationally where carbon offsets can be bought. The costs vary – see answer to question 1.
3. Cost efficiency of abating greenhouse gas emissions is a complex issue. A variety of actions can be undertaken to abate greenhouse gas emissions, however there is no single most cost-efficient way to abate carbon emissions.

Stormwater systems

VICKI DUNNE MLA : To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water

Ref: Department of the Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water, BP4, p287

In relation to : Stormwater Systems

1. In relation to **each** stormwater drain replacement project:
 - (a) what environmental viability evaluation was done;
 - (b) who did the evaluation;
 - (c) what were its findings;
 - (d) how much did it cost;
 - (e) what economic/financial viability evaluation was done;
 - (f) who did the evaluation;
 - (g) what were its findings; and
 - (h) how much did it cost?
2. What is the environmental and economic/financial viability of the stormwater drain replacement program when considered against the increase in water storage capacity that will be created by the major water security projects?
3. What processes are in place to ensure that the \$13.1m budgeted expenditure for 2010-11 will be delivered in that year?
4. New Capital Works [ref BP4, p296]
 - (a) What works are involved in the stormwater harvesting schemes in North Weston/Molonglo and Gungahlin and the Valley Ponds in Gungahlin?
 - (b) Are these works part of the land servicing in the development of new residential areas?
 - (i) If yes, why are these projects being done by DECCEW rather than the LDA?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. a - g
CSIRO conducted a feasibility study to determine high effectiveness/least cost projects for the reticulation of stormwater from existing lakes and ponds as well as new ponds in established areas. Ecological impacts were assessed and a cost-benefit analysis was undertaken as part of this study. The study informed the development of a Master Plan. The Master Plan includes projects that are both cost effective, environmentally beneficial and 85-95 % reliable.
h. The feasibility study cost \$400,000.
2. Given the different scales and objectives of the major water security projects compared to the stormwater drain replacement program it is not possible to compare their relative environmental and financial viability on a reasonable basis.

3. The two Urban Waterways projects to be administered by DECCEW funded in the 2010-11 Budget (\$11.5m) will be delivered over two years. Concept and preliminary design work has already commenced utilising Commonwealth funds.

Reticulation infrastructure from North Weston Pond to sportsgrounds

Preliminary Sketch Plan designs are close to completion for the project, funded by the Commonwealth. Final design is scheduled to commence in July / August 2010 with construction in early 2011.

Gungahlin, Valley Ponds and reticulation infrastructure to irrigators

Concept design is completed for the Valley Ponds, with final design scheduled to commence in June / July 2010. Construction will commence in early 2011.

4. New Capital Works [ref BP4, p296]

Reticulation infrastructure from North Weston Pond to sportsgrounds

The North Weston / Molonglo Stormwater Harvesting Scheme is a critical component of the Canberra Integrated Urban Waterways Project. The project is a cooperative venture involving DECCEW, TAMS and ACTPLA. For coordination purposes the funding is held by DECCEW. Funding has been made available to construct reticulation infrastructure (pumps and pipes) from the North Weston Pond to sportsgrounds in Weston Creek and for an irrigated area located around the pond itself.

The North Weston Pond has been designed by ACTPLA and is being constructed by TAMS.

Two other ponds are being designed that can provide water to new open spaces in Molonglo (such as the 20 hectares at Stromlo Park). These ponds are being separately developed through the LDA (Land Release Program).

Gungahlin, Valley Ponds and reticulation infrastructure to irrigators

The Valley Ponds project includes the construction of three connected ponds on the corner of Gungahlin Drive and the Valley Avenue in Gungahlin on Ginninderra Creek. The Ponds will provide non potable water for irrigation through the construction of reticulation infrastructure (pipes and pumps) to local sites (including the Gungahlin Centre Town Park, Gungahlin College, the enclosed oval and Burgmann College). These works are not servicing a new residential area.

The pond site drains a predominantly urban sub-catchment within the Ginninderra Creek Catchment, including the Gungahlin Town Centre, Gungahlin College (currently under construction), the \$20m Leisure Centre and the \$12m enclosed oval.

Reducing demand for water

VICKI DUNNE MLA : To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water

Ref: Department of the Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water, BP4, p287

In relation to : Reducing Demand for Water [ref BP4, p287, 10th dot point]

1. Since the establishment of the Department:
 - (a) What programs to encourage the public to reduce their use of potable water have been implemented?
 - (i) What was the cost of those programs?
 - (ii) What assessment has been made as to their effectiveness?
 - (iii) How long will those programs continue?
 - (b) What programs were implemented to encourage increased use of non-potable water in the construction industry in both the private and public sectors, including the Commonwealth?
 - (i) What was the cost of those programs?
 - (ii) What assessment has been made as to their effectiveness?
 - (iii) How long will those programs continue?
2. For 2010-11:
 - (a) What programs to encourage reduced use by the public of potable water will be implemented in 2010-11?
 - (i) What is the budgeted cost of those programs?
 - (b) What programs will be implemented to encourage increased use of non-potable water in the construction industry in both the private and public sectors, including the Commonwealth?
 - (i) What is the budgeted cost of those programs?
3. What interaction, including frequency, has the department had with ACTEW Corporation in the development and implementation of program to reduce the use of potable water and to increase the use of non-potable water?
 - (a) What was the nature and subject matter of that interaction?
 - (b) What were the outcomes?

Mr Corbell : **The answer to the Member's question is as follows:**

1. Since the establishment of the Department:
 - a. The following programs have been implemented since the establishment of the Department in November 2008.

2008-09

- Rainwater Tank Rebate

2009-10

- Rainwater Tank Rebate

- Schools Water Audit Program
- ToiletSmart
- Commercial Bathroom Retrofit
- IrrigationSmart Pilot
- GardenSmart
- Schools Water Audit Program
- ToiletSmart and ToiletSmart plus
- Commercial Bathroom Retrofit
- IrrigationSmart Pilot
- GardenSmart
- Small Business Water Audits

- (ii) The budget allocated towards these programs was \$1.322m in 2008-09 and \$1.695m in 2009-10.
- (iii) Progress against the delivery of water programs in 2008-09 are reported in the *Think water, act water* 2009 Progress Report. Reporting on the delivery of water programs for 2009-10 will be reported in the *Think water, act water* 2010 Progress Report.
- (iv) These programs will continue until at least June 2013 in line with forecast budget allocations.

- b. The *Water Resource Regulation 2007* make provision for exemptions from the requirement to hold a Licence to Take Water for "the taking of water from a water body if it is to be used for road works or other construction". During financial year 2009-10, 17 such exemptions have been issued for a total volume of 456 megalitres.

2. For 2010-11:
 - (a) The programs listed in question 1 will continue to be implemented in 2010-11, and the associated budgets, are described in the answer to Question 1.
 - (b) Nil.
3. The Department's current suite of water saving initiatives was transferred from ACTEW Corporation in 2007. These programs are now delivered solely by the Department. ACTEW maintains an active advertising presence in support of the Temporary and Permanent Water Conservation measures.

Water resources regulatory officer

VICKI DUNNE MLA : To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water

Ref: Department of the Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water, BP4, p287

In relation to : Water Resources Regulatory Officer [ref Changes to Approp, BP4, p295]

1. What are the duties of this officer?
2. To what area of the department is this officer assigned?
3. To whom does this officer report?
4. What is the cost of recruitment for this officer?
5. What qualification requirements does the position hold?
6. How many staff are engaged currently in the water resources regulation area within the department?

Mr Corbell: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. The primary duties of the officer will be the assessment and processing of applications for the issue, sale or purchase of water entitlements, licences to take water, bore construction and works in a waterway. The officer will also undertake auditing and compliance inspection of parties licensed to take water; the collection of data; and the preparation of reports from data or inspections.
2. The Water Resources unit of Environment Protection and Water Regulation branch.
3. The Environment Protection Authority, through the Manager Water Resources.
4. No costs have been incurred yet. It is anticipated the cost of advertising the position will be approximately \$300.
5. The duty statement for the position specifies 'Experience and or training in environmental sciences'.
6. Three permanent staff.

Sustainable water resources

VICKI DUNNE MLA : To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water

Ref: Department of the Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water, BP4, p287

In relation to : Sustainable Water Resources [ref Strategic Indicator 3, BP4, p290]

1. What policy development has the department undertaken on the harvesting and use of grey water by domestic users?
2. What interaction has the department had with private sector operators in this area?
3. Have any private sector solutions emerged that the department believes will meet relevant requirements, particularly in relation to sustainable health requirements and product reliability?
 - (a) If yes:
 - (i) what solutions meet those requirements;
 - (ii) what is the department doing to create the pathways to enable the private sector to introduce those solutions to the market; and
 - (iii) what incentives will be available to consumers to encourage uptake of grey water harvesting solutions?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

1. The review of the *Think water, act water* strategy will examine issues associated with the harvesting and reuse of grey water, along with implications (eg technical, household design, health).
2. There have been unsolicited approaches from manufacturers and suppliers offering presentations about their products.
3. Private sector systems for domestic use of grey water will need to be assessed by relevant agencies in terms of their health and technical requirements. The policy issues raised by this including the reduced use of potable water will be considered in the context of the review of *Think water, act water*.

Community partners

VICKI DUNNE MLA : To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water

Ref: Department of the Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water, BP4, p287

In relation to : Community Partners [ref BP4, p288, 3rd dot point]

1. What support does the department provide to **each of** the community partners by way of:
 - (a) funding; and
 - (b) in-kind support?
2. Does the department have any kind of contractual relationship with the community partners:
 - (a) If yes:
 - (i) when did each contract start;
 - (ii) when does each contract finish;
 - (iii) what funding is provided under each contract;
 - (iv) what service delivery obligations does each party have; and
 - (v) what procurement process was followed to award each contract?
3. What contribution have the partners made to the department's activities above and beyond their obligations under their contracts with the department?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. The following funding was appropriated in the 2009-10 ACT Budget to the following community partners:

(a)

Organisation	2009-10 \$m	2010-11 \$m	2011-12 \$m	2012-13 \$m	Total \$m
Canberra Environment Centre	0.098	0.101	0.104	0.107	0.410
Canberra Conservation Council	0.130	0.134	0.138	0.142	0.544
SEE Change ACT	0.093	0.096	0.099	0.102	0.390
Total	0.321	0.331	0.341	0.351	1.344

(b) No in-kind support is provided to the organisations.

2. Yes, the Department has a Service Agreement with each organisation.

In relation to the Canberra Environment Centre:

- (i) The Service Agreement was signed on 22 July 2009.
- (ii) The Service Agreement finishes on 30 June 2013.
- (iii) \$410,000 in funding is to be provided under the Agreement.

- (iv) Service delivery obligations for this Agreement are subject to annual negotiation. The following services have agreed to be provided in 2009-10:
- provision of an ‘information clearing house’ and community access to information and resources relating to sustainable living. This includes such things as school visits, workshops, seminars and on-site demonstrations;
 - community-based environment and sustainability projects and community outreach projects subject to the availability of funds, including community outreach projects for targeted groups across the range of environment and sustainability issues; and research projects which provide in-depth information to be used as the basis for on-ground projects; and
 - major public events to promote specific areas of environment or sustainability (e.g. Canberra Harvest Festival).

Negotiations are underway with the Canberra Environment Centre about the services to be provided in 2010-11.

- (v) The procurement was a single select process as funds were specifically appropriated for engagement of the Centre.

In relation to the Canberra Conservation Council:

- i. The Service Agreement was signed on 17 December 2009.
- ii. The Service Agreement finishes on 30 June 2013.
- iii. \$544,000 in funding is to be provided under the Agreement.
- iv. Service delivery obligations for this Agreement are subject to annual negotiation. The following services have agreed to be provided in 2009-10:

Services - The Conservation Council is Canberra’s peak non-government, environment organisation. As an umbrella organisation, the Council represents the interests of nearly forty (40) community and conservation organisations in the ACT and Australian Capital region as well as the broader environmental interests of all citizens of the ACT. The Council’s mission is to achieve the highest quality environment for Canberra and the surrounding region. The Conservation Council provides independent policy development and advocacy on all issues relating to the natural and build environment on the ACT. It is also a key community link between the community and all levels of government on environmental matters. The Conservation Council plays a key role in encouraging, coordinating and supporting community participation in ACT environmental issues as well as facilitating public education and sharing of information on local, regional national and global environmental issues.

Outcomes - the ACT community is benefited by the protection and enhancement of the ACT’s natural and urban environments as well as through increased awareness of, and participation in, environmental issues.

Outputs - The Organisation will endeavour to effect the following:

- environmental policy development;
- community engagement and input into government decision-making;
- improved environmental performance of government instrumentalities and agencies;
- participation in government for representing the viewpoints of member organisations and the broader public;
- research, analysis and information;
- assisting to ensure the ACT community's voice is heard in key national and global environmental fora; and
- partnerships with government and the private sector to improve environmental outcomes for the ACT.

Performance Measures: Quantitative - The Organisation is to provide the following:

- a number of consultation with environment groups undertaken and key environmental issues discussed;
- a number of submissions on key environmental issues lodged;
- a number of regular meetings held with senior staff from relevant agencies across the Government;
- a number of consultations with key Government, private sector and non-Government agencies for participation;
- a number of communications (awareness and education) messages delivered; and
- a number of public events conducted or partnered.

Performance Measures: Qualitative - The Organisation is to demonstrate how they achieve the following:

- broad consultation with ACT environment groups occurs;
- environment groups are well informed and have their interests represented; and
- key issues affecting ACT's environment are raised with relevant decision makers.

Negotiations are underway with the Canberra Conservation Council about the services to be provided in 2010-11.

- v. The procurement was a single select process as funds were specifically appropriated for engagement of the Council.

In relation to the SEE Change ACT:

- i. The Service Agreement was signed on 12 August 2009.
- ii. The Service Agreement finishes on 30 June 2013.
- iii. \$390,000 in funding is to be provided under the Agreement.
- iv. Service delivery obligations for this Agreement are subject to annual negotiation. The following services have agreed to be provided in 2009-10.

Services: Having regard to progress, the broad policy goals of the Organisation will deliver the following services:

- Continue to develop the SEE-Change movement in the ACT to involve residents in their local communities in exploring and taking action on climate change and their ecological footprints.

- Continue to develop infrastructure to underpin the growth of the SEE-Change movement, focusing on enhancing the SEE-Change website and newsletter and formalizing new family and corporate membership arrangements.
- Partner with the ACT Government as appropriate, subject to requisite resourcing focusing on sustainable schools and community councils.

Outcomes: Work collaboratively with other environmental and sustainability groups in the ACT in order to contribute to the Territory achieving zero net carbon emissions.

Outputs: Develop a business plan for SEE-Change that incorporates a vision, mission, objectives strategies and plans for 2009-10.

Performance Indicators: The Organisation will:

- provide the above outputs for the period of the contract; and
- provide written reports as determined in the Agreement.

Negotiations are underway with the SEE Change ACT about the services to be provided in 2010-11.

- v. The procurement was a single select process as funds were specifically appropriated for engagement of SEE Change ACT.
3. The activities of the three community partners complement the work of the Department. The organisations have not been required to undertake other work for the Department that is beyond that agreed in the Service Agreements.

Major water security projects

VICKI DUNNE MLA : To ask the Minister for the Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water

Ref: Department of the Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water, BP4, p287

In relation to : Major Water Security Projects [ref BP4, p287, 9th dot point]

1. What interaction, including frequency, has the department had with ACTEW Corporation in the progress of the major water security projects?
 - (a) What was the nature and subject matter of that interaction?
2. What areas of oversight or monitoring does the minister or the department have in relation to the progress of the major water security projects?
3. Has the minister or the department at any stage brought any matters of concern to the attention of ACTEW Corporation?
 - (a) If yes:
 - (i) what was the nature of those matters;
 - (ii) how did ACTEW respond; and
 - (iii) what follow-up action did the minister or the department take?
4. Has the minister or the department had any role in the assessment of environmental impact studies undertaken by ACTEW Corporation or the Bulk Water Alliance in relation to the major water security projects?
 - (a) If yes:
 - (i) what has been the role of the minister and the department;
 - (ii) what is the nature of any matters that have come before the minister or the department in that context;
 - (iii) what action was taken in relation to those matters; and
 - (iv) were the outcomes to the satisfaction of the minister and the department;
 - If no, why; and
 - What was done to provide satisfaction?
5. Has the minister or department received any approaches from the public to provide feedback, ask questions, make comments, positive or negative, or make complaints about any aspects of the major water security projects?
 - (a) If yes:
 - (i) what has been the nature of those approaches; and
 - (ii) what action has the minister or the department taken in response to those approaches?

Mr Corbell : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. – 4.

These questions were asked and answered in full at the public hearing on 21 May 2010. See Hansard pages 809-811.

5. I have had some feedback from the public on aspects of the major water security projects. The feedback has been mainly via correspondence, following the announcements of the decision to proceed with the projects. Feedback has been of an enquiry nature.