

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B

26 June-2 July 2013

CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS

In reply to various members.

The Hon. J.W. WEATHERILL (Cheltenham—Premier, Treasurer, Minister for State Development, Minister for the Public Sector, Minister for the Arts): I have been advised of the following:

This question has been asked during the 2013 Estimates Committee.

The following information is provided on behalf of all ministers:

The Department of the Premier and Cabinet Circulars PC013—Annual Reporting Requirements and PC027—Disclosure of Government Contracts covers all payments to consultants and large payments to contractors.

The Annual Report will show all payments to consultants and the nature of their work.

Contract Disclosure requires certain information about contracts to be published on the Tenders SA website:

- Contract title
- Contractor's details
- Start and end date of the contract
- Contract value
- Procurement process used

The Contract Disclosure requirements apply to all consultancy contracts (regarding of value) and other goods and services contracts where the value of the contract is more than \$500,000.

GLENSIDE HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT

In reply to **Dr McFETRIDGE (Morphett)** (26 June 2013).

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy, Minister for Housing and Urban Development): I am advised that Precinct 5 at Glenside has not been sold.

COURTS PRECINCT

In reply to **Ms CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (27 June 2013).

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy, Minister for Housing and Urban Development): I am advised a total of 11 responses were received in response to the Market Sounding Process for the Courts Precinct.

SARDI GRADUATE ACCESS PROGRAM

In reply to **Ms CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (1 July 2013).

The Hon. G.E. GAGO (Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Minister for Forests, Minister for Regional Development, Minister for the Status of Women, Minister for State/Local Government Relations): I am advised:

The SARDI Graduate Access Program is not linked to the Citrus Market Access Program that was discussed prior to this question.

SARDI's Graduate Access Program has been in operation for three years, beginning after a successful pilot program in 2008-09. The program places graduates from TAFE and universities with technical, marketing and commercial qualifications into South Australian food business as a

first step into the industry. The graduates are employed in areas such as new product development, quality control, marketing and logistics.

The program is managed by SARDI in collaboration with Food SA and other PIRSA programs, and is aimed at identifying and filling skills gaps in small to medium-sized food businesses.

The SARDI Food Technology Program supports the South Australian food industry through technical advice in the areas of product development, quality systems and process improvements.

CARBON TAX

In reply to **Ms CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (2 July 2013).

The Hon. I.K. HUNTER (Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation, Minister for Water and the River Murray, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation): As Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation I have received this advice:

An adjustment in 2011-12 was made by the Department of Treasury and Finance to the departmental budget, to recognise additional costs of the carbon price beginning in 2012-13. The adjustment provided an additional budget of \$91,000 for 2012-13 and \$97,000 for 2013-14, which will assist towards the costs of electricity and gas charges.

The Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources considers these costs to be of a normal operating nature and has not created a specific provision to cover carbon price costs against electricity, gas and other associated costs.

QUARRY CONTAMINATION

In reply to **Ms CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (2 July 2013).

The Hon. I.K. HUNTER (Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation, Minister for Water and the River Murray, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation): As the Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation I have received this advice:

Following an investigation of the activities at the Keast Road quarry in 2011, the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) issued the District Council of the Copper Coast with a Clean Up Order to remediate the site, undertake post-excavation soil sampling and assessment, and prepare and submit a report to the EPA.

The remediation of the site, as per the Clean Up Order, is complete. A report submitted to the EPA, prepared by Alano Water (wastewater treatment and management specialists), identified that the sludge disposal pit was unlined and that contamination has passed below the site into underlying soil. The report also suggested that contamination may have passed into the underlying groundwater.

The assessment undertaken by Alano Water could not find any evidence that showed groundwater underlying the site was affected by the sludge disposal. It should be noted that if contaminated water (nutrients and biodegradable organic matter) had passed below the site (either into the ground or underlying groundwater), the pollutants will reduce naturally over time.

Based upon Alano Water's review of the hydrogeological data surrounding the site, the closest known viable water wells are located at least 1.5 km away and the nearest environmental receptor (a salty depression) is located 1 km away. For these reasons, the risk to offsite users and the environment is considered low.

The site will continue to be monitored by the EPA and the information provided for the site placed upon the Public Register under the site contamination provisions of the *Environment Protection Act 1993*.

DESALINATION PLANT

In reply to **Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey)** (2 July 2013).

The Hon. I.K. HUNTER (Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation, Minister for Water and the River Murray, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation): As the Minister for Water and the River Murray I have received this advice:

The South Australian government is not required to hand over six gigalitres to the commonwealth as part of the Implementation Plan for the Augmentation of the Adelaide Desalination Plant.

The South Australian government has met its commitment by purchasing two gigalitres of water access entitlement in 2011-12 and four gigalitres in 2012-13. This water will be managed by the South Australian government for environmental purposes in South Australia's section of the River Murray.