

Question on Notice

No. 1314

Asked on 4 September 2019

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

QUESTION:

With reference to page 17 of the Service Delivery Statement, under Agriculture's 2019-20 service area highlight of 'drought reform' program— will the Minister provide the budget allocation for the Drought Assistance Package and Queensland Drought Reform for 2019-20 to 2022-23 (reported separately by financial year)?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

For 2019-20, the Drought Assistance Package and Queensland Drought Reform are budgeted at up to \$74.6 million over four years to 2022-23. Future year allocations should be regarded as provisional as each year a review of expected drought assistance requirements allows for the current budget allocations to be revised and updated according to changing seasonal conditions, which cannot occur until the outcome of the next wet season is known, as has been standard practice under this and previous governments.

The Palaszczuk Government will continue to offer drought assistance for the duration of the current drought. No currently drought-declared producer, or any producer falling into drought by 30 June 2020, will lose access to any subsidies while this drought lasts.

	Program	2019/20 '000	2020/21 '000	2021/22 '000	2022/23 '000
DAF	Drought Relief Assistance Scheme (DRAS) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Freight Subsidies- EWIR Rebates- Rural Financial Counselling Service- Charities- Drought workshops and fact sheets- Program Operations- Drought Reform Drought Severity Index and Business Risk Management project	\$25 000	\$10 000	\$10 000	\$5 000
DNRME	Land Rent Rebates and water licence waivers	\$4 200			
	Drought Relief from Electricity Charges Scheme	\$15 000			
	Fodder Management extension materials	\$200			
DCDSS	Communities Assistance Program Providing small grants for communities for social cohesion	\$5 200			
	Total	\$49 600	\$10 000	\$10 000	\$5 000