

Division 70: Zoological Parks Authority —

[Supplementary Information No B12.]

Question: Mr C.J. Tallentire asked: How much money goes to the native species breeding program at Perth Zoo?

Answer: The Perth Zoo Native Species Breeding Program (NSBP) currently works to breed for release five species of native fauna (*viz:* Numbat, Dibbler, Western Swamp Tortoise, White-bellied Frog and Orange-bellied Frog). The 2013–14 Consolidated Fund budget allocation to the NSBP program is \$640 000 which covers maintaining the breeding population for the species and the breeding and rearing costs of the Numbat, Dibbler and Western Swamp Tortoise offspring. A further \$110 000 is allocated to the breeding and rearing of the two frog species and this program is entirely funded through external grants and fundraising. The total budget allocation to threatened native species breeding and rearing for 2013–14 is \$750 000.

[Supplementary Information No B13.]

Question: Mr C.J. Tallentire asked: What is the unit feeding cost for numbats?

Answer: The Perth Zoo keeps Numbats primarily to breed animals for release into suitable habitat in areas in Western Australia, South Australia and New South Wales to establish new self-sustaining populations under the direction of the DPaW, the Numbat Recovery Team and in accordance with the Numbat Recovery Plan. The cost of keeping each Numbat involves both the costs of producing animals for future release into their natural habitats and in maintaining the breeding population at Perth Zoo. These costs include staff resources, animal food and veterinary care.

The 2013–14 total cost of maintaining the breeding population and the offspring produced is estimated to be \$185 000 and is based on a population of 26 animals. This equates to \$7 115 per Numbat and of these total costs, the cost of animal food is \$26 500 or \$1 019 per Numbat.