

WATER CORPORATION — BUILDING A BETTER BUSINESS PROJECT

1979. Mr D.J. Kelly to the Minister for Water:

I refer to the consultants, Newport, who have been engaged by the Water Corporation as part of the Building A Better Business project and ask:

- (a) what are the dates of any engagements of Newport by the Water Corporation since 2008 and what was the cost of each engagement;
- (b) what contracts does Newport currently have with the Water Corporation in relation to the Building a Better Business project and what is the price of each contract;
- (c) how many Water Corporation staff have been engaged to work on the Building a Better Business project and what has the cost been to the Water Corporation;
- (d) what is the total cost to the Water Corporation of the Building a Better Business project to date and what is anticipated on completion of the project;
- (e) does the Water Corporation have any savings target for the Building a Better Business project and what are they; and
- (f) what savings have been achieved by the Building a Better Business project?

Ms M.J. Davies replied:

- (a) Since 2008, Newport has been engaged twice by the Water Corporation:
 - (i) *RCSG Business Review:*
24 October 2011 to 2 December 2011. Cost was \$137 909 excluding GST, including disbursements.
 - (ii) *Building a Better Business Program:*
7 May 2012 to 28 February 2014. Cost the Corporation \$9.41m excluding GST, including disbursements.
- (b) Newport Consulting is not currently engaged by the Water Corporation.
- (c) The Building a Better Business program had 35 Water Corporation employees working directly on it over various stages, at a cost of \$2.16m. This project is now closed.
- (d) The Building a Better Business program was completed on 28 February 2014 at a total cost of \$11.7m.
- (e) Yes. The Water Corporation does have a savings target for the Building a Better Business program. The cumulative benefits target for the Building a Better Business program was \$40m, to be realised by February 2015, using a combination of cost reductions; through reducing workforce numbers from natural turnover, and through redesigning business processes to be more efficient.
- (f) To date, the Building a Better Business program has realised \$13.5m of sustainable ongoing year on year benefits.