

Division 54: Commerce —

[Supplementary Information No B47.]

Question: Ms R. Saffioti asked: Have there been particular complaints in the industry relating to the safety of cranes and scaffolding on building sites?

Answer: The Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 1996 require the designs of certain items of plant to be registered by the WorkSafe Western Australia Commissioner or another Australian regulatory authority with responsibility for plant safety. This includes bridge cranes with a safe working load greater than 10 tonnes or which are designed to handle molten metal or dangerous goods; gantry cranes with a safe working load greater than five tonnes or which are designed to handle molten metal or dangerous goods; tower cranes; mobile cranes (other than tow trucks) with a safe working load greater than 10 tonnes; and pre-fabricated scaffolding systems.

As part of the registration process, the designs must be verified by an independent person to the effect that the design complies with certain specified Australian Standards.

The WorkSafe Division of the Department of Commerce (WorkSafe) has not received particular complaints relating to the design verification or registration of cranes and scaffolding on building sites in recent times. WorkSafe does, however, receive complaints from time to time relating to the way cranes are operated at workplaces.

[Supplementary Information No B48.]

Question: Ms R. Saffioti asked for a breakdown of spending that has occurred under the royalties for regions scheme regional buy local initiative.

Answer: For the period September 2012 to October 2013, an allocation of \$500,000 is in place to implement two principal activities under the Regional Buy Local Initiative.

The division of funding is:

- \$100,000 for Business Development Information Briefings.
- \$400,000 for the delivery of a regional round of the State Government's Industry Facilitation and Support Program (IFSP).

A series of eight (8) Business Development Information Briefings on business opportunities for existing and prospective suppliers to the resource and Government markets, along with details of State and Commonwealth Government assistance programs and policies, have been conducted.

With participation from industry, industry advocacy bodies, and State/Commonwealth agencies, information has been provided in the public domain to facilitate greater understanding of private and public sector supply requirements. This information has also been made available through the Department of Commerce website.

Briefing sessions delivered have been:

<i>Region</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date</i>
Mid-West	Geraldton	6 September 2012
Goldfields-Esperance	Kalgoorlie	4 October
Great Southern	Albany	9 November
South West	Collie	7 December
Peel	Mandurah	24 January 2013
Wheatbelt	Northam	19 April
Pilbara	Karratha	30 May
South West	Bunbury	13 June

Departmental officers are currently visiting all regions across the State to fully measure the benefits derived from attendance at the Information Briefings and as a result of funding received through the State Government's IFSP.

The regional round of the IFSP is being progressed. The IFSP provides targeted financial assistance to Western Australian businesses seeking to improve their competitiveness and/or capacity to service the resources industry and the public sector market.

Typical eligible funding activities include upgrading existing or acquisition of equipment, consultancy advice to improve occupational, health and safety, achieving industry quality accreditation standards, information technology upgrades and employee training.

Reported benefits include increases in employment and engagement of apprentices, productivity gains, diversification of market base and improvements to quality and safety standards.
