

REGIONAL SALEYARD STRATEGY REPORT — RELEASE

4804. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister for Agriculture and Food

In relation to the future of saleyards across the State and the long-awaited Regional Saleyard Strategy report, I ask:

- (a) has the Minister changed his expectation that the report would be released before the end of the 2009–2010 financial years;
- (b) is the report finished; and
 - (i) if not, when is it now expected to be finished; and
 - (ii) if so, why has it not been tabled; and
- (c) when does the Minister intend to table the report?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

- (a) On 15 December 2010 the Premier and the Minister jointly announced that State Cabinet had approved the distribution of \$21.5 million for regional saleyards in the following manner:
 - Grant funding of up to \$17 million to the Katanning Shire for the design and construction of a new sheep saleyard to be owned and operated by the Shire;
 - Grant funding of up to \$2.3 million to Plantagenet Shire for debt release associated with the Shire-owned cattle saleyard at Mount Barker; and
 - Provision of up to \$2.2 million to stimulate a private/government response to replace the existing Boyanup saleyards.

- (b) Western Australian Meat Industry Authority (WAMIA) released the State Saleyard Strategy (the Strategy) in 2006. No action was taken by the Government of the day.

In 2009 the current State Government initiated the development of a Business Case for the Western Australian Primary Regional Saleyards Strategy. This was completed in May 2010. After due consideration, a Cabinet Submission was prepared and considered by Cabinet on 08 November 2010.

(i)–(ii) Not applicable.

- (c) The State Saleyard Strategy has been in the public area since 2006. It was adopted by the Government of the day, and supported by each of the major parties.

The Government does not intend to table either the Business Case for the Western Australian Primary Regional Saleyards Strategy or the Cabinet Submission as they are confidential Cabinet documents.