

EUROPEAN HOUSE BORER — PROGRAM TRANSITION

4294. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister for Agriculture and Food

In relation to the European House Borer Program having transitioned from an eradication program to a management or containment program, I ask:

- (a) has there been a reduction in staff;
- (b) if so, by how many;
- (c) has this transition resulted in a reduction in resources; and
- (d) if so, can the Minister please advise what resources have been reduced or removed from the Department?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

- (a)-(d) As a result of the national decision to discontinue funding EHB eradication in Western Australia, the nationally provided funds have gone from approximately \$4.5 million per annum in recent years (inclusive of Western Australia's 10 per cent), to \$1.8 million for a transition budget. As a result, the number of Departmental staff allocated to the program in Western Australia has fallen by 19.