

CARNARVON FLOODS — TOPSOIL REPLACEMENT

641. Hon NEIL THOMSON to the Minister for Regional Development:

My question is regarding the topsoil reinstatement package for those affected by the floods in Carnarvon in 2021.

- (1) How much has the state provisioned for the program?
- (2) What component of (1) has been spent to date?
- (3) Of the component spent thus far, how much has been spent on —
 - (a) administration;
 - (b) contractor services to source and distribute topsoil; and
 - (c) direct payments to growers?
- (4) How many cubic metres of topsoil has been moved onto grower properties to date?

Hon ALANNAH MacTIERNAN replied:

I thank the member for the question.

- (1) The McGowan government committed \$1 million to support growers in Carnarvon impacted by the 2021 floods and to plan to mitigate flood risk in the future. That was the package that we put forward.
- (2) Excluding GST, \$535 793.30 has been spent directly on soil replacement.
- (3) Of that component spent thus far —
 - (a) one FTE was funded to support the delivery of the commitment, of which soil replacement was one component;
 - (b) there has been \$494 073.30 spent on contractor services to source and distribute the topsoil; and
 - (c) a voucher program contributed to the cost of spreading the soil by contractors or businesses and the value of these vouchers was \$41 720.
- (4) The total amount of topsoil that has been moved is 12 338 cubic metres. The remainder of the funds are being used in a variety of ways to assist growers in flood mitigation, including contributing \$240 000 to secure \$1.3 million of federal grant funding for flooding preparedness.