

CLIMATE ACTION

Question on Notice

Question 1

Nicholas McGOWAN: Thank you, Minister. It is timely you talk about cuts. I am wondering why you cut the climate action funding. It was \$27.6 million. It is now down to \$15.7 million in 2023–24, budget paper 3, page 149.

Lily D'AMBROSIO: Which paper are you referring to?

Nicholas McGOWAN: Page 149 of paper 3.

Lily D'AMBROSIO: Okay.

Nicholas McGOWAN: It is a cut to the climate action funding of \$14.1 million when compared to spent.

Lily D'AMBROSIO: Sure. Well, I think it is important to reflect on the explanation for these figures that you refer to. The decline in the climate change output largely reflects administrative movement of the ResourceSmart Schools program from the climate action portfolio to the waste and recycling output, as well as a reduction in corporate costs that have been allocated to the output associated with lower corporate overhead for the department more broadly.

Nicholas McGOWAN: What was the value of the program, sorry, Minister, that you referred to?

Lily D'AMBROSIO: I am sorry?

Nicholas McGOWAN: What was the value of the program you referred to that went into a different portfolio?

Lily D'AMBROSIO: I have talked about the administrative movement of the ResourceSmart Schools program.

Nicholas McGOWAN: 'What was the value of that,' is what I am asking.

Lily D'AMBROSIO: The value of that? Let me check. \$2.9 million.

Nicholas McGOWAN: Thank you. And the administrative savings you referred to?

Lily D'AMBROSIO: I will find that for you.

Answer:

The climate action output cost is \$14.1 million lower in 2023-24 when compared to 2022-23. This predominantly relates to the administrative movement of the ResourceSmart Schools program from the climate Action output to the Waste and Recycling output, and the funding profile of the Seizing the economic opportunity of a net zero, climate resilient State, and Climate Change Community Action initiatives. This is partially offset by the funding announced as part of the 2023-24 Budget for the Delivering climate action initiative. In addition, because of saving and efficiency measures being applied across the department's portfolios, the corporate overhead component allocated to the climate action output is \$1.2 million lower in 2023-24 compared to 2022-23.