

# LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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## QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE (Of which some notice has been given)

Thursday, 13 June 2013

Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment.

- (1) What is the current structure of the Climate Change Unit (the Unit) in respect to the number of FTE positions, their levels, and to which position within the Department does it report?
- (2) What are the major projects currently being undertaken by the Unit?
- (3) What is the current level of funding provided for the Unit?
- (4) What measures has the government adopted for mitigating the effects of climate change, as the result of work done by the Unit, or as the result of recommendations from any other sources?
- (5) If the measures in (4) relate to other sources, who were they, when were the recommendations made, and what were the recommendations?

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**I thank the Hon. Member for some notice of this question.**

The Minister for Environment has provided the following response.

- (1) There are five FTEs in the Climate Change Unit. The positions are assistant director climate change and strategic policy, level 9; principal policy officer (adaptation), specified calling 4; project manager, low emissions energy development fund, specified calling 4; policy officer (adaptation), specified calling 2; and principal policy officer (mitigation), level 7. The climate change unit reports to the director, strategic policy and programs.
- (2) The major functions in 2012-13 include: management of the Low Emissions Energy Development Fund; enabling local government adaptation; climate change adaptation advice; climate change mitigation advice in respect of national policy; and support for participation in the Select Council on Climate Change.
- (3) I refer to the response to question on notice 67 on 14 May 2013 and the response to question without notice 853 on 25 October 2012 which provide the annual operating budget excluding the low emissions energy development fund (\$620 000).



(4) The Government's position is that setting targets and reducing greenhouse gas emissions are primarily a national, rather than State, responsibility as national targets allow abatement to occur across the nation in the most economically efficient manner.

(5) Not applicable.