MINUTE AND DIRECTIONS OF HEARING PANEL

Minute 10

1. The Hearing Panel has received the staff report and amended plan as directed in Minutes 8 and 9.

2. In Minute 8, we directed Council staff to provide a Staff Report and that it address any recommended changes to be made to the funding provisions in the RPMP. The provisions have been substantially simplified.

3. We do, however, have two questions of clarification that will assist us with our final deliberations, and those relate to an explanation of the funding split and allocation of costs to each of the identified species in Table 37.
   a. Could the Council provide a more thorough explanation of how the funding splits apply in relation to individual species control programmes. In particular, we are interested in what costs would be involved in relation to the category “control of production pests” and examples of where direct costs would be applied, or targeted rates sought. Identification in the table of where these costs sit for each pest may assist.
   b. There are rules that require individual landowners to undertake actions in relation to wild Russell lupins, Bennett’s wallaby, and conifers. The way the provisions are currently drafted, it would appear to the reader that public funding would be provided for clearance, rather than the clearance being the responsibility of the individual landowner. How does the programme funding impact an individual landowner’s obligations to undertake clearance at their own cost?

4. We would be assisted in our deliberations by the Council responding to these questions of clarification, and any consequential changes recommended. The Council is directed to provide a response to us by 5pm Wednesday 20 December 2018.

ISSUED by the Hearing Panel

14 December 2017