QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 756

asked on Thursday, 16 July 2020

MR D LAST ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY (HON DR A LYNHAM)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister outline the following in relation to the supply of water to the township of Dayboro (a) the average water consumption for the community over the past six years (reported separately by year), (b) how many megalitres of water were trucked to the community over the past six years (reported separately by year), (c) the costs associated with trucking water to the community over the past six years (reported separately by year) and (d) details on the proposed date and costs associated with connecting the community to the South East Queensland Water grid?

ANSWER:

(a) Average water consumption for the community over the past six years:

The average water consumption in Dayboro is outlined by calendar year in the below.

Year	Properties	kL	kL Daily Per Property	Litres Per-Person Per-Day [1]
2014	695	115,649	0.459338	191.39
2015	700	117,701	0.454405	189.335
2016	703	119,692	0.468883	195.367
2017	723	142,349	0.54354	226.475
2018	723	123,785	0.470874	196.197
2019	724	132,953	0.513818	214.09
2020[2]	728	64,898	0.477658	199.024
TOTAL	**728**	**817,027**	**0.484749**	**201.978**

[1] *Litres per-person per -day is calculated on the assumption that 2.4 people reside at each property (on average).*
[2] *Consumption in 2020 lower because data is only available for six months of the year.*

(b) Annual water carting volumes for Dayboro

The table below shows Seqwater's water-carting volumes for Dayboro for each of the last six years:

Water Volume	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020		% of Total Demand
Megalitres	14.08	7.17	6.43	3.74	0.00	16.31		3.78%

Water carting is mainly undertaken due to local water quality issues, or when the Dayboro Water Treatment Plant is taken offline for maintenance work. In 2020, approximately 10.6 megalitres of water were carted to Dayboro due to drought conditions; however, this is the only year in the last six years when water carting was needed due to drought.

(c) Dayboro water carting costs

Costs associated with carting water to Dayboro are shown in the table below:

Costs	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total Cost	$145,702	$76,120	$69,910	$41,630	$0	$190,052

(d) Details on the proposed date and costs associated with connecting the community to the South East Queensland Water Grid

Seqwater has assessed a range of future water supply options for Dayboro.

Initial assessments have indicated that the cost of connecting Dayboro to the South East Queensland Water Grid would likely exceed $10 million, and therefore, local supply options may be more cost effective.

Seqwater is currently conducting groundwater modelling studies to assess the potential to increase the capacity and reliability of groundwater extractions, as well as investigating associated upgrades to the Dayboro Water Treatment Plant. It is essential that this work be undertaken to ensure the most cost effective infrastructure solutions can be identified. These assessments will likely take 12 months to complete, and the findings from this work will inform any future decisions regarding long-term supply options.

While Seqwater continues to assess longer term supply options for Dayboro to ensure feasibility, value for money and downward pressure on prices, water can be supplemented by carting from locations connected to the South East Queensland Water Grid when necessary. It is currently more effective and economical to cart water to Dayboro during periods of prolonged drought.