



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2022-2023

Supplementary Questions

Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Regional NSW and Stronger Communities

FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES, DISABILITY SERVICES

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Answers due by: 26 September 2022

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FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES, DISABILITY SERVICES

Questions from Ms Abigail Boyd MLC

Social housing

1. Equity Economics (2021) estimates that an annual investment of \$2.6 billion would deliver 5,000 additional units of social housing and create 14,000 jobs across the NSW economy. Investment in social housing would also avoid \$38.5 million a year in costs from women returning to a violent partner, and \$68 million a year due to women experiencing homelessness because of domestic and family violence. Why did the 2022 budget only include 320 number of new social housing dwellings?

Answer

I am advised:

In 2022-23, the NSW Government is spending over \$1.2 billion to tackle housing and homelessness through assertive outreach, early intervention and social and affordable housing programs. This funding includes:

- \$773.9 million for social housing, supporting secure and affordable housing for people on low incomes
- \$394.8 million to deliver a range of specialist homelessness services, assisting people to access and maintain appropriate housing.

In October 2021, the NSW Government announced a COVID-19 economic recovery strategy that will significantly increase the supply of social and affordable housing, with \$183 million of the \$1.2 billion dedicated to fast-tracking more than 1,400 new social and affordable homes.

Part of this package includes \$50 million for the delivery of around 290 new social houses in partnership with community housing providers through the Community Housing Innovation Fund.

2. When the NSW Government received an additional \$1 billion windfall in stamp duty (about \$125 per person in NSW) why was none of it allocated to addressing the urgent social housing shortfall?

Answer

I am advised:

This question should be directed to the Treasurer.

Specialist Homelessness Services

3. Due to COVID, pressure on specialist domestic and family violence services in regional and remote areas has increased. There are exceptionally low vacancy rates in many regional centres. Why is there no specific funding to address this shortfall of crisis accommodation and social housing?

Answer

I am advised:

In 2022-23, the NSW Government will invest \$1.2 billion in homelessness and social and affordable housing programs through the Stronger Communities cluster. This includes \$394.8 million in 2022-23 to deliver a range of homelessness services across NSW, including Specialist Homelessness Services and NSW Homelessness Strategy initiatives.

The NSW Government has also committed \$484.3 million over four years to housing and specialist supports for women and children experiencing domestic and family violence (DFV). The funding includes \$426.6 million over four years to deliver and operate new 'Core and Cluster' model women's refuges that will support up to an additional 2,900 women and children escaping DFV each year. The locations of these new refuges will be targeted to areas where there is high unmet demand for crisis accommodation, including regional and rural areas.

Funding of \$152.5 million has been allocated for the Community Housing Innovation Fund (CHIF) in addition to approximately \$72 million for the Together Home Transition program. These two programs combined are expected to deliver more than 950 new social and affordable housing dwellings across the State. To date nearly 60% of all projects funded are in regional areas.

4. Specialist Homelessness Services remain in high demand, with most experiencing waitlists or delays in providing crisis support to our most vulnerable. Will the NSW Government commit to a 20% increase of funding across the board for Specialist Homelessness Services? If not, why not?

Answer

I am advised:

The specialist homelessness service (SHS) system is one part of the response for people experiencing, or at risk of homelessness. Other supports include social housing and private rental assistance.

In 2022/23, the NSW Government will invest \$1.2 billion in homelessness and social and affordable housing programs through the Stronger Communities cluster.

This includes \$394.8 million in 2022/23 to deliver a range of homelessness services across NSW, including SHS and NSW Homelessness Strategy initiatives.

The NSW Government has made significant investments in specialised homelessness supports for vulnerable groups including people sleeping rough and women and children escaping domestic and family violence.

The Together Home program has been extended with funding of \$55.4 million across 2023 and 2024 to provide accommodation and wrap-around supports for people who have been sleeping rough. This includes:

- \$18.4 million to extend tenancies and support for 200 existing Together Home clients statewide
- \$37 million for new property supply, with co-contribution from community housing providers.

The NSW Government has also committed \$484.3 million to housing and specialist supports for women and children experiencing domestic and family violence (DFV).

- The funding includes \$426.6 million over four years to deliver and operate new 'Core and Cluster' model women's refuges that will support up to an additional 2,900 women and children escaping DFV each year.
- Construction of new Core and Cluster refuges will commence in 2022 and will continue over four years, up to 2025/26.

The NSW Government is continuing work on addressing homelessness with a broad range of supports and focusing on stable long-term solutions for people.

Questions from The Hon. Sue Higginson MLC

Bail refusals

5. How many people under the age of 18 have been refused bail in the last 12 months by:
- (a) The NSW Police?
 - (b) The courts?

Answer

I am advised:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Police and the Attorney General.

6. How many people under the age of 18 have been refused bail by police who then were subsequently granted bail by the Court in the last 12 months?

Answer

I am advised:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Police and the Attorney General.

7. How many young people under the age of 14 have been refused bail in the last 12 months by:
- (a) The NSW Police?
 - (b) The courts?

Answer

I am advised:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Police and the Attorney General.

8. How many people under the age of 14 have been refused bail by police who then were subsequently granted bail by the Court in the last 12 months?

Answer

I am advised:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Police and the Attorney General.

9. How do the NSW Police assess a refusal of bail for people under the age of 18?
- (a) What information is considered during the assessment?
 - (b) Is there a minimum threshold of information that is required to make a refusal of bail?

- (c) What mechanism is in place to ensure that the assessment prioritises the safety of the young person?

Answer

I am advised:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Police.

10. How do the NSW Police assess a refusal of bail for people under the age of 14?
- (a) What information is considered during the assessment?
- (b) Is there a minimum threshold of information that is required to make a refusal of bail?
- (c) What mechanism is in place to ensure that the assessment prioritises the safety of the young person?

Answer

I am advised:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Police.

11. In the last 5 years, how many people under the age of 18 have been refused bail who are aged:
- (a) 10?
- (b) 11?
- (c) 12?
- (d) 13?
- (e) 14?
- (f) 15?
- (g) 16?
- (h) 17?

Answer

I am advised:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Police and the Attorney General.

Diversion Programs

12. What diversion programs are currently operating in NSW for people under the age of 18?
- (a) How many enrolments have there been in each program over the last 12 months?
 - (b) How many First Nations people under the age of 18 have been enrolled in diversion programs in the last 12 months?
 - i. How many 10 year olds?
 - ii. How many 11 year olds?
 - iii. How many 12 year olds?
 - iv. How many 13 year olds?
 - v. How many 14 year olds?
 - vi. How many 15 year olds?
 - vii. How many 16 year olds?
 - viii. How many 17 year olds?
 - (c) What is the cost of these programs?
 - i. In total, per annum?
 - ii. For each program, per annum?

Answer

I am advised:

- (a) Youth Justice operates five diversion programs, and in 2021/22:
- Youth on Track (YoT) supported 265 participants.
 - A Place to Go (APTG) supported 236 young people at the Parramatta Children's Court and referred to other services as required, and a further 15 young people consented to participate

in APTG to receive intensive case management services.

- The Broadmeadow Children’s Court Pilot (BCCP) supported 145 young people.
- The Rural Residential Adolescent Alcohol and Other Drug Rehabilitation Service supported 87 young people.
- Youth Justice Conferences supported 850 young people.

b)

i. How many 10 year olds?

- 0 (BCCP) 0 (YoT) 0 (APTG)

ii. How many 11 year olds?

- 1 (BCCP) 2 (YoT) 0 (APTG)

iii. How many 12 year olds?

- 2 (BCCP) 19 (YoT) 0 (APTG)

iv. How many 13 year olds?

- 6 (BCCP) 17 (YoT) 0 (APTG)

v. How many 14 year olds?

- 9 (BCCP) 33 (YoT) 2 (APTG)

vi. How many 15 year olds?

- 12 (BCCP) 36 (YoT) 3 (APTG)

vii. How many 16 year olds?

- 18 (BCCP) 39 (YoT) 2 (APTG)

viii. How many 17 year olds?

- 17 (BCCP) 22 (YoT) 3 (APTG).

c)

i. \$14.12 million in 2021/22.

ii. The 2021-22 budget for:

- BCCP was \$0.3 million
- YoT was \$6.3 million
- APTG was \$2.8 million
- Rural Residential Adolescent Alcohol and Other Drug Rehabilitation Service was \$3.68 million

Youth Justice Conferences was \$ 1.037 million (in 2020-21).

Mental Health Assessments

13. What assessment occurs when sending a person under the age of 18 from a detention facility to a specialised mental health facility?
- (a) Who conducts the assessment?
- (b) How many mental health assessments have occurred in relation to people under the age of 18 in custody over the past 12 months?
- (c) How many mental health assessments have occurred in relation to people under the age of 14 in custody over the past 12 months?

Answer

I am advised:

The Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network undertake these assessments.

Questions about this process should be directed to the Minister for Health.

Youth Detention Facilities

14. How many young people under the age of 14 in detention facilities are First Nations?
- (a) How many are in each of the 6 youth detention centres?
- i. How many First Nations people under the age of 14 are in each facility?

Answer

I am advised:

As at midnight on 7 September 2022, there were seven Aboriginal young people under the age of 14 in Youth Justice Centres.

- (a) This includes;

- Three Aboriginal young people under the age of 14 in Acmena Youth Justice Centre,
- one Aboriginal young person under the age of 14 in Frank Baxter Youth Justice Centre,
- two Aboriginal young people under the age of 14 in Reiby Youth Justice Centre, and
- one Aboriginal young person under the age of 14 in Riverina Youth Justice Centre.

As this is taken from a live data base figures are subject to change.

15. How many Youth Justice staff are employed at each NSW Police Local Area Command?
- (a) What role do Youth Justice Staff have in determining bail decisions?

Answer

I am advised:

Youth Justice does not employ staff at Police Local Area Commands. There are Youth Justice caseworkers distributed across 34 office locations in NSW. Each of these has a professional relationship with the Local Area Command.

- (a) Youth Justice does not have a role in determining bail decisions. When requested to do so, Youth Justice provides information to Police and the Court to assist in their determination of bail decisions.

16. What is the average cost for youth detainees aged:

- (a) 10 years?
- (b) 11 years?
- (c) 12 years?
- (d) 13 years?
- (e) 14 years?
- (f) 15 years?
- (g) 16 years?
- (h) 17 years?

Answer

I am advised:

The cost for youth detainees is not broken down by age. The average cost per detainee per day is reported annually by the Productivity Commission. The most recent reported cost for NSW is \$1956.10. <https://www.pc.gov.au/ongoing/report-on-government-services>

17. What is being done to improve effective cultural practice in custody for First Nations people under the age of 18?

Answer

I am advised:

Youth Justice employs a range of state wide and local strategies to improve practice in custody for Aboriginal young people. This includes programs that connect young people with their culture through activities including art, dance, and storytelling.

These strategies align with the 'Working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Young People Good Practice Guide' and are led by Aboriginal Practice Officers and other Aboriginal Youth Justice staff in collaboration with local communities and Elders.

Youth Justice NSW has changed its recruitment practices to attract more Aboriginal staff who can provide a specialist cultural response for young people.

18. Why are people in detention under the age of 18 not given unsupervised access to the internet?
- (a) Is there software used on computer resources in youth detention facilities that monitors use and internet history?
 - (b) Do staff conduct direct, in person supervision of detainees using computer resources and the internet?

Answer

I am advised:

Unsupervised internet access for young people in custody may pose a risk to victims of crime, jeopardise the integrity of court proceedings or adversely impact the safety and security of a detention centre.

Young people in custody have access to computer tablets to facilitate video visits with family and approved contacts. This is supervised respectfully by staff.

Young people in custody also have access to computers within the school setting contained within each detention centre. Use of these computers is overseen and managed by the NSW Department of Education. Youth Justice NSW does not use any specific software that monitors computer use or internet history.

19. Do corrections staff in youth detention facilities wear body-worn cameras?
(a) If not, why not?

Answer

I am advised:

If on rare occasions, Corrections staff are deployed to a Youth Justice Centre, they wear body cameras.

20. What conditions must be met before a body search can be conducted on a person under the age of 18 who is in detention?
(a) Are x-ray body scanners in use for youth detainees?
i. If yes, what are the associated costs of these scanners?
ii. If not, have these scanners been considered?

Answer

I am advised:

Young people being admitted to a Youth Justice Centre or returning from unsupervised leave may be routinely subjected to a partially clothed body search. In all other instances, a partially clothed body search must only be undertaken to address an identified risk to the safety, security and good order of a detention centre.

a) Youth Justice has introduced x-ray body scanners at Cobham and Reiby Youth Justice Centres. These machines will be operational at all other centres, along with Surry Hills and Parramatta Children's Courts, by the end of 2022. This will almost eliminate the need for partially clothed body searches.

Each x-ray body scanner machine costs approximately \$250,000. There are also associated costs with project management, delivery, installation, networking and training.

21. What are the safer placement options that are available to people under the age of 18 who have been convicted of a crime?

- (a) Are there cultural awareness considerations in these safer placement options, particularly for First Nations people?

Answer

I am advised:

Section 33 of the Children (Criminal Proceedings) Act 1987 sets out the penalties that the Children's Court may impose when a young person is convicted of a crime. Only a penalty imposed under section 33(1)(g) results in the young person being placed in a custodial facility. All other sentencing options allow for the young person's community placement to continue. Youth Justice cannot comment on the sentencing considerations of judicial officers.

22. What are the operating costs for each of the 6 youth detention facilities in the last 12 months?

Answer

I am advised:

The operating costs for Youth Justice Centres (YJC) in the July 2021 to June 2022 period were:

- Acmena YJC: \$13,035,496
- Riverina YJC \$10,907,806
- Orana YJC: \$8,713,461
- Frank Baxter YJC: \$29,890,880
- Reiby YJC: \$15,920,943
- Cobham YJC: \$32,129,022.

These figures do not include the custodial operating expenses for court logistics, classification and transport or security and intelligence.

Intervention programs

23. Are community led responses and intervention programs preferred to government led responses and intervention programs where a young person lives in an at risk home environment?
- (a) Have there been statistical assessments made about the success rates of government versus community led responses and intervention programs?
- (b) Are communities consulted when considering whether a government or community led response and or intervention program is most appropriate?

- (c) What Government and non-government agencies are involved in youth action meetings?
- i. Are these agencies culturally and age appropriate for young people?

Answer

I am advised:

The service each young person receives is individualised based on their specific needs and the service responses available in their area. There is no blanket preference for responses to be community led or government led.

Communities are involved in the design and delivery of interventions however interventions and programs for young people are determined based on needs and the availability of programs in the area.

Youth Justice is an active participant in youth action meetings, and Youth Justice provided a broad description of youth action meetings at the Budget Estimates hearing on 30 August 2022. Further questions should be directed to the Minister for Police.

24. How many people under the age of 18:

(a) Are on remand today?

(b) Were on remand:

i. 12 months ago?

ii. 24 months ago?

iii. 5 years ago?

Answer

I am advised:

(a) As at midnight on 7 September 2022, there were 145 young people under the age of 18 on remand.

(b)(i) 12 months ago, on 7 September 2021, there were 98 young people under the age of 18 on remand.

(ii) 24 months ago, on 7 September 2020, there were 111 young people under the age of 18 on

remand.

(iii) five years ago, on 7 September 2017, there were 138 young people under the age of 18 on remand.

As this is taken from a live data base figures are subject to change.

25. How many people under the age of 14:

(a) Are on remand today?

(b) Were on remand:

i. 12 months ago?

ii. 24 months ago?

iii. 5 years ago?

Answer

I am advised:

(a) As at midnight on 7 September 2022, there were nine young people under the age of 14 on remand.

(b)

(i) 12 months ago, on 7 September 2021, there were four young people under the age of 14 on remand.

(ii) 24 months ago, on 7 September 2020, there were seven young people under the age of 14 on remand.

(iii) five years ago, on 7 September 2017, there were four young people under the age of 14 on remand.

As this is taken from a live data base figures are subject to change.

Community partnership

26. What steps have been taken to improve partnering between DCJ, Youth Justice, communities and community organisations to end the over-representation of First Nations children and young people in child protection?

(a) What changes are occurring with:

i. The Minister?

ii. The Department?

iii. Districts?

iv. Case workers?

(b) Have all DCJ employees been given guidance and directives to work in partnership and in accordance with the National Agreement?

i. What accountability processes are in place to make sure this happens?

Answer

I am advised:

i. The Minister attends the quarterly Closing the Gap Ministerial meetings co-chaired by the NSW Coalition of Aboriginal Peak Organisations, meets with Aboriginal peak organisations and attends the Aboriginal Knowledge Circle. At the (date) meeting the Minister gave a commitment to working in genuine partnership with CAPO .

ii. The Department of Communities and Justice's Executive Board drives work to improve outcomes for Aboriginal staff within DCJ and for Aboriginal people who interact with our service systems through its Aboriginal Service Delivery Sub-Committee.

DCJ's Child Safety Plan - Governance Group meets monthly to review monthly data and performance as a mechanism for accountability and performance measurement.

The Closing the Gap Families Officer Level Working Group's membership includes – senior DCJ Executives, AbSec which is co-chair and CAPO representative, Office of the Children's Guardian, and Office of the Senior Practitioner.

The Families Officer Level Working Group will give consideration to expand membership to include Youth Justice. There are a various initiatives being undertaken across DCJ that involve partnering with Aboriginal community controlled organisations, including the Out of Home Care Transition Project, which partners with AbSec and ACWA.

iii. The primary policy which creates the expectation for Districts and caseworkers to

work in partnership with Aboriginal families and communities involve Aboriginal people in decision making and be accountable to community, is the Aboriginal Case Management Policy. DCJ is giving renewed focus on the implementation of this policy, supported by funding for the establishment of Aboriginal Community Controlled Mechanisms.

(b) i. Commitment to achieving the priority reforms under Closing The Gap is a whole of government responsibility shared by all Divisions within DCJ. The newly established Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes Division is considering how best to ensure that DCJ employees understand the National Agreement and how it impacts their daily work with Aboriginal people and expect this to be further developed over the life of the agreement. Aboriginal Affairs NSW has developed a two year implementation plan for Closing the Gap in NSW, which is the primary accountability mechanism for NSW's progress against the socioeconomic targets and priority reform areas under National Agreement.

Aboriginal Knowledge Circle

27. What advice has the Aboriginal Knowledge Circle provided on potential legislative reforms?

(a) How is this being communicated transparently by the Minister's office to Aboriginal communities?

Answer

I am advised:

The government sought advice from the Aboriginal Knowledge Circle prior to undertaking public consultation on the 25 recommendations in the Family Is Culture Review Report on changes to laws and court processes. A paper summarising outcomes of public consultation is available on the DCJ website.

Family is Culture implementation

28. Is the Government going to implement all 126 recommendations of the Family is Culture review?

(a) Will the Government establish an Independent Child Protection Commission?

Answer

I am advised:

The NSW Government has committed to implementing the findings of the landmark

independent, Aboriginal-led Family is Culture review of Aboriginal over-representation in out-of-home care in NSW by 2024. This will be done in partnership with communities and aligned with the overall intent of the review,

(a) The NSW Government has committed to further consultation on recommendation nine, which relates to the establishment of a Child Protection Commission.

29. Why has DCJ not worked with AbSec to create a co-developed implementation plan?

Answer

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice will work with AbSec on an implementation plan regarding consultations that will occur in 2022 and 2023, and will work with AbSec on the implementation of the legislative reforms slated to occur during 2022 and 2023.

30. How many times has the Family is Culture Executive Working Group met?

(a) When was the last meeting?

(b) Are there regularly planned meetings?

i. If not, why?

(c) Will DCJ ask AbSec or other peak bodies to sign-off on completed reform implementation?

Answer

I am advised:

(a) The Family is Culture Executive Working Group met 12 times in 2021 and has met four times to date in 2022. The Family is Culture Executive Working Group last met on 2 June 2022. It is next scheduled to meet on 21 September 2022.

(b) The Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ), AbSec and the Aboriginal Legal Service (ACT/NSW) have 12 meetings set per calendar year. Meetings in 2022 have been held over or rescheduled where DCJ and/or AbSec are unable to attend

due to unforeseen circumstances.

(c) DCJ will bring recommendations it considers completed to the Executive Working Group, which AbSec and the Aboriginal Legal Service (ACT/NSW) sit on.

31. Why have the Family is Culture progress reports been put on hold while legislative reforms are considered?
- (a) Could the Family is Culture reports begin again and include updates on the legislative reform process?
- i. Does DCJ require additional resources to continue the progress reports while the reforms are being considered?
- (b) Will the Government consult with and seek feedback from AbSec and other peak bodies in the drafting of the Bill?

Answer

I am advised:

The Office of the Children's Guardian released a report in April 2022 which provided guidance to DCJ on improvements to public reporting on Family Is Culture, specifically that reporting be more detailed on a narrower number of initiatives to enhance public understanding of progress.

In addition to public consultations on legislative reforms and associated work to progress the outcomes of consultations, DCJ has been compiling and verifying the information it holds as to the progress of implementation against the 125 recommendations to enable it to create public reports that align with the Office of the Children's Guardian's guidance.

- a) DCJ expects to release the next public progress report in the next quarter. The progress report will include updates on the legislative reform process.
- i. No.

Yes.

Closing the gap commitments

32. Will the Government review the disproportionately high funding that goes to non-Aboriginal service providers and adequately fund Aboriginal community-controlled child and family organisations that are best placed to care Aboriginal children and young people?

Answer

I am advised:

The government is committed to investing in the Aboriginal community-controlled organisation (ACCO) sector to deliver services to Aboriginal children and young people. As part of the recommissioning of family preservation elements of the Permanency Support Program (PSP), the government is investing up to \$11 million per annum to the ACCO sector by June 2024. The government remains committed to transitioning Aboriginal children in out-of-home care to be supported by ACCOs. As the children transition to ACCOs the funding packages linked to those children will also transfer to the ACCO. The NSW Government has provided \$8.7 million in the 2022/23 budget to fund a four-year project, Strong Families, Our Way initiative to strengthen sustainable, community-led structures of self-determination in the Aboriginal child and family system. This project will support the NSW Government to implement other aspects of this recommendation. The government has also allocated \$3.9 million over four years to bolster Aboriginal communities' decision-making power over the design, delivery and evaluation of child and family programs and services through the development and piloting of an Aboriginal-commissioning model.

33. Will the Government continue to transition the case management of Aboriginal Children and young people in out of home care to Aboriginal organisations?

Answer

I am advised:

Yes, the Department of Communities and Justice will continue the transition of case management of Aboriginal children to Aboriginal organisations. As part of the new Permanency Support Program, Non-Government Organisations are required to develop an implementation plan, detailing how they will transition Aboriginal children to Aboriginal organisations.

Restoration and permanency

34. How many of the 70 current matters that the Guardianship Taskforce has involve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and their families?

Answer

I am advised:

As at 31 July 2022, 22 of the 70 Taskforce matters involved Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and their families.

35. How many of the 70 matters involve guardianship for an Aboriginal child being allocated to a non-relative, or a non-Aboriginal family member?

Answer

I am advised:

this data is not reliably available.

36. Will DCJ give similar financial investment to a permanency taskforce that looks at restoration of children to their families and communities, given the recommendations around restoration in FIC (in particular recommendations 106, 107, and 108, which all required partnership with Aboriginal stakeholders)?

Answer

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice is pursuing a range of initiatives to support the restoration of Aboriginal children, including reviewing all of the cases where Aboriginal children in care have a goal of restoration and releasing a new restoration policy, which has a focus on working with Aboriginal children and families.

Questions from The Hon. Mark Buttigieg MLC *(on behalf of the Opposition)*

Child Protection

37. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, how many of the 90,000 children not seen by the department following a Risk of Significant Harm Report:
- (a) Were definitely seen by another organisation or agency as a follow up to the ROSH report?
 - (b) May not have been seen by anyone, including because no records exist or because the department does not know?

Answer

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) does not currently hold reliable linked data regarding the number of children reported at Risk of Significant Harm seen by another organisation or agency, not DCJ.

38. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, how many children are currently in the care of NGOs which are covered by the government's short-term indemnity scheme, and how many children are in the care of NGOs not covered by the government's scheme?

Answer

I am advised:

- The short-term indemnity scheme is a voluntary scheme which provides cover to eligible out-of-home care and youth homelessness service providers for physical and abuse claims.
- There are approximately 3,550 children and young people in out-of-home care (OOHC) placements with contracted service providers that have joined the short-term indemnity scheme.
- There are approximately 5,300 children and young people in OOHC placements with contracted service providers that have not joined the short-term indemnity scheme.
- Some providers have not yet joined the scheme because they still have cover in place, including cover obtained from off-shore markets. These providers may join the scheme in the future, as policies expire.

39. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, how many children were in alternative care arrangements as at the specific day you took this question on notice, being Wednesday 2 March 2022?

Answer

I am advised:

Data relating to number of children as at a given day is not reliably available.

40. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, please provide all minutes of the government's Aboriginal Knowledge Circle, given it has been confirmed that minutes are taken but not published.

Answer

I am advised:

The minutes of the Aboriginal Knowledge Circle are not made public.

A range of topics have been discussed at meetings of the Aboriginal Knowledge Circle, including:

- progress in implementation of the NSW Government's response to the Family is Culture, Independent Review of Aboriginal Children and Young People in out-of-home care, including recommendations relating to specific children and young people, and systemic recommendations
- Family is Culture legislative review proposals
- commitments under national agreements including Closing the Gap and Safe and Supported: The National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2021 to 2031
- a range of other operational, policy and systemic issues related to the Minister's portfolio with a specific focus on child protection and OOHC issues.

41. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, how many young people are forced to vacate their foster care home when they turn 18?

Answer

I am advised:

Transition or leaving care planning – between the caseworker and young person and those significant to them – must include discussion about living arrangements and housing options, based on the young person’s needs and goals. Some young people reach 18 and, like their peers, may opt to move out with friends, or nearer family or community or closer to TAFE or their job.

I am advised that many young people are able to remain in their carer’s home if they and their carer agree. While data is not captured on how many choose to do so or how long they stay, a survey by the Department of Communities and Justice found that 82 per cent of carers reported they were willing for the young person to live with them after they leave care.

Young people who turn 18 while still at school and/or completing the HSC are also supported through Post Care Education Financial Support (PCEFS) allowance which is provided to the carer.

42. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, what was the collective financial contribution to young people who left care because they turned 18, in their first year after leaving care?

Answer

I am advised:

In 2021/22 DCJ provided approximately 650 young people with support after they left out-of-home care in their first year (aged 18 years). The expenditure was approximately \$3.7 million in 2021/22. This includes the After Care Allowance, Post Care Education Support, Contingency payments, and Out of Guidelines Payments . Note: other types of financial and non- financial support are also provided to care leavers, including the Transition to Independence Living Allowance, scholarships, free Safer Drivers Course, free smart & skilled courses and referrals to programs that meet their needs.

43. How many unique young people received direct financial support from the department?

Answer

I am advised:

Approximately 2,400 young people received direct financial support from DCJ in 2021/22. This includes the After Care Allowance, Post Care Education Support, Contingency payments, and Out of Guidelines Payments (Source CIW as of end of

August 2022 data). There are other forms of financial assistance available, not captured in this data. This includes scholarships, the Transition to Independence Living Allowance, access to free training through Smart & Skilled and the free Safer Driving course.

44. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, how many young people in care became homeless because they turned 18 and were forced to vacate their foster care home?

Answer

I am advised:

In 2020-21, 73 young people aged 18 to 19 were assisted by NSW specialist homelessness services for the stated reason of transitioning from foster care/child safety residential placements.

45. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, how many unique young people who exited out-of-home care received any kind of support from the department last year?

Answer

I am advised:

The specific data requested is not collected.

46. How many unique young people received no support from the department?

Answer

I am advised:

There is no specific data about unique young people as most young people leaving care generally access some form of support – either detailed in their leaving care plan or through referral to a Specialist Aftercare Service or by connecting with other services like Foyer Central, Ladder or youth housing. Each program has its own data and reporting. For example, more than 400 young people benefit from the Specialist Aftercare Program each year. Young people move across the service systems and touch the system in different ways. Some young people need limited support as they live in secure and stable foster or relative placements while others needs more ongoing help and support. All care leavers can access the NSW Care Leavers Line for assistance on 1800 994 686 or CareLeaversLine@facs.nsw.gov.au.

47. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, in 2020-21, there were 179 Aboriginal children subject to guardianship orders. How many of these orders were made in respect of non-Aboriginal guardians?

Answer

I am advised:

Of the 179 Aboriginal children subject to guardianship orders in 2020-21, 17 of their guardians were non-Aboriginal, and 132 had unknown indigenous status. The remaining 30 guardians were Aboriginal.

48. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, please provide a list of the separate categories of aftercare support, the yearly expenditure against each category, and the number of children receiving support under each category.

Answer

I am advised:

The NSW Government's leaving and aftercare program provides young people individualised responses to meet their needs to age 25, and beyond where necessary.

\In 2020/21, approximately \$6.6 million was provided to support more than 2,200 young people aged 15 to 17 preparing to leave care.

In 2020/21, over \$8 million in direct financial assistance was provided to more than 2,000 care leavers aged 18 and over

These figures do not include the non-financial support that is provided to care leavers such as help with accessing education and training, legal advice and health services. These figures also do not include \$3.1 million to nine Specialist Aftercare Providers for more than 450 care leavers with complex needs. Follow up support is also offered to ensure the leaving care plan is implemented and to address any change in circumstances or emerging needs. At any time, a care leaver can contact the Care Leavers Line for assistance on 1800 994 686 or

CareLeaversLine@fac.s.nsw.gov.au.

The Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) is responsible for facilitating access to the Transition to Independent Living Allowance (TILA) for care leavers. This is not funded by DCJ but by the Australian Government through the Department of Social Services. In 2019/20, the total funding for 531 care leavers in NSW was \$765,500.

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49. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, please provide the cost modelling undertaken by the department for extending care to 21. If there are issues with the data, please describe those issues alongside the data, rather than refusing to provide the information altogether.

Answer

I am advised:

This cost modelling is not reliably available.

50. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, what is the largest number of children being cared for by a single out-of-home care provider, including the department?

Answer

I am advised:

As at 30 June 2022, 7,640 children and young people were case managed by DCJ.

51. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, what is the largest number of children being cared for by a single out-of-home care provider, excluding the department?

Answer

I am advised:

This information is not provided due to commercial sensitivity.

52. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, please provide a list of the top ten out-of-home care providers, ranked by number of children, and the number of children in their care, at a point in time in the last 12 months.

Answer

I am advised:

The top ten out-of-home care providers based on the number of children and young people (CYP) are as follows. The number of children is not provided due to commercial sensitivity.

- Life Without Barriers
- Wesley Community Services Limited
- Challenge Community Services
- KARI Ltd -
- Barnardos Australia
- CareSouth

- MacKillop Family Services Ltd
- The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (NSW) as delegated through to Uniting (NSW/ACT)
- Anglicare NSW South NSW West and ACT
- Burrun Dalai Aboriginal Corporation

This is operational data collected by the Department of Communities and Justice as at 1 July 2022.

53. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, previous information provided to the committee suggested that around 49 per cent of children exiting alternative care arrangements exited to a 'different arrangement' including supported independent living, other funded placements etc. Please provide a categorised breakdown of the specific arrangements for these children who exit alternative care arrangements.

Answer

I am advised:

In regard to children and young people exiting alternative care arrangements from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022:

- Foster Care Placement
- Intensive Therapeutic Care
- Relative kinship placement
- Self-placed/unauthorised placement
- Supported Independent Living
- Residential Care
- Individual Placement Arrangements

Other or not recorded -

54. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, please provide the data available to the department relating to the number of young people exiting out-of-home care who do and do not have leaving care plans completed, listed by NGO. For smaller providers with less than 10 children exiting care each year, please indicate if you believe their data would identify individual

children. For other providers, please provide the information.

Answer

I am advised:

In 2021-22, there were 819 young people (YP) under parental responsibility of the Minister who turned 18. 62.1 per cent of these YP had a current Leaving Care Plan (LCP). Of these 819 YP, 557 were case managed by an NGO and the proportion of these young people with a current LCP was 56.2 per cent.

- Number of YP case managed by an NGO, who turned 18 and had a current LCP 2021-22 - (Total 313 YP)
 - Life Without Barriers – 56 YP
 - Wesley Community Services Limited – 31 YP
 - Marist Youth Care Ltd – 17 YP
 - Anglicare NSW South, NSW West and ACT – 15 YP
 - Lifestyle Solutions (Aust) Ltd – 14 YP
 - Pathfinders Ltd – 13 YP
 - Allambi Care Ltd – 13 YP
 - Challenge Community Services – 12 YP
 - Banardos Australia – 11 YP
 - Veritas House Ince – 11 YP
 - 32 other case management NGOs – 120 YP
- Number of YP case managed by an NGO, who turned 18 and do not have a valid LCP 2021-22 – (Total 224 YP)
 - Life Without Barriers – 43 YP
 - Anglicare NSW South, NSW West and ACT – 18 YP
 - KARI Ltd – 13 YP
 - Pathfinders Ltd – 12 YP
 - Banardos Australia – 11 YP
 - 37 other case management NGOs – 134 YP

55. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, please provide the suspension data

and the attendance data for children in out-of-home care.

Answer

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice does not hold school attendance and suspension data for children in out-of-home care.

56. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, over the last 12 months, what is the longest period a young person stayed in alternative care arrangements before being transferred to intensive therapeutic care?

Answer

I am advised:

Of those who exited alternative care arrangements (ACA) during 2021/22, the longest period a young person stayed in ACA before being transferred to Intensive Therapeutic care was 315 days.

57. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, what is the total cost of alternative care arrangements for each district over the past 12 months?

Answer

I am advised:

Answer

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice supports more than 15,000 children in Out of Home Care, and alternative care arrangements are used as a last resort for a small number of children. The total budget for OOHC is \$1.6 Billion

58. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, how many individual nights of alternative care arrangements were charged to each district over the past 12 months?

Answer

I am advised:

The table below provides the number of children and young people who have been in ACA by districts and total number of ACA days by district for FY 2021-22

Districts	FY 2021-22			
	Children and Young People		Total ACA Days	
	No.	% of Total*	No.	%
Central Coast	30	5.5%	2,234	5.3%
Far West	6	1.1%	696	1.6%
Hunter	51	9.3%	2,464	5.8%
Illawarra Shoalhaven	28	5.1%	1,831	4.3%
Mid North Coast	47	8.5%	4,814	11.3%
Murrumbidgee	30	5.5%	2,360	5.6%
Nepean Blue Mountains	65	11.8%	4,696	11.1%
New England	45	8.2%	2,966	7.0%
Northern NSW	36	6.5%	2,898	6.8%
Northern Sydney	6	1.1%	690	1.6%
South Eastern Sydney	27	4.9%	2,223	5.2%
South Western Sydney	47	8.5%	4,172	9.8%
Southern NSW	16	2.9%	2,245	5.3%
Statewide Services	5	0.9%	329	0.8%
Sydney	25	4.5%	1,389	3.3%
Western NSW	66	12.0%	5,502	13.0%
Western Sydney	26	4.7%	922	2.2%
Total	550	100.0%	42,431	100.0%

* Sum of individual districts is higher than Total as a child may appear in multiple districts during the year.

59. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, what is the number of unique children who have been in alternative care arrangements over the last 12 months, by district?

Answer

I am advised:

Districts	FY 2021-22	
	Children and Young People	
	No.	% of Total*
Central Coast	30	5.5%
Far West	6	1.1%
Hunter	51	9.3%
Illawarra Shoalhaven	28	5.1%
Mid North Coast	47	8.5%
Murrumbidgee	30	5.5%
Nepean Blue Mountains	65	11.8%
New England	45	8.2%
Northern NSW	36	6.5%
Northern Sydney	6	1.1%
South Eastern Sydney	27	4.9%
South Western Sydney	47	8.5%
Southern NSW	16	2.9%
Statewide Services	5	0.9%
Sydney	25	4.5%

Western NSW	66	12.0%
Western Sydney	26	4.7%
Total	550	100.0%

60. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, regarding staff who supervise young people in alternative care arrangements, how many over the last 12 months have been departmental staff and how many have been NGO staff?

Answer

I am advised:

NGO staff supervise the vast majority of children in ACAs.

61. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, what is the total yearly amount spent on ACAs, the number of children who benefited, and the number of nights purchased, for the last two financial years?

Answer

I am advised:

That the Department of Communities and Justice supports more than 15,000 children in Out of Home Care, and alternative care arrangements are used as a last resort for a small number of children. The total budget for OOHC is \$1.6 Billion

62. Per your previous non-answer to a question taken on notice, what is the highest and lowest per-night cost of alternative care arrangements for the last two financial years, respectively?

Answer

I am advised:

This data is captured at individual invoice level and not able to be extracted through reports providing total spend by child.

63. Per your previous non-answer to a supplementary question, currently, how many unique caseworkers employed by the Department have:

- (a) Less than one year experience
- (b) Between one and two years' experience
- (c) Between two and three years' experience

- (d) Between three and four years' experience
- (e) Between four and five years' experience
- (f) More than five years' experience

Answer

I am advised:

Tenure of ongoing or new staff	Headcount	% of total
Less than 1 year	385	24%
Between 1 and 2 years	240	15%
Between 2 and 3 years	264	16%
Between 3 and 4 years	245	15%
Between 4 and 5 years	297	19%
More than 5 years	1254	10%
Grand Total	2685	100%

64. Per your previous non-answer to a supplementary question, how many Department staff in child protection-related roles left their employment within 12 months of commencing?

Answer

I am advised:

From June 2021 to June 2022, 64 department staff in child protection-related roles left their employment within 12 months of commencing.

65. Per your previous non-answer to a supplementary question, how many Department staff in child protection-related roles left their employment within 24 months of commencing?

Answer

I am advised:

From June 2021 to June 2022, 174 department staff in child protection-related roles left their employment within 24 months of commencing.

66. Per your previous non-answer to a supplementary question, what proportion of Aboriginal children in out-of-home care are in the care of Aboriginal community-controlled organisations?

Answer

I am advised:

At 30 June 2021, 19.9 per cent of Aboriginal children were case managed by Aboriginal community-controlled organisations. Preliminary data indicates that this rose to 20.6 per cent in 2021/22.

67. Per your previous non-answer to a supplementary question, how many children between the ages of 10-13 are in juvenile detention?

Answer

I am advised:

As at midnight on 7 September 2022, there were nine children between the ages of 10-13 in Youth Justice Centres. Source: DCJ/YJ CIMS (RPELive) 8 September 2022. As this is taken from a live data base figures are subject to change.

68. How many of these children are Aboriginal and what percentage do they make up?

Answer

I am advised:

As at midnight on 7 September 2022, there were seven Aboriginal children under the age of 14 in Youth Justice Centres. This is:

78% of all children under the age of 14 in custody (seven out of 9).

Source: DCJ/YJ CIMS (RPELive) 8 September 2022. As this is taken from a live data base figures are subject to change.

69. Per your previous non-answer to a supplementary question, please provide a breakdown of the expenditure on guardianship allowances over the last three financial years.

Answer

I am advised:

The breakdown of the expenditure on guardianship allowance over the last three financial years is as follows:

1. Financial year 2021/22 – \$51.3 million
2. Financial year 2020/21 – \$47.7 million
3. Financial year 2019/20 – \$44.3 million.

70. Per your previous non-answer to a supplementary question, in 2021/22, how many young people received financial aftercare assistance between the ages of 18 and 25?

Answer

I am advised:

As at end August, approximately 2400 young people received direct financial support from DCJ in the 21/22 financial year. This includes the After Care Allowance, Post Care Education Support, Contingency payments, and Out of Guidelines Payments.. Note that other types of financial and non- financial support are also provided to care leavers, including the Transition To Independence Living Allowance, education scholarships free Safer Drivers Course, free Smart & Skilled courses and referrals to programs that meet their needs.

71. Per your previous non-answer to a supplementary question, over the last 12 months, what is the longest period that a child has spent in alternative care arrangements?

Answer

I am advised:

For children and young people exiting alternative care arrangements (ACA) in the 12-month period to 30 June 2022, the median length of stay was 32 days. The longest stay was 381 days. This child is under 12 and a foster care placement was unable to be identified due to complexity of need and when this was exhausted, was placed in a residential care placement.

72. Per your previous non-answer to a supplementary question, over the last 12 months, what is the rate at which children in ACAs attend school?

Answer

I am advised:

This data is not reliably available.

73. Per your previous non-answer to a supplementary question, how many Department caseworkers and management staff submitted workers compensation claims in:
- (a) 2019/20
 - (b) 2020/21
 - (c) 2021/22

Answer

I am advised:

- (a) 101
- (b) 116

(c) 102 (as at 30.06.2022)

74. Per your previous non-answers to supplementary questions relating to stress-related leave: the Department must be aware of the quantity and categories of leave types taken within its agencies – otherwise the whole-of-government workforce profile data could not exist. In relation to department child protection caseworkers and management staff, how many took a period of stress-related leave in:

(a) 2019/20

(b) 2020/21

(c) 2021/22

Answer

I am advised:

Please refer to the answer provided for supplementary question 107 from the 2 March 2022 hearing:

The NSW Workforce Profile report, published by the NSW Public Service Commission, has a breakdown of various types of paid leave taken at the whole of NSW level (i.e. sick leave, recreational leave, carers leave and special leave) for 2021 and prior calendar years. However, this is not broken down by stress-related leave (which can be a subcategory of sick leave), therefore this data cannot be accurately calculated: <https://www.psc.nsw.gov.au/reports-and-data/workforce-profile/workforce-profile-reports>.

The NSW Workforce Profile report is usually tabled in the last NSW Parliament sitting session of each year.

75. Per your previous non-answers to supplementary questions relating to stress-related leave: the Department must be aware of the quantity and categories of leave types taken within its agencies – otherwise the whole-of-government workforce profile data could not exist. In relation to department child protection caseworkers and management staff who took a period of stress-related leave in each of the following years, how many took less than six months leave:

(a) 2019/20

(b) 2020/21

(c) 2021/22

Answer

I am advised:

I refer to the answer provided for question 74.

76. Per your previous non-answers to supplementary questions relating to stress-related leave: the Department must be aware of the quantity and categories of leave types taken within its agencies – otherwise the whole-of-government workforce profile data could not exist. In relation to department child protection caseworkers and management staff who took a period of stress-related leave in each of the following years, how many took more than six months but less than 12 months leave:
- (a) 2019/20
 - (b) 2020/21
 - (c) 2021/22

Answer

I am advised:

I refer to the answer provided for question 74.

77. Per your previous non-answers to supplementary questions relating to stress-related leave: the Department must be aware of the quantity and categories of leave types taken within its agencies – otherwise the whole-of-government workforce profile data could not exist. In relation to department child protection caseworkers and management staff who took a period of stress-related leave in each of the following years, how many took more than 12 months leave:
- (a) 2019/20
 - (b) 2020/21
 - (c) 2021/22

Answer

I am advised:

I refer to the answer provided for question 74.

78. Per your previous non-answer to a supplementary question, how many cultural care plans were in place in the past financial year?

Answer

I am advised:

This data is not reliably available.

A range of initiatives are in place to support and improve cultural planning and compliance with reporting requirements, including:

- new policy guidance and information sheets in relation to cultural planning
- direct support to caseworkers and NGOs with their cultural support plans, including targeted training sessions to a number of NGOs
- improved compliance monitoring, and targeted communication, including onsite visits to NGOs.

The strategies implemented will lead to a significant improvement in cultural planning.

79. How many were done by DCJ, how many were done by non-Aboriginal NGOs, and how many were done by Aboriginal community-controlled organisations?

Answer

I am advised:

80. This data is not reliably available. Is the Department going to achieve the re-report target rate of 32.3% by next year?

Answer

I am advised:

There is a possibility the re-report target rate will be reached by next year given the re-report rate has fallen steadily since June 2021.

81. What is the average length of time from entry into care to a guardianship order?

Answer

I am advised:

375 children exited to Guardianship in 2021-22. The average length of time in care for the 375 children was 63 months.

82. What is the current number of children in statutory care with an approved open adoption case plan goal?

Answer

I am advised:

There were 13,151 children in statutory out-of-home care as at 30 June 2022. 215 (1.6%) had an adoption case plan goal.

83. How many of these children have been in the open adoption process for more than 2 years?

Answer

I am advised:

This data is not reliably available.

84. What is the average length of time from removal by DCJ to the Children's Court making a final order with a case plan goal of open adoption?

Answer

I am advised:

The average length of time from entry date to final legal order start date was approximately 11.5 months.

85. What is the average length of time from entry into care to an adoption order?

Answer

I am advised:

The average length of time from entry into care to an adoption order in 2021-22 was around seven years. It should be noted that this does not reflect the time taken to achieve adoption, as many children may initially have another case plan goal and move towards adoption after a period of time in care.

86. How many children exiting OOHC since 1 July 2017 had their permanency goal met within 2 years?

Answer

I am advised:

This data is not reliably available.

87. There are now 4 additional OOHC residential care models in addition to the 2 original models (Intensive Therapeutic Care ITC; and Intensive Therapeutic Temporary Care ITTC 12 weeks): Alternate Care Arrangement ACA, Individual Placement Arrangement IPA, Short term Emergency Placement STEP, Interim Care Model ICM. How many children are currently in each of these six placement types?

Answer

I am advised:

As at 7 September 2022, there were: 517 children in Intensive Therapeutic Care, 108 children in an Individual Placement Arrangement (IPA), 40 children in a Short Term Emergency Placement (STEP), and 77 children in an Interim Care Placement.

88. Are children in ACA, IPA, STEP and ICM placements counted and reported as RC in NSW OOHC data?
- (a) If not, then how/where are they counted and reported?

Answer

I am advised:

Yes, children in these arrangements are included in NSW OOHC data as residential care.

89. How many children in ACA, IPA, STEP and ICM placements are with non-accredited agencies?

Answer

I am advised:

All children in IPA, STEP and ICM are with accredited agencies.

90. Do the facilities operating under ACA, IPA, STEP and ICM arrangements fall under the NSW Official Community Visitors Scheme, and if not, why not?

Answer

I am advised:

In relation to the Official Community Visitor (OCV) scheme, a 'visitable service' is an

accommodation service where a child in care using the service is in the full-time care of the service provider. 'Full-time care' is determined by the circumstances in which care is provided – that is, whether the service provider has the full-time (i.e.: exclusive or principal) care of the child.

In practice, the OCV scheme works on the basis that:

- Short-term accommodation locations are only visitable if the child is in the service provider's care for **three months or more**.
- Locations are typically included as visitable services where the child is in the care of the service provider for **at least 20 hours per week**.

Facilities operating under Alternative Care Arrangements (ACA), Individual Placement Arrangements (IPA), Short Term Emergency Placements (STEP) and Interim Care Model (ICM) arrangements come under the OCV scheme to the extent that they meet the above criteria.

91. What is budgeted for family preservation and targeted early intervention 2022-23?

(a) How much of this is allocated to Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations?

Answer

I am advised:

The budget for the Targeted Earlier Intervention program for 2022/23 is \$172 million. Of that funding, \$11,177,466 is allocated to Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations.

92. In 2021-22 the Department budget for family preservation (\$129M) and targeted early intervention programs (\$164M) was a total of \$293M. How much was spent on OOHC (combined government and non-government total figure) in 2021-22?

Answer

I am advised:

The total expenditure on out-of-home care for 2021/22 was \$1.6 billion.

93. What is the total budget for NSW OOHC in 2022-23?

Answer

I am advised:

The Stronger Communities Cluster will invest \$1.6 billion to support the safety, welfare, and wellbeing of vulnerable children in out-of-home care and enhance permanency outcomes.

94. On 15 June 2021 it was announced that \$12M in funding would be allocated to scale up initiatives aimed at increasing the number of adoptions and guardianships, including through the establishment of a Permanency Taskforce:
- (a) How much of this funding has been spent to date?
 - (b) What has the funding been spent on?
 - (c) What is the percentage increase in guardianship and open adoption orders since the announcement of the Taskforce?

Answer

I am advised:

- (a) Of the \$12 million allocated over four years, the total funds spent to August 2022 month end is \$4,586,031.
- (b) The funding to date has been spent on:
 - Staff costs for the Permanency Taskforce (including casework and legal staff)
 - Funding for end-to-end adoptions (contested adoption fund)
 - A business process review of guardianship and out-of-home care (OOHC) open adoption to support streamlining of the permanency process
 - Permanency Workshops for the NGO sector
 - Additional funding for My Forever Family to deliver intensive training and support to carers focused on preparing them for permanency of guardianship or open adoption
 - Development of a communication campaign to promote OOHC guardianship and open adoption for children through awareness as well as attitudinal and behavioural change
 - A range of programs which will improve permanency and long-term outcomes for children who have been in OOHC including: scholarships with Charles Sturt University prioritising children who have been adopted or had a guardianship order; establishment funds for an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation to support cultural permanency for Aboriginal children in Western NSW; after care

support for an Aboriginal organisation on the mid north coast; a program offering leaving and aftercare support in Western Sydney; a program focused on supporting children and their families access necessary services to meet their needs (Kids Early Years (KEYS) Network)

(c) The total number of guardianship orders made for 2020/21 was 451 and 2021/22 was 375. This represents a reduction of 16.9 per cent. The total number of open adoptions from OOHC for 2020/21 was 91 and for 2021/22 was 89. This represents a reduction of 2.2 per cent. However, the Taskforce was not operational until March 2022 and focuses only on guardianship matters. Since the establishment of the Taskforce, a total of 21 guardianship orders have been made as at 30 June 2022.

95. Does the government have a policy regarding reimbursement of agencies for damage to property where damage has occurred in the course of delivering government-funded services, particularly the provision of residential care for children with complex needs and behaviours?

(a) If so, please provide the details of the policy.

Answer

I am advised:

No. The Funding Deed requires service providers to have current and adequate insurance to cover the activities funded under the Deed or associated Program Level Agreements.

Short Term Indemnity Scheme

96. What is the government doing to ensure NSW child welfare organisations have access to the insurance necessary for their continued operations, for potential claims of sexual and physical abuse which took place prior to 2017?

Answer

I am advised:

The issue of potential exposure of government contracted out-of-home care (OOHC) and youth homelessness service providers to uninsured historical physical and sexual abuse claims is being considered as part of the work being progressed on the long-term solution.

Service provider exposure to uninsured historical abuse claims differs depending on the provider's service provision history, and the type of cover provided under previous insurance policies.

DCJ will work with service providers impacted by uninsured historical claims on a case-by-case basis to ensure all options to support business continuity and ongoing service delivery are explored while the long-term solution is implemented.

97. How many child welfare organisations in NSW are currently relying on the government's short term indemnity scheme?

Answer

I am advised:

As of September 2022, 44 government contracted out-of-home care and youth homelessness service providers have opted-in to participate in the short-term indemnity scheme.

98. Will the government extend its short term indemnity scheme to ensure child welfare organisations in NSW have the necessary insurance coverage under the limited scheme beyond 2022?

(a) If so, for how long will it be extended?

Answer

I am advised:

The short-term indemnity scheme is currently in place until December 2022.

The approach to supporting service providers beyond December 2022, while work on the long-term solution is progressed, is currently being finalised and advice on next steps will be provided to impacted out-of-home care and youth homelessness service providers towards the end of September 2022.

99. Has the government modelled the impact of any child welfare organisation ceasing operations because of potential claims of historical abuse not covered by the government's short term indemnity scheme?

Answer

I am advised:

The NSW Government recognises the lack of access to insurance cover for physical

and sexual abuse claims is a critical issue impacting out-of-home care and youth homelessness service providers nationally, and could significantly impact essential service delivery.

This is why the NSW Government has been working with States, Territories and the Commonwealth through an Inter-jurisdictional Working Group (IJWG) to develop a sustainable long-term solution. The issue of uninsured historical abuse claims will be considered as part of Inter-jurisdictional Working Group (IJWG's) work.

The short-term indemnity scheme is an interim measure addressing the immediate risk to the service delivery while the work progresses on a long-term solution. The Department of Communities and Justice is committed to work with any impacted providers to ensure ongoing service delivery to clients is maintained.

100. What is the government doing to ensure child welfare organisations which are critical to the State's child protection system do not cease operating simply because of a lack of necessary insurance coverage?

(a) What assurances can the Minister provide to these organisations?

Answer

I am advised:

Please refer to my previous answer to supplementary question 98 and 99.

Disability Services- Ageing and Disability Commissioner

101. Prior to the Ageing and Disability Commissioner giving evidence on Tuesday 30 August, were you specifically aware of the budget concerns facing the Ageing and Disability Commission?

Answer

I am advised:

Yes.

102. Have you specifically lobbied the Secretary of your Department, the Treasurer or his department secretary, or any other person, to secure the ongoing funding repeatedly requested by the Ageing and Disability Commissioner?

Answer

I am advised:

Yes.

103. Has the Department ever provided you with a briefing note regarding the budget concerns repeatedly raised by the Ageing and Disability Commissioner?

(a) If so, on what date(s) were these provided?

Answer

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice has provided a briefing regarding the concerns raised by the Commissioner. I am further advised that the Ageing and Disability Commission has adequate budget in 2022-23 to meet operational requirements.

104. Will the government guarantee that the Ageing and Disability Commission will receive the funding necessary to fulfil its statutory functions?

Answer

I am advised that the Ageing and Disability Commission has adequate budget in 2022-23 to meet operational requirements.

105. Prior to the Ageing and Disability Commissioner giving evidence on Tuesday 30 August, were you specifically aware of the declining visitation rates within your Official Community Visitor Scheme?

Answer

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice has provided a briefing regarding the concerns raised by the Commissioner. I am further advised that the Ageing and Disability Commission has adequate budget in 2022-23 to meet operational requirements.

106. Given the Official Community Visitor Scheme is a ministerial scheme, what target visitation rate do you expect?

Answer

I am advised:

The Official Community Visitor (OCV) scheme seeks to allocate OCVs to 80 per cent of all visitable services.

107. Prior to the Ageing and Disability Commissioner giving evidence on Tuesday 30 August, were you aware of the increasing demand on the services of the Ageing and Disability Commission due to increased awareness and prevalence of elder abuse?

Answer

I am advised:

As this is a question relating to elder abuse, this question should be directed to the Minister for Seniors.

Tomaree Lodge and Stockton Centre – Short-term Use

108. The department has stated multiple times under oath that using the Tomaree Lodge site for short-term emergency accommodation “would require significant investment” in the sewerage system. This indicates that specific assessments must have been carried out, otherwise the department could not accurately claim the required expenditure would be “significant.” Please

provide the details of these specific assessments, including the nature of the assessment and the date on which it was undertaken.

Answer

I am advised:

Due to ongoing sewerage system issues, a services report was commissioned in 2016 with the findings stating that the sewage system was at 'end of life'. Replacement of the system did not proceed due to the transition of all residents and the decommissioning of the site.

109. What would the total cost be to rectify the sewerage system issues at Tomaree Lodge to allow its short-term use as emergency accommodation?

Answer

I am advised:

As the system is at the end of life and located adjacent to the Marine National Park, there would be significant costs associated with upgrading the sewerage system in accordance with current standards and environmental requirements. A cost estimate could only be reliably given once full requirements are known and design completed. The Department has advised that, regardless of the status of the sewerage system, the Tomaree Lodge site is inappropriate for usage as emergency accommodation.

110. Are there any taps, toilets, sinks or showers on the Tomaree Lodge site which currently provide running water?

Answer

I am advised:

Yes.

111. Given the sewerage system at Tomaree Lodge was working last year, can you confirm the date the sewerage system was turned off?

Answer

I am advised:

I am advised:

The sewerage system is at 'end of life' and when last operated required regular ongoing

maintenance to avoid overflow to the adjacent National Park and marine environment. Any future operation of the site as a residential complex without significant further investment would be not safe for the residents and the adjacent National Park environment.

112. Could the sewerage system be turned back on by the Department without any investment in the pipes/system?

Answer

I am advised:

The pumps and systems are 'end of life'. Any future operation of the sewerage system without significant further investment would be not safe for the residents and the adjacent National Park environment.

113. How many buildings on the Tomaree Lodge site currently have access to an operational sewerage system?

Answer

I am advised:

All have a connection to the sewerage system, but are reliant on pumping stations that are unsafe, unreliable, and at end of life. Any future operation of the sewerage system without significant further investment would be not safe for the residents and the adjacent National Park environment.

.

114. How many buildings on the Tomaree Lodge site could have access to an operational sewerage system without any capital investment?

Answer

I am advised:

No buildings on the Tomaree Lodge site have access to an operational sewerage system that is not end of life, and does not pose significant potential environmental risk to the adjacent Marine National Park.

115. How many buildings on the Tomaree Lodge site could have access to an operational sewerage system with less than \$100,000 in capital investment?

Answer

I am advised:

As the system is at the end of life and located adjacent to the Marine National Park, there would be significant costs associated with upgrading the sewerage system in accordance with current standards and environmental requirements. A cost estimate could only be reliably given once full requirements are known and design completed. The Department has advised that, regardless of the status of the sewerage system, the Tomaree Lodge site is inappropriate for usage as emergency accommodation.

116. Are there any other services at Tomaree Lodge that need to be fixed to make one, or all, of the homes on the site habitable?
- (a) If so, what work needs to be undertaken?
- (b) And at what cost?

Answer

I am advised:

As the site has been decommissioned, all services would require a servicing assessment. The costs for this are unknown until the assessment is carried out. The Department has advised that, regardless of the status of services, the Tomaree Lodge site is inappropriate for usage as emergency accommodation.

117. What specific assessments were undertaken into the Stockton Centre's sewerage, water and electricity systems, to determine that significant investment would be required? In each instance, please provide the nature of the assessment and the date on which it was undertaken.

Answer

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice employ specialist asset management staff, who have advised that given the age and condition, the site costs would be significant to achieve contemporary compliance requirements. As the site has been decommissioned, all services would require a servicing assessment

118. How many buildings at the Stockton Centre currently have access to power?

Answer

I am advised:

All buildings have access to power, however may require additional works to reinstate connections. As the site has been decommissioned, all services would require a servicing assessment.

119. How many buildings at the Stockton Centre currently have access to water?

Answer

I am advised:

All buildings have access to water, however further investigations would be required to identify any issues with the systems as they have not been used for a significant period of time. As the site has been decommissioned, all services would require a servicing assessment

120. How many buildings at the Stockton Centre currently have access to an operational sewerage system?

Answer

I am advised:

All buildings have access to sewerage, however further investigations would be required to identify any issues with the systems as they have not been used for a significant period of time. As the site has been decommissioned, all services would require a servicing assessment

121. How many buildings at the Stockton Centre currently have access to power, water and an operational sewerage system?

Answer

I am advised:

All buildings have access to services, however further investigations would be required to identify any issues with the systems as they have not been used for a significant period of time.. As the site has been decommissioned, all services would require a servicing assessment

Disability Employment in the Public Sector

122. Does the government as a whole, or any department/agency, keep a breakdown of the types of disability in the public sector – such as sensory, physical, intellectual disability?

Answer

I am advised:

The Public Service Commission's annual People Matter Employee Survey asks employees about their experience and perceptions across a range of workplace matters.

In 2021 PMES identified that 5% of the respondents across the public sector identify as being a person with a disability, and that 77% of respondents identify that their personal background, including their disability, is not a barrier to participation within their organisation.

PMES results in the Department of Communities and Justice show that 6% of respondents identify as being a person with disability, and that 80% of respondents identify that their personal background including their disability is not a barrier to participation in their organisation.

123. What percentage of employees with disability were recruited as such, what percentage were existing employees who subsequently acquired their disability, and what percentage were existing employees who subsequently identified as having disability?

Answer

See response to Q.122

124. What specific actions are planned to address the government's failure to meet its own disability employment target of 5.6 per cent?

Answer

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice is implementing a range of initiatives to improve the recruitment, career development, retention and inclusion of people with a disability in its workforce. Specific actions include:

- Delivering the annual Australian Network for Disability 'Stepping Into' Internship Program for 10 university students with a disability each year.
- Partnering with Asuria, a Disability Employment Services provider, to run targeted recruitment activities for people with a disability across a range of roles.
- Retaining Australian Network for Disability Disability Confident Recruiter annual accreditation to ensure that the department provides an equitable and inclusive attraction, recruitment and selection experience for all candidates with a disability.
- Completing the Australian Network for Disability Access and Inclusion Index which measures the department's progress against a national benchmark, and helps the department identify and address any areas that need to be improved. In 2021, the department improved its result from 10th of 24 participating organisations in 2019, to fifth of 26 organisations in 2021. It was the only organisation to top the Index in three areas: commitment, career development and

workplace adjustments.

- Promoting the department's new Workplace Adjustment Policy and Digital Workplace Adjustment Passport to guide employees and managers to have open conversations, capture adjustment needs and ensure ongoing support.
- Delivering a career coaching initiative, the Elevate Program, for 20 employees with disability and their managers to build manager skills in having career development conversations and employee skills in driving their career development.
- Providing the opportunity for employees with a disability to participate in the Lead the Way leadership development program to ensure employees with a disability are included in the department's emerging leader pipelines.
- Developing a pilot mentoring program for employees with disability to support career and leadership development.
- Improving attitudes and awareness of disability across the workplace through the department's Disability Employees Network.
- Continuing to promote the benefits of 'Inclusive Design' approaches in all project development and related consultations.
- Launching the department's new Accessibility for Digital Communications Policy and Accessible Digital Communications e-learning module to improve the knowledge and capabilities of employees in this area.
- Renewing the department's Disability Inclusion e-learning modules to improve employee understanding of the steps and expectations in working with and managing people with disability.
- Continuing to monitor progress against disability employment targets in the department's Inclusion Strategy 2021-2025, including PMES engagement scores for employees with a disability.

Questions regarding a whole of government response should be directed to the Public Service Commission.

Former ADHC Properties

125. How many former ADHC properties are still owned by the government?

Answer

I am advised:

776.

126. Who currently owns the properties, the Minister, the Department, ADHC, another agency, or a mix of these?

Answer

I am advised:

The Minister of Disability Services.

127. Can you provide a list of the properties?

Answer

I am advised:

To protect the privacy of residents, addresses for these properties are not disclosed publicly.

128. Do you know how each of the properties are being used now?

- (a) Vacant
- (b) Used by a non-government disability service provider

- (c) Used by another agency
- (d) Social housing
- (e) Rented via the private market

Answer

I am advised:

That as of September 2022, the vacancy rate is approximately 6% and the properties are in varying condition. The Department of Communities and Justice is focussed on reviewing options including making these properties available to support temporary accommodation needs in the community.

129. Have any former ADHC properties been sold since the closure of ADHC?

Answer

I am advised:

One.

130. Are any former ADHC properties currently on the market?

Answer

I am advised:

No.

131. What is the process of listing these properties for sale?

Answer

I am advised:

None of these properties is listed for sale.

132. What revenue does the government currently make with these properties?

Answer

I am advised:

Approximately \$28,000,000.

133. Where does that revenue go?

Answer

I am advised:

The portfolio generates income via rent collection from the transition of the properties to accommodate people under the NDIS. The income is accounted for in the Department of Communities and Justice budget to cover administration, maintenance and depreciation costs attributed to holding the portfolio.

134. What are the future plans for these properties?

Answer

I am advised:

The government is still considering the future strategy of the portfolio.

135. What is the Department planning for these properties?

Answer

I am advised:

The former ADHC properties have been transitioned to the NDIS. The Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) continues to manage these contract arrangements

Accessible Government Communications

136. What is the government doing to ensure digital communications – including government websites – are fully accessible to everyone, including people with intellectual disability?

Answer

I am advised that this question should be directed to the Minister for Customer Service, as the Department of Customer Service is the lead agency for government communications in NSW, including digital accessibility.

I am also advised that:

- The Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) policy on 'Accessibility for Digital Communications' is proactively made available on its website here: <https://www.dcj.nsw.gov.au/accessibility/accessibility-for-digital-communications-policy.html>
- an Easy Read version of the policy is available here: <https://www.dcj.nsw.gov.au/accessibility/accessibility-for-digital-communications-policy-easy-read.html>
- DCJ is rolling out an internal education program through eLearning modules and training sessions to improve the awareness of accessible digital communications, including creation of Easy Read content for people with an intellectual disability
- DCJ has an Accessibility Hub to guide staff on creating accessible digital communications, including in Easy Read formats. The hub also links to the Digital NSW government website resources on accessibility here:

<https://www.digital.nsw.gov.au/delivery/digital-service-toolkit/resources/accessibility-and-inclusivity>

- DCJ proactively publishes Easy Read content for key information such as resources on the Speak Out campaign (<https://www.speakout.dcj.nsw.gov.au/>) and Anti-Discrimination (<https://www.antidiscrimination.nsw.gov.au/anti-discrimination-nsw/tools-and-resources/easy-read-resources.html>).

137. The Council for Intellectual Disability has called for critical government information to be made available in ‘easy read’ format – simple text and imagery to explain information easily. What plans does the government have to ensure all key documents are provided in ‘easy read’ across government websites?

Answer

I am advised:

Please see my response to 136.

Election commitments

138. What commitments directly affecting young people were made in your portfolio?

Answer

I am advised:

There are no election commitments directly affecting young people in my portfolios.

139. Which of those election commitments have been implemented?

- (a) Please list for each when it was implemented and the cost of implementation?

Answer

I am advised:

I refer to my response to question 138.

140. What election commitments have not yet been implemented?

- (a) Please list for each why it is outstanding and the expected date of implementation?

Answer

I am advised:

I refer to my response to question 138.

Closing the gap

141. At the Budget Estimates hearing on 15 March 2022 the Hon Ben Franklin MLC said “there is a ministry for regional youth because of the significant difference in everything from health issues to educational outcomes to employment opportunities between urban and regional youth”. (Hansard page 19). How do you propose to close the gap in relation to:

- (a) Health issues?
- (b) Educational outcomes?
- (c) Employment opportunities?

Answer

I am advised:

The NSW Advocate for Children and Young Peoples’ state-wide whole-of-government NSW Strategic Plan for Children and Young People 2022-2024, together with the Government’s Regional Youth Framework and Regional Youth Action Plan details the Government’s approach to closing the gap for young people in regard to Health, Education and Employment Outcomes. I refer you to those Plans.

142. What actions are you taking, as Minister responsible for Youth NSW and as Minister administering the Advocate for Children and Young People Act 2014 to close the gap in Western Sydney in relation to Health issues?

- (a) Educational outcomes?
- (b) Employment opportunities?

Answer

I am advised:

The NSW Advocate for Children and Young Peoples’ state-wide whole-of-

government NSW Strategic Plan for Children and Young People 2022-2024 details the Government's approach to closing the gap for young people in regard to Health, Education and Employment Outcomes. I refer you to that Plan.

Youth Advisory Council

143. Have you met with the Youth Advisory Council?

- (a) If yes, what was discussed?
- (b) If not, why not and when do you intend to meet the Council?

Answer

I am advised:

I have met with both the 2021/22 and 2022/23 Youth Advisory Councils in my time as Minister to discuss matters impacting our youth across NSW

Youth Parliament

144. Have you met with the NSW Youth Parliament?

- (a) If yes, what was discussed?
- (b) If not, why not and when do you intend to meet the Members?

Answer

I am advised:

I am yet to meet with the NSW Youth Parliament but hope to meet with the young members as soon as practicable.

145. In relation to the following Youth Parliament bills from the NSW Youth Parliament, what is the Government's response to each:

- (a) Aboriginal Affairs
- (b) Education
- (c) Energy and Environment
- (d) Inclusion and Diversity
- (e) Justice
- (f) Mental Health

- (g) Rural and Regional Affairs
- (h) Transport, Roads and Infrastructure
- (i) Women's Affairs

Answer

I am advised:

The NSW Youth Parliament is a privately run event by the Y NSW. The Youth Parliament Bills have not been provided to the Department of Communities and Justice.

Grants

146. What grants have been provided by your department over the last year to support young people in the following areas:
- (a) Bushfire-affected areas
 - (b) Flood-affected areas
 - (c) COVID-19 lockdown areas

Answer

I am advised:

- (a) There are no Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) grants for non-government organisations (NGOs) in bushfire affected areas.
- (b) \$2.55 million in grants was provided to NGOs delivering Targeted Early Intervention services in the Northern Rivers from the NGO Flood Support Program. DCJ does not capture data on how the grants were used to support young people.
- (c) \$8.16 million in grants was provided to NGOs delivering Targeted Early Intervention services and/or Aboriginal Child & Family Centres operating in the original LGAs of concern during the 2021 lockdown. DCJ does not capture data on how the grants were used to support young people.

Regional NSW Youth Action Plan

147. What involvement did your department have in the development of the Plan?

Answer

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) was consulted as part of the Regional NSW Youth Action Plan development process. Representatives from DCJ

are active members of the Regional Youth Steering Committee.

148. Do you believe the NSW Government should also develop a Metropolitan NSW Youth Plan?

(a) If yes, when will the Plan be developed?

(b) If not, why not?

Answer

I am advised:

The NSW Advocate for Children and Young Peoples' state-wide whole-of-government NSW Strategic Plan for Children and Young People 2022-2024 covers metropolitan, regional and rural NSW. I refer you to that plan.

<https://www.acyp.nsw.gov.au/strategic-plan-2022-2024>

Youth employment

149. What support is provided by your department to ensure young people are aware of their rights at work and know what to do if they are underpaid or mistreated at work?

Answer

I am advised:

Actions under the NSW Advocate for Children and Young Peoples' state-wide whole-of-government NSW Strategic Plan for Children and Young People 2022-2024 'Hope for the Future' pillar, aim to support young people to be independent, engage in society and to join the workforce. I refer you to that plan.

<https://www.acyp.nsw.gov.au/strategic-plan-2022-2024>

Empowering youth

150. What support is provided by your department to support youth participation?

Answer

I am advised:

Youth participation and inclusion is supported through the implementation of the following initiatives: Youth Week – annual funding to local councils; Youth Opportunities – annual grants to organisations to implement youth-led projects; Youth Frontiers – youth mentoring for young people in contact with the justice and child protection systems.

Regional youth taskforce

151. Have you met with the Taskforce?

- (a) If yes, what was discussed?
- (b) If not, why not?

Answer

I am advised:

Matters concerning the regional youth taskforce should be referred to the Minister for Regional Youth.

Youth survey

152. Does your department conduct any surveys of young people?

- (a) If yes, what topics were surveyed over the past two years?
- (b) If yes, are the findings of the surveys publicly available?
- (c) If yes, what was the cost of the surveys?
- (d) If not, what resources are available so that the department understands what young people want the government to do?

Answer

I am advised:

The Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People (ACYP) conducts surveys among young people to understand their priorities. I am advised:

(a) Since 2021, ACYP has run surveys to understand:

- Youth experiences of life in NSW – these are broad surveys with both open-ended and closed responses covering a range of issues related to young people’s experiences of life, study, work, relationships, health and recreation;
- Youth experiences and perspectives of COVID; and
- Students’ perspectives of returning to school after lockdown.

b) The findings of the 2021 Strategic Plan Survey are published in the NSW Strategic Plan for Children and Young People 2022-2024 and give a broad view of young people’s experiences of life

in NSW. ACYP uses the findings of other surveys to shape its work and advice and shares relevant findings with government departments as pertinent issues arise.

c) The cost of the surveys, including GST is detailed below:

- 2021 Youth Week Survey \$48,719.00
- 2021 Strategic Plan Survey \$44,266.31
- 2021 COVID- Tracking Study \$100,438.61.

This was a series of four surveys to track perspectives throughout the pandemic. The figure listed includes:

- Benchmark \$28,545.84
- Second Wave \$22,482.08
- Third Wave \$24,705.23
- Fourth Wave \$24,705.46

- 2022 Youth Week Survey \$46,315.92.

At times, ACYP conducts shorter, simple surveys of its member base and this work is completed by the ACYP team.

d) ACYP conducts surveys and consultations with children and young people across NSW and regularly provides advice across government about their priorities.

Grants

153. What is the total amount of funding provided to youth organisations in 2021/22?

Answer

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice is not able to report on the total amount of funding provided to youth organisations as the funding data is not broken down in that way.

154. What is the total amount of funding estimated to be provided to youth organisations in 2022/23?

Answer

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice is not able to report on the total amount of funding provided to youth organisations as the funding data is not broken down in that way.

155. Of the grants provided by your department over the past year, what proportion, and what amount, were provided to youth organisations in regional LGAs?

- (a) What proportion, and what amount, were provided to Western Sydney LGAs?
- (b) What proportion, and what amount, were provided to Metropolitan LGAs?
- (c) What proportion, and what amount, were provided to Hunter LGAs?
- (d) What proportion, and what amount, were provided to Illawarra LGAs?

Answer

I am advised:

The funding and proportion of 2021/22 Youth Opportunities grants was:

- Auburn, Blacktown, Holroyd, Parramatta and The Hills (LGAs) \$99,400 – 4% of total grant
- Metropolitan LGAs \$831,661 – 46% of total grant
- Hunter LGAs \$141,495 – 6% of total grant

- Illawarra LGAs \$149,205 – 6% of total grant.

156. What coordination does your department undertake within the Cluster to ensure maximum value for money from grants paid to support youth in NSW?

Answer

I am advised:

In the Youth Opportunities grant, assessment of value for money is undertaken when grants are assessed during the expression of interest process. Additionally, the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) Funded Contract Management Framework is the process that supports the way DCJ manages contracts with funded service providers, and including financial acquittal requirements.

157. What coordination does your department undertake with other Clusters to ensure maximum value for money from grants paid to support youth in NSW?

Answer

I am advised:

I refer to my previous answer to Supplementary Question 156.

Youth spending

158. What spending in your department is focused on assisting young people?

Answer

I am advised:

The following programs and initiatives fund assistance to young people: Youth Week; Youth Opportunities; Youth Frontiers; Targeted Earlier Intervention; Family Connect and Support; Rent Choice Youth; Teenage Education Payment; Premier's Youth Initiative; Out of Home Care Pathways Scholarship; Homeless Youth Assistance Program; Communities and Justice Scholarship Scheme; Universal Screening Supports in High Schools; Out of Home Care Joint Protocol.

159. Lockdown was particularly hard for young people, who are normally establishing their independence and developing important skills and lifelong friendships in education settings.

What is the Government doing to support young people in the longer term?

Answer

I am advised:

The NSW Advocate for Children and Young Peoples' state-wide whole-of-government NSW Strategic Plan for Children and Young People 2022-2024 brings together initiatives undertaken across government aimed at creating a future where all children and young people have the supports they need to thrive. I refer you to that plan. <https://www.acyp.nsw.gov.au/strategic-plan-2022-2024>

160. In relation to the Children and Young People Wellbeing Recovery Initiative, what funding is available for young people in metropolitan areas that weren't affected by flooding?

(a) What involvement did DCJ have in the design and implementation of the initiative?

Answer

I am advised:

The Children and Young People Wellbeing Recovery Initiative is administered by the Department of Regional NSW. The Department of Communities and Justice was not involved in the development of the initiative.

161. The impacts of COVID-19 were very real and immediate during the lockdowns but the longer term effects are still unknown. What monitoring will the Government do to ensure that those kids who suffered so much during their HSC preparations in 2020 and 2021 are not forgotten in years to come?

Answer

I am advised:

Refer to my previous answer to Question On Notice 159.

Youth Opportunities grants

162. Can you explain the assessment and approvals process for Youth Opportunities grants?

Answer

I am advised:

The Youth Opportunities Program Guidelines 2022 outline the program and its

aims, who can apply and how to apply for funding, and the assessment criteria.

Approval of Youth Opportunities grants are undertaken in accordance with DCJ Delegations Schedules. The Youth Opportunities Program Guidelines are available at www.youth.nsw.gov.au.

163. Are you aware that the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) has found that pork barrelling could constitute corrupt conduct in certain circumstances, and recommended that guidelines concerning grants funding be issued pursuant to a statutory regulation?

Answer

I am advised:

It is good practice to examine and consider closely findings and reports made by the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC).

164. What measures have you put in place to ensure transparency and probity in the delivery of Youth Opportunities grants?

Answer

I am advised:

The Youth Opportunities grants are administered in accordance with the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet Good Practice Guide to Grants Administration.

165. Over the last two years \$3.357m has been allocated to Youth Opportunities grants.
- (a) What proportion, and what amount, were provided to organisations in Western Sydney LGAs?
 - (b) What proportion, and what amount, were provided to organisations in metropolitan LGAs?
 - (c) What proportion, and what amount, were provided to organisations in Hunter LGAs?
 - (d) What proportion, and what amount, were provided to organisations in Illawarra LGAs?
 - (e) What proportion, and what amount, were provided to Opposition-held electorates?
 - (f) What proportion, and what amount, were provided to Government-held electorates?
 - (g) What proportion, and what amount, were provided to Crossbench-held electorates?

Answer

I am advised:

Over the last two years (2020 Round 9 and 2021 Round 10) Youth Opportunities grants have allocated \$3.412 million to 81 organisations, of these 81 organisations:

- (a) 5% were funded in Holroyd, Auburn, Blacktown, Parramatta and The Hills (LGAs) – totalling \$199,127
- (b) 47% were funded in metropolitan LGAs – totalling \$1,554,234
- (c) 7% were funded in Hunter LGAs – totalling \$238,773
- (d) 6% were funded in Illawarra LGAs – totalling \$328,165
- (e) Funding is not assessed, and is not allocated on an electorate basis. This information is unknown.
- (f) Funding is not assessed and is not allocated on an electorate basis. This information is unknown.
- (g) Funding is not assessed and is not allocated on an electorate basis. This information is unknown.

Youth unemployment- South-West Sydney

166. What is the current youth unemployment rate in South-West Sydney?

- (a) What actions and programs are being taken by your department to close the gap between the youth unemployment rate in South-West Sydney and the NSW average?

Answer

I am advised:

The current youth unemployment rate in South-West Sydney is 11.7 per cent, as of July 2022.

- (a) Actions under the NSW Advocate for Children and Young Peoples' state-wide whole-of-government NSW Strategic Plan for Children and Young People 2022-2024 'Hope for the Future' pillar, aim to support young people to be independent, engage in society and to join the workforce. I refer you to that plan.

<https://www.acyp.nsw.gov.au/strategic-plan-2022-2024>

Youth Justice Programs

167. How many young people have been referred to the 'A Place to Go' program, broken down by the following years

(a) 2022

(b) 2021

(c) 2020

(d) 2019

Answer

I am advised:

(a) 47 young people were referred to A Place to Go (APTG) in 2021/22

(b) 54 young people were referred to APTG in 2020/21

(c) 37 young people were referred to APTG in 2019/20

(d) 16 young people were referred to APTG in 2018/19

168. How many young people have been referred to a Youth Justice Conference, broken down by the following years

(a) 2022

(b) 2021

(c) 2020

(d) 2019

Answer

I am advised:

(a) 1,333 young people were referred to a Youth Justice Conference in 2021/22

(b) 1,392 young people were referred to a Youth Justice Conference in 2020/21

(c) 1,379 young people were referred to a Youth Justice Conference in 2019/20

(d) 1,374 young people were referred to a Youth Justice Conference in 2018/19

169. How many young people have been referred to the NSW Koori Court, broken down by the following years

(a) 2022

(b) 2021

(c) 2020

(d) 2019

Answer

I am advised:

The number of referrals to the Youth Koori Court:

(a) In 2022 (as at 31 May 2022): nine

(b) In 2021: 26

(c) In 2020: 34

(d) In 2019: 40.

170. How many young people have been referred to the Broadmeadow Children's Court program, broken down by the following years?

(a) 2022

(b) 2021

(c) 2020

(d) 2019

Answer

I am advised:

(a) 273 young people were referred to the Broadmeadow Children's Court Pilot (BCCP) in 2021/22.

(b) 639 young people were referred to the BCCP in 2020/21.

(c) 479 young people were referred to the BCCP in 2019/20.

(d) 219 young people were referred to the BCCP in 2018/19.

171. How much funding has been allocated to the establishment of the Maranguka Hub in the 2022-23 financial year?

Answer

I am advised:

The department does not directly fund the Maranguka Hub, however makes an in-kind contribution to the service to the value of \$160,000.

172. How much funding has been allocated to the Youth Action Meeting (Central North Police District) Coordinator in the 2022-23 financial year?

(a) Is there an allocation of future funds for the Youth Action Meeting Coordination?

i. If so, how much funding has been allocated?

Answer

I am advised:

This question should be referred to the Minister for Police.

Historical complaints

173. How many complaints around historical abuse or ill treatment under the care of Youth Justice have been made to the Department of Families, Communities and Justice?

Answer

I am advised:

At 30 June 2022, 1,018 complaints have been received relating to abuse, or ill treatment in the former Juvenile Justice.

Third-party contractors or consultancies

174. For every agency, department, or state-owned corporation within your portfolio, please provide the following:

(a) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in communications services, including:

i. Contractor name,

ii. Contractor ABN,

iii. Service provided,

iv. Total cost paid

(b) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in PR services, including:

i. Contractor name,

ii. Contractor ABN,

iii. Service provided,

iv. Total cost paid

(c) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in marketing services, including:

i. Contractor name,

ii. Contractor ABN,

iii. Service provided,

iv. Total cost paid

(d) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in Government relations or lobbying services, including:

i. Contractor name,

ii. Contractor ABN,

iii. Service provided,

iv. Total cost paid

(e) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in industry or peak body membership, including:

- i. Contractor name,
 - ii. Contractor ABN,
 - iii. Service provided,
 - iv. Total cost paid
- (f) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in policy or strategy development, including:
- i. Contractor name,
 - ii. Contractor ABN,
 - iii. Service provided,
 - iv. Total cost paid
- (g) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in project management, including:
- i. Contractor name,
 - ii. Contractor ABN,
 - iii. Service provided,
 - iv. Total cost paid
- (h) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in accounting and audit, including:
- i. Contractor name,
 - ii. Contractor ABN,
 - iii. Service provided,
 - iv. Total cost paid

- (i) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in legal services, including:
 - i. Contractor name,
 - ii. Contractor ABN,
 - iii. Service provided,
 - iv. Total cost paid

- (j) A list of all third-party contractor or consultancies engaged in any other services, including:
 - i. Contractor name,
 - ii. Contractor ABN,

 - iii. Service provided,

 - iv. Total cost paid

Answer

I am advised

Details of third-party contractors or consultancies are published in the Department of Communities and Justice Annual Report and the NSW eTendering website: <https://www.tenders.nsw.gov.au>; <https://www.dcj.nsw.gov.au/resources/annual-reports.html>

Temporary Accommodation

175. Could the Minister please provide an exact figure (total) for the number people in Temporary Accommodation:

- (a) at its peak so far in 2022

- (b) Total number of individuals who accessed temporary accommodation, per month from March 2022 to date

Answer

I am advised:

(a) Total number of households in temporary accommodation at its peak to date in 2022 was 1,184 on 31 January 2022; total number of people assisted with temporary accommodation in those households was 1,856

(b) Refer to table below:

Month	# Households	# People
Mar-22	3752	5717
Apr-22	3245	4933
May-22	3509	5302
Jun-22	3301	5068
Jul-22	3225	4831
Aug-22	3449	5110
up to and including 4 Sep 2022	792	1235

Note that some clients will have been counted more than once, if they were provided with Temporary Accommodation in different months

176. Could the Minister please provide the exact number of people in Temporary Accommodation who were previously sleeping rough from January 2022 to date?

Answer

I am advised:

From 1 January 2022 to 4 September 2022, a total of 3,749 households (equalling a total of 4,562 people in those households) were provided with temporary accommodation that were previously sleeping rough.

177. How many individuals accessed Temporary Accommodation in:

(a) 2022 to date

Answer

I am advised:

From 1 January 2022 to 4 September 2022, a total of 18,978 households (equalling a total of 28,268 people in those households) accessed temporary accommodation.

178. How many people exited Temporary Accommodation in 2022?

- (a) Of those how many entered:
 - i. Social Housing
 - ii. Together Home packages
 - iii. Some form of rental assistance

Answer

I am advised:

11,883 households exited temporary accommodation in 2022 up to 4 September 2022.

- (a) Of those:
 - i. 2,039 entered social housing
 - ii. As of 15 August 2022 the total number of people currently active in the program that are being housed and assisted with wraparound support are: 791 people housed and 938 people receiving wraparound support.
 - iii. 988 households were assisted by DCJ with a private rental product.

179. Could the Minister provide figures relating to the number of women who utilised Temporary Accommodation from 1 July 2021 to date?

- (a) How many of these women were over 55?

Answer

I am advised:

From 1 July 2021 to 4 September 2022, 13,506 women accessed temporary accommodation as the main applicant.

- (a) 1,068 women over 55 accessed temporary accommodation from 1 July 2021 to 4 September 2022.

180. How many women who utilised temporary accommodation from 1 July 2021 to date have entered social housing or permanent tenancy?

Answer

I am advised:

Numbers below are based on women who were the main applicant and accessed temporary accommodation from 1 July 2021 to 28 August 2022 and were provided with a product within six months of exiting temporary accommodation.

- a) entered social housing – 1,507
- b) provided with a private rental product by DCJ – 1,039.

181. Could the Minister provide details of people who accessed Temporary accommodation, from 1 January 2022 by:

- (a) allocation zone; and
- (b) geographic region

Answer

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) is only able to provide data as it relates to DCJ districts:

1 Jan 22 to 30 Jun 22		
Geographic Region (District)	# Households	# People
Central Coast	899	1295
Far West	3	4
Hunter New England	2510	3816
Illawarra Shoalhaven	1061	1633
Mid North Coast	914	1462
Murrumbidgee	751	1142
Nepean Blue Mountains	666	1035
Northern NSW	764	1064
Northern Sydney	373	449
South Eastern Sydney	1832	2083
South Western Sydney	1695	2618
Southern NSW	520	780
Sydney	1027	1685
Western NSW	1005	1695
Western Sydney	1050	1651
Total	15070	22412

1 Jul 22 to 4 Sep 22		
Geographic Region (District)	# Households	# People
Central Coast	1134	1648
Far West	3	4
Hunter New England	3170	4798
Illawarra Shoalhaven	1310	2006
Mid North Coast	1154	1847
Murrumbidgee	924	1382
Nepean Blue Mountains	874	1345
Northern NSW	897	1251
Northern Sydney	474	575
South Eastern Sydney	2271	2595
South Western Sydney	2140	3335
Southern NSW	660	984
Sydney	1322	2167
Western NSW	1310	2201
Western Sydney	1335	2130
Total	18978	28268

Social Housing Waiting List

182. Could the Minister please provide the number of people on the social housing waiting list for the following months in 2021/22 and 22/23:

- (a) November 2021
- (b) December 2021
- (c) January 2022
- (d) February 2022
- (e) March 2022
- (f) April 2022

(g) May 2022

(h) June 2022

(i) July 2022

(j) August 2022

Answer

I am advised:

The number of applicants on the social housing waiting list, as at 30 June 2021 is 49,928.

183. How many people on the social housing waiting list are currently experiencing homelessness?

Answer

I am advised:

Data relating to this period is scheduled for release at the end of the calendar year. The release of this data is consistent with previous years. A quality assurance process is undertaken to ensure data accuracy in accordance with reporting obligations. The assurance process is necessary for a range of reasons to ensure data integrity. For example, the assurance process helps to ensure that the data points are comparable in analysis of trends over time, and to add or adjust missing or incomplete data to correct and/or assign attribution.

184. Could the Minister please provide the number of people on the priority social housing waiting list for the following months in 2021/22:

(a) January 2021

(b) February 2021

(c) March 2021

(d) April 2021

(e) May 2021

- (f) June 2021
- (g) July 2021
- (h) August 2021
- (i) September 2021
- (j) October 2021
- (k) November 2021
- (l) December 2021
- (m) January 2022
- (n) February 2022
- (o) March 2022
- (p) April 2022
- (q) May 2022
- (r) June 2022
- (s) July 2022
- (t) August 2022

Answer

I am advised:

I refer to the answer to question 183.

185. How many applications on the waiting list (general) were fulfilled during 2021?

Answer

I am advised:

3,719 applications on the waiting list (general) were fulfilled during 2020-21

186. How many applications on the waiting list (priority) were fulfilled during 2021?

Answer

I am advised:

5,635 applications on the waiting list (priority) were fulfilled during 2020-21

187. How many applications on the waiting list (general) were fulfilled during 2022 (to date)?

Answer

I am advised:

I refer to the answer to question 183.

188. How many applications on the waiting list (priority) were fulfilled during 2022 (to date)?

Answer

I am advised:

I refer to the answer to question 183.

189. Could the Minister please provide an updated breakdown of the social housing waiting list by allocation zone?

Answer

I am advised:

I refer to the answer to question 183.

190. What is the median wait time for people to access social housing for those on the priority social housing waiting list in:

(a) FY 2021/22

(b) FY 2022/23 (to date)

Answer

I am advised:

The median wait time for people to access social housing for those on the priority social housing waiting list are as follows:

(a) FY 2021/22: 2.4 months

(b) FY 2022/23 (to date): Only end of financial year data is available and can be provided. Point in time data is not reported as it is not comparable to other reporting periods which is usually as at the end of financial year.

191. What is the median wait time for people to access social housing for those on the social housing waiting list in:

(a) FY 2021/22

(b) FY 2022/23 (to date)

Answer

I am advised:

The median wait time for people to access social housing for those on the social housing waiting list:

(a) FY 2021/22: 4.1 months

(b) FY 2022/23 (to date): Only end of financial year data is available and can be provided. Point in time data is not reported as it is not comparable to other reporting periods which is usually as at the end of financial year.

NSW Homelessness Services

192. How many people have been turned away or not had their accommodation needs met by specialist homelessness services in NSW during:

(a) FY 2020/21

(b) FY 2021/22

(c) FY 2022/23 (to date)

Answer

I am advised:

a) This information can be found at the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) Annual Report 2020-21 data tables, located at:
<https://www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/5f604810-d674-42a7-a547-82e3ecc318e2/AIHW-HOU-327-SHS-data-tables.xlsx.aspx>

b) Data for 2021-22 will be available in December 2022 when the SHS annual report is published by the AIHW

Data for 2022-23 will be available in December 2023 when the SHS annual report is published by the AIHW.

193. How many women have been turned away or not had their accommodation needs met by specialist homelessness services in NSW during:

- (a) FY 2020/21
- (b) FY 2021/22
- (c) FY 2022/23 (to date)

Answer

I am advised:

a) This information can be found at the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) Annual Report 2020-21 data tables, located at:
<https://www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/5f604810-d674-42a7-a547-82e3ecc318e2/AIHW-HOU-327-SHS-data-tables.xlsx.aspx>

b) Data for 2021-22 will be available in December 2022 when the SHS annual report is published by the AIHW.

Data for 2022-23 will be available in December 2023 when the SHS annual report is published by the AIHW.

194. Please provide the number of callers or clients by age and gender of people who interacted with Link2home during 2022:

- (a) Clients aged 55-65 years
- (b) Clients aged 65- 75 years
- (c) Clients aged 75 and over

Answer

I am advised:

The number of Link2Home interactions during 2021/22:

(a) Clients aged 55-64 years: Male: 3,305, Female: 1,844

(b) Clients aged 65-74 years: Male: 876, Female: 679

(c) Clients aged 75 and over: Male: 218, Female: 139.

195. How many complaints has the Ministers office received from tenants in social housing during the following months:

(a) July 2021

(b) August 2021

(c) September 2021

(d) October 2021

(e) November 2021

(f) December 2021

(g) January 2022

(h) February 2022

(i) March 2022

(j) April 2022

(k) May 2022

(l) June 2022

(m) July 2022

(n) August 2022

i. How many of these complaints have been resolved?

Answer

I am advised:

- (a) July 2021 – 108
 - (b) August 2021 – 185
 - (c) September 2021 – 256
 - (d) October 2021 – 151
 - (e) November 2021 – 207
 - (f) December 2021 – 115
 - (g) January 2022 – 52
 - (h) February 2022 – 34
 - (i) March 2022 – 281
 - (j) April 2022 – 115
 - (k) May 2022 – 135
 - (l) June 2022 – 160
 - (m) July 2022 – 110
 - (n) August 2022 – 93
- i. 1,777.

Note – The information captured does not currently differentiate between members of the public and social housing clients. Any tenants are recorded as members of the public.

196. How many complaints has DCJ received from tenants in social housing during the following months:

- (a) July 2021
- (b) August 2021
- (c) September 2021
- (d) October 2021
- (e) November 2021
- (f) December 2021

(g) January 2022

(h) February 2022

(i) March 2022

(j) April 2022

(k) May 2022

(l) June 2022

(m) July 2022

(n) August 2022

i. How many of these complaints have been resolved?

Answer

I am advised:

(a) 303

(b) 221

(c) 206

(d) 189

(e) 257

(f) 243

(g) 220

(h) 208

(i) 229

(j) 180

(k) 216

(l) 300

(m) 282

(n) 233

i. 97% of these complaints have been resolved.

197. What is the total number of correspondence from social housing tenants the Minister's office has received in 2022?

(a) How many pieces of correspondence have been responded to?

(b) Does the Minister respond to all correspondence?

(c) What is the average wait time for a response?

Answer

(a) 982 members of the public wrote to the Minister regarding social housing from 1 January 2022 to 30 August 2022.

Note – The information captured does not currently differentiate between members of the public and social housing clients. Any tenants are recorded as members of the public.

The figure above does not include correspondence received from organisations, businesses or Members of Parliament, as representations made on behalf of clients.

(b) All correspondence is considered by the Minister, together with her Office and Department.

(c) The average time for a response is currently 30 days.

DCJ

198. Could the Minister please provide the most recent copy of the Executive Organisation Chart for DCJ?

Answer

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice Executive Organisation Chart is attached at Attachment 1.

199. Could the Minister please provide the most recent copy of the Organisation Chart for Housing, Disability and District Services of DCJ

Answer

I am advised:

The organisational chart for the Housing, Disability and District Services division of DCJ is provided at Attachment 2.

Social Housing Tenants

200. At the present time how many social housing tenants are there in NSW?

- (a) How many tenants have:
 - i. Requested transfers?
 - ii. Left social housing to private tenancy?
 - iii. Left social housing to homelessness or unknown tenancy/location?
 - iv. Been evicted from social housing?

Answer

I am advised:

Only end of year data is available. I refer to my response for Supplementary Question 201 for 2021/22 data.

Point in time data is not reported as it is not comparable to other reporting periods which is usually as at the end of financial year.

201. In 2022 how many social housing tenants are there in NSW?

- (a) How many tenants have:
 - i. Requested transfers?
 - ii. Left social housing to private tenancy?
 - iii. Left social housing to homelessness or unknown tenancy/location?
 - iv. Been evicted from social housing?

Answer

I am advised:

In 2021-22 there were 96,599 Public housing and AHO tenants in NSW.

(a) The number of tenants who have:

- i. Requested transfers: 11,316
- ii. Left social housing to private tenancy: 609
- iii. Left social housing to homelessness or unknown tenancy/location: data is not available
- iv. Been evicted from social housing: 94

202. Of those social housing tenants that have requested a transfer how many were granted in FY 2020/21 and FY 2021/22?

(a) What is the breakdown as to why these transfers were requested?

(b) How many of these properties were then reallocated to different tenants within six months?

- i. How many properties deemed unsafe or unsatisfactory were then reallocated, without any significant work completed, to new tenants?

Answer

I am advised:

Of those social housing tenants that have requested a transfer how many were granted in:

FY 2020/21: 2,350

FY 2021/22: 2,047

(a) What is the breakdown as to why these transfers were requested?

See table

Transfer Category	2020-21	2021-22
Transfer Escalation "at Risk"	566	557
Transfer Escalation Relocations Portfolio	563	502
Transfer Escalation Medical	341	375
TR Medical	280	150
TR Priority Transfer from Community Housing	102	80
TR Compassionate / Severe Crowding	97	35
TR At Risk	90	45
Transfer Escalated Tenant Initiated Under-occupancy	63	89
Transfer Escalated Relocation Under-occupancy	51	47
Transfer Escalation Disability	44	56
TR General Transfer from Community Housing	32	28
Transfer Relocations Tenancy	27	23
Transfer Relocations Portfolio	24	13
TR Disability	14	10
TR Harassment	14	7
Transfer Escalation Out-of-Home Care	11	12
TR Over / Under Occupancy Wait Turn	11	7
TR Management Under Occupancy	10	6
TR Out-of-Home Care	5	3
TR Good Neighbour Policy	3	1
TR Employment	2	1
Total number of tenants requested a transfer and was granted	2350	2047

(b) How many of these properties were then reallocated to different tenants within six months?

- 2020-21: Out of 2,350 tenancies granted transfer request, 1,403 of these properties were then re-allocated to different tenants within six months.
- 2021-22: Out of 2,047 tenancies granted transfer request, 1,021 of these properties were then re-allocated to different tenants within six months.

i. How many properties deemed unsafe or unsatisfactory were then reallocated, without any significant work completed, to new tenants?

The above transfer category in (a) do not indicate that any transfers were requested due to properties deemed unsafe or unsatisfactory. The maintenance of social housing properties is the responsibility of the NSW Land and Housing Corporation and is within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Homes.

NSW Social Housing Tenants

203. What is the broad breakdown of reasons tenants were evicted from social housing in FY 2020/21 and FY 2021/22

(a) How many tenants were evicted from properties that were later sold during:

FY 2011/12

FY 2012/13

FY 2013/14

FY 2014/15

FY 2015/16

FY 2016/17

FY 2017/18

FY 2018/19

FY 2019/20

FY 2020/21

FY 2021/22

FY 2022/23 (to date)

(b) How many tenants were relocated from properties that were later sold during:

i. FY 2011/12

ii. FY 2012/13

iii. FY 2013/14

iv. FY 2014/15

v. FY 2015/16

vi. FY 2016/17

vii. FY 2017/18

viii. FY 2018/19

ix. FY 2019/20

- x. FY 2020/21
- xi. FY 2022/23 (to date)

Answer

I am advised:

The number of tenants evicted from social housing are as follows:

FY 2020/21: 176

FY 2021/22: 265

A data breakdown for evictions by reason is not available.

Data on tenants evicted or relocated from properties that were later sold is not readily available.

204. How many tenants have submitted appeals or requested hearings from NCAT relating to their social housing tenancy?

Answer

I am advised:

Between 1 July 2011 and 12 August 2022, 335 NCAT applications have been lodged by a public housing tenant in relation to their tenancy.

205. What is the total amount that has been spent on legal advice during FY 2020/21 and FY 2021/22 relating to defending cases heard at NCAT?

Answer

I am advised:

External legal spend during 2020/21 and 2021/22 relating to defending cases heard at NCAT amounts to \$77,568 respectively.

206. How many tenants have DCJ taken to NCAT during FY 2020/21 and FY 2021/22 (to date)?

Answer

I am advised:

Neither DCJ nor NCAT has data to this level of detail. To provide it DCJ would need to instruct the system vendor to make potentially costly system enhancements.

However, general information regarding how many social housing applications were submitted at NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) is publicly available and can be found in the NCAT Annual Report 2020-21,

<https://www.ncat.nsw.gov.au/about-ncat/annual-reports.html>

207. What is the total amount that has been spent on legal advice during FY 2020/21 and FY 2021/22 relating to taking tenants to NCAT?

Answer

I am advised:

I am advised that external legal spend during 2020/21 and 2021/22 relating to taking tenants to NCAT amounts to \$99,549 respectively.

Tenant Satisfaction Survey

208. Could the Minister please provide a copy of the most recent tenant satisfaction survey or report?

- (a) Who was this report shared with?
- (b) When was the Minister briefed on this report?

Answer

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) undertakes an ongoing customer satisfaction survey. This is done via SMS where clients who have had recent engagement with DCJ are asked: In thinking about your most recent experience with DCJ Housing, were you satisfied with the quality of customer service you received? Respond Yes or No

As at end July 2022, DCJ had a 67 per cent satisfaction rate.

The DCJ Housing Customer Satisfaction Survey results are shared with district housing staff via the monthly performance reports.

Minister's Office

209. Could the Minister please provide photos of Ministerial office fit-out upgrades between 1 October 2021 and 1 August 2022?

Answer

I am advised:

No office fit-out upgrades have occurred since the Minister was sworn-in in December, 2021.

210. Could the Minister please provide a total cost of office fit-outs and upgrades for her specific Ministerial office in the last 12 months?

Answer

I am advised:

I refer you to the answer to Q. 209.

211. What is the total cost for the upkeep and purchasing of art for the Minister's office?

Answer

I am advised:

\$132

212. What was the total cost of the following from March 2022 – August 2022:

- (a) Office fit outs
- (b) Office Upgrades
- (c) Moving or relocation services
- (d) Plants
- (e) Business Cards
- (f) Stationary
- (g) Art

- (h) Book cases or other office furniture

Answer

I am advised:

- (a) – (e) nil
- (f) \$997
- (g) see response to Q. 211
- (h) \$561

213. How much has the Minister for Families and Community Services office been spent on ministerial stationery requirements in FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 (to date.)

Answer

I am advised:

I refer you to the answer provided to Q.212

214. How much did the Minister's office spend on functions in 2022?

Answer

I am advised:

Nil

215. How much did the Minister's office spend on board room lunches in 2022?

Answer

I am advised:

Nil

Briefings

216. Has the Minister's office provided briefings to independents/minor parties in the Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly? If so, can the following be provided:

- (a) The subject matter of the briefing.
- (b) The location and date of the briefing.
- (c) Who proposed the briefing?
- (d) Attendees of the briefing by level/position?

Answer

I am advised:

The Government regularly engages with all parties, and independents, across the

Parliament.

217. For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following - by Department or agency:
- (a) How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.
 - (b) How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location.
 - (c) How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location.
 - (d) How many are graphic designers.
 - (e) How many are media managers.
 - (f) How many organise events.

Answer

I am advised:

For the Communications Branch in the Corporate Services Division of DCJ, which provides support across multiple ministerial portfolio areas:

a)

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Number of ongoing roles</u>	<u>Location</u>
Band 2 SES	1	Parramatta, NSW
Band 1 SES	3	Parramatta, NSW
Grade 11/12	7	Parramatta, NSW
Grade 9/10	14	Parramatta, NSW
Grade 7/8	9	Parramatta, NSW
Grade 5/6	4	Parramatta, NSW

All staff work across the media, communications, social media, and events teams. These staff support six DCJ Ministers in numerous portfolios. A breakdown by individual ministerial area cannot be provided as the team is not structured in that way.

Youth Justice has four ongoing staff (one 11/12, three 9/10) in the Corporate Affairs team who are responsible for multiple functions including management of media enquiries, internal and external communications, corporate reporting, staff engagement and wellbeing campaigns, events (eg staff forums), responses to department, ministerial and parliamentary correspondence and requests. All four roles

report through to the Central Office, located in Parramatta, however team members are able to work flexibly, including in remote locations.

b) non-ongoing staff are sometimes used to temporarily fill vacancies in the approved structure, or meet a short term need.

c) contractors are sometimes used to temporarily fill vacancies in the approved structure, or meet a short-term need. There are no ongoing contractor roles in the Youth Justice Corporate Affairs team.

d) Two of the roles in table (a) above are graphic designers. Youth Justice Corporate Affairs team does not have graphic designer roles.

e) One of the roles in table (a) above is a media manager. None of the staff are employed specifically as media managers in the Youth Justice Corporate Affairs team however all four can at times coordinate various elements of a media response.

f) Five of the roles in table (a) above are in the events team, who organise and promote events. None of the staff are employed specifically as event managers in the Youth Justice Corporate Affairs team however all four can at times coordinate various elements of an event.

Board Appointments

218. Can the Minister provide an update of portfolio boards, including board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members she had made since her appointment?

Answer

I am advised:

I have made 23 appointments to Boards or Committees in the period between being appointed to this portfolio and 31 August 2022. These appointments include:

- Three, two-year appointments to the Aboriginal Housing Office Board
- Two, three-year appointments to the Child Death Review Team
- Six, one-year appointments to the Serious Young Offenders Review Panel
- Twelve, one-year appointments to the Youth Advisory Council.

219. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?

Answer

I am advised:

The male | female | non-binary gender ratio by percentage across the portfolio is approximately 37:61:2.

The ratio for each board is:

- Aboriginal Housing Office Board - 62:38:0
- Aboriginal Knowledge Circle - 60:40:0
- Disability Council - 33:66:0
- Housing Appeals Committee - 25:75:0
- Carers Advisory Council - 12:88:0
- Child Death Review Team - 38:62:0
- Serious Young Offenders Review Panel - 33:67:0
- Youth Advisory Council - 50:42:8.

220. What has been the total value of all Board Director fees and disbursements paid?

Answer

I am advised:

Since my appointment to this portfolio and prior to 31 August 2022, the total value paid to Board Directors is approx. \$75,000.

221. What is the value of all domestic travel by Board Directors?

Answer

I am advised:

Since my appointment to this portfolio and prior to 31 August 2022, the total value of domestic travel by Board Directors is \$15.97.

222. What is the value of all international travel by Board Directors?

Answer

I am advised:

Since my appointment to this portfolio and prior to 31 August 2022, there has been no international travel by Board Directors.

Commissioned Reports and Reviews

223. Since 1 July 2021, how many Reports or Reviews have been commissioned? Please provide details of each report including:

- (a) Date commissioned.
- (b) Date report handed to Government.
- (c) Date of public release.
- (d) Terms of Reference.
- (e) Committee members and/or Reviewers.

Answer

I am advised:

Information about commissioned reports and reviews across portfolios supported by the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) is not held centrally within the department, and cannot be provided within the required timeframe.

224. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost.

Answer

I am advised:

Please refer to the response provided to supplementary question 223.

225. Please provide the background and credentials of the Review personnel.

Answer

I am advised:

Please refer to the response provided to supplementary question 223.

226. Please provide the remuneration arrangements applicable to the Review personnel, including fees, disbursements and travel

Answer

I am advised:

Please refer to the response provided to supplementary question 223.

227. Please provide the cost of any travel attached to the conduct of the Review.

Answer

I am advised:

Please refer to the response provided to supplementary question 223.

228. How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?

Answer

I am advised:

Please refer to the response provided to supplementary question 223.

229. What is the current status of each report?

Answer

I am advised:

Please refer to the response provided to supplementary question 223.

230. When is the Government intending to respond to each report if it has not already done so?

Answer

I am advised:

Please refer to the response provided to supplementary question 223.

Promotional merchandise – DCJ

231. What was the DCJ total expenditure on promotional merchandise for FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23.

Answer

I am advised:

The Communications Branch in the Corporate Services Division of the Department of Communities and Justice did not produce any promotional merchandise. Should expenditure related to promotional merchandise take place through operational streams within DCJ, these costs are absorbed within the overall operational allocation budget for these streams and are not held centrally.

232. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided.

Answer

I am advised:

Details of third-party contractors or consultancies are published in the Department of Communities and Justice Annual Report and the NSW eTendering website -

<https://www.tenders.nsw.gov.au>; <https://www.dcj.nsw.gov.au/resources/annual-reports.html>

233. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided.

Answer

I am advised:

Please see response to 231.

Advertising and information campaigns –DCJ

234. What was the DCJ total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for FY 2021-22 and for the current financial year to date.

Answer

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice spent the following on advertising and information campaigns relating to the ministerial portfolios of Families, Communities and Disability Services:

- \$272,031 for 2021/22
- \$116,861 for 2022/23 (year to 9 September 2022)

235. What advertising and information campaigns did the DCJ run in each relevant period. For each campaign, please provide:

(a) When approval was first sought.

(b) The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process.

(c) the timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline.

Answer

I am advised:

In 2021/22, DCJ's Communications branch ran the following campaigns relating to the ministerial portfolios of Families, Communities and Disability Services:

- National Adoption Awareness Month
- Caseworker Recruitment
- Homelessness week
- Foster and Kinship Care
- DCJ Scholarships
- It's Caring (multicultural)
- Carers Week
- Child Protection Week
- Volunteer Week
- Volunteer Now Campaign.

The Communications Branch ran the following campaigns in 2022/23 (year to 9 September 2022:

- Caseworker Recruitment
- NAIDOC Week
- Homelessness Week
- Child Protection Week
- Foster and Kinship Care
- Tenant Amnesty
- DCJ Scholarships
- Targeted Earlier Intervention
- Leaving care.

All campaigns in this portfolio were under \$250,000 and therefore did not require peer review or approval from the Independent Communication Committee.

Should any campaigns be undertaken through operational streams across DCJ, costs associated to this are absorbed within the overall operational allocation budget for these streams and information on this are not held centrally.

236. Can an itemised list of all eTenders offer notice ID numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided.

Answer

I am advised:

Details of third-party contractors or consultancies are published in the DCJ Annual Report and the NSW eTendering website - <https://www.tenders.nsw.gov.au>;
<https://www.dcj.nsw.gov.au/resources/annual-reports.html>

Executive Travel – DCJ

237. Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Chief Executive of DCJ or the Deputy Secretary - Housing, Disability and District Services since 1 July 2021 be provided including:
- (a) Flights for the Secretary or Deputy Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel.
 - (b) Ground transport for the Secretary or Deputy Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials.
 - (c) Accommodation for the Secretary or Deputy Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed.
 - (d) Meals and other incidentals for the Secretary or Deputy Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided.
 - (e) Any available photographs documenting the Secretary or Deputy Secretary travel should also be provided.

Answer

I am advised:

Please refer to attachment 3 (tabs 1-4) for an itemised list of all costs related to question 237 (a)(b)(c) and (d), and for information requested in question (e).

Ministerial Travel

238. Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Minister since 21 December 2021 be provided including:
- (a) Flights for the Minister as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel.

- (b) Ground transport for the Minister as well as any accompanying departmental officials.
- (c) Accommodation for the Minister, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed.
- (d) Meals and other incidentals for the Minister as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided.
- (e) Any available photographs documenting the Minister's travel should also be provided.

Answer

I am advised:

Ministers undertake travel within Australia to fulfil their portfolio responsibilities. All flights taken by the Minister in the course of her duties were in economy class and included trips with Rex, Qantas and Virgin Australia. Appropriate ground transportation involved the use of rental as well as departmental vehicles and accommodation was booked in order to facilitate ministerial duties across NSW..

Executive Office Upgrades - DCJ

239. Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the DCJ Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries been upgraded since 1 July 2021. If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive).

Answer

I am advised:

The department spent a total of \$10,275 (excluding GST) to support video conferencing capability in the DCJ Secretary's office in 2021/22. The costs include: acoustic treatments to ensure sound proofing and privacy (\$2,775) and upgrade of video conferencing, a monitor replacement and Wi-Fi (\$7,500).

Ministerial Functions

240. In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio since 21 December 2021, can the following be provided:

- (a) List of functions.
- (b) List of all attendees.
- (c) Function venue.
- (d) Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive).
- (e) Details of any food served.
- (f) Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage.
- (g) Any available photographs of the function.
- (h) Details of any entertainment provided.

Answer

Nil functions or official receptions hosted by the Minister.

Glebe Estate

241. How many properties are currently unoccupied in the Glebe estate?

Answer

I am advised:

As at 9 September 2022, there are 61 vacant properties in Glebe. These properties are either available to let, under offer, undergoing maintenance and or redevelopment.

Incident in Redfern Social Housing

242. Is the Minister aware of a tragic incident involving a resident who passed away at 55 Walker St Redfern?

- (a) How long was the body left to decompose in the unit?
- (b) At what date and time was LAHC first contacted about this incident?
- (c) At what date and time was the Minister's office first contacted about this incident?
- (d) At what date and time was LAHC made aware of the incident?
- (e) At what date and time was the body removed from the apartment?
- (f) At what date and time was the apartment completely cleaned?
- (g) How many complaints did LAHC receive regarding this incident?

- (h) How many complaints did the Minister's office receive regarding this incident?
- (i) Which cleaning service was contracted to carry out the cleaning?
 - i. What PPE or other equipment was provided to cleaners?

Answer

I am advised:

This is a question for Minister Roberts as this falls within the responsibilities of LAHC.

243. Could the Minister please provide a copy of the standard operating procedures or LAHC policies regarding a deceased resident in LAHC housing?

Answer

I am advised:

The DCJ Housing Process 'Manage the Death of a Sole Tenant' provides direction to staff on how to manage the death of a tenant in a public housing tenancy. This process covers the initial actions required by DCJ Housing and the subsequent management of the situation (including, where necessary, the cleaning of the premises):

- DCJ Housing staff will contact the NSW Police, if they suspect a tenant has died (noting it is the responsibility of NSW Police to notify next of kin of a death).
- NSW Police, after appraising the situation, have the authority to enter the premises:
- Where the tenant has no next of kin, is distant from next of kin, or the body has remained undiscovered for some time, NSW Police will arrange for the removal of the body:
- It is noted that there is no requirement for DCJ Housing staff to become involved in such arrangements.

DCJ Housing staff will give next of kin access to the property to remove personal items, once:

- the body has been removed
- an inventory of non-perishable goods has been completed
- necessary cleaning and removal of affected furniture has been done, and
- the NSW Police have confirmed they are not treating the property as a crime scene.

The Guidelines for Cleaning Activities Following the Death of a Sole Occupant in a DCJ Dwelling provide advice to DCJ Housing staff on the cleaning of a public housing tenancy,

where the tenant has passed away.

Disability Employment

244. What is the percentage and total number of people who identify as having a disability who currently employed by:

- (a) Department of Communities and Justice
- (b) Advocate for Children and Young People
- (c) Office of the Children's Guardian
- (d) Ageing and Disability Commission

Answer

I am advised:

- (a) 3.2% as at June 2021 (source: 2021 NSW Workforce Profile)
- (b) 7.14% , noting that while the Advocate is an independent statutory appointment, staff employed to support their work are employed within the Department of Communities and Justice Cluster and therefore diversity and inclusion figures are reported within the department's reporting obligation.
- (c) 1.8% (source: 2021 NSW Workforce Profile)
- (d) 3% of the Ageing and Disability Commission (ADC) staff identify as a person with disability.

245. What is the percentage and total number of senior managers who currently identify as having a disability employed by:

- (a) Department of Communities and Justice
- (b) Advocate for Children and Young People
- (c) Office of the Children's Guardian
- (d) Ageing and Disability Commission

Answer

I am advised:

- (a) The workforce profile used by the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) does not differentiate based on "senior management". The percentage of DCJ employees that identify as having a disability is set out in DCJ's [2020-21 Annual Report, Volume 1 Performance and Activities Report](#).
- (b) 0%

(c) Senior Management is not defined in the Annual Report. Please refer to the answer provided at 244

(d) The ADC has a senior executive made up of two positions – the Ageing and Disability Commissioner and Director Operations. The percentage of senior managers who identify as having a disability is 0%.

246. Across the NSW Public Sector what is the percentage and total number of employees who currently identify as having a disability?

Answer

I am advised:

2.5 per cent as at June 2021 (source: 2021 NSW Workforce Profile). The Public Service Commission has advised that the number of employees is not published, only the percentage.

247. What is the percentage and number of senior managers who currently identify as having a disability throughout the NSW Public Sector?

Answer

I am advised:

The NSW Public Service Commission is responsible for collating and reporting on Workforce Profile data for the NSW Government sector. It has advised that this data is not available.

248. What is the trend in distribution of workforce (distribution index) for people with disability throughout the NSW Public Sector?

Answer

I am advised:

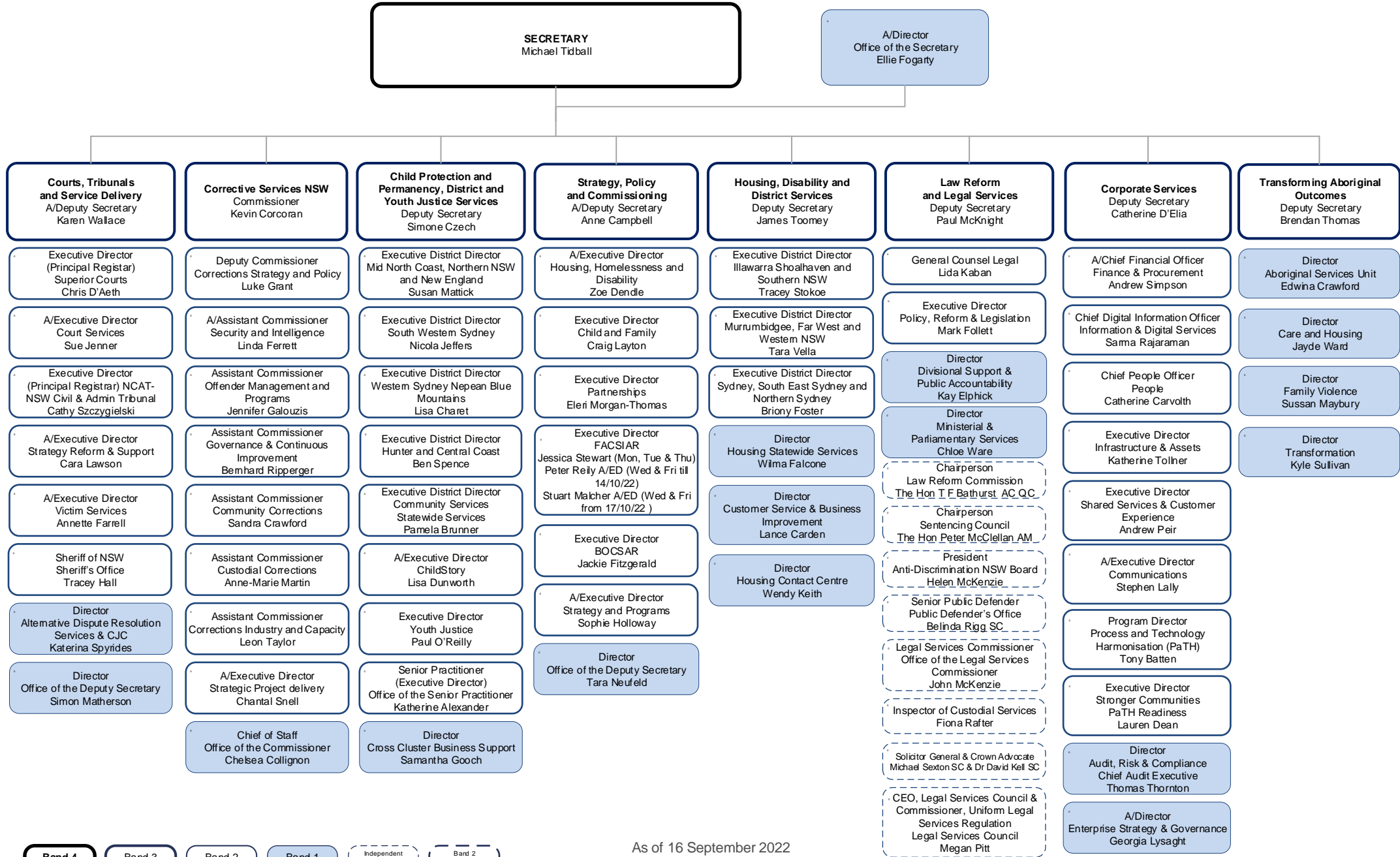
The NSW Public Service Commission is responsible for collating and reporting on Workforce Profile data for the sector. It has advised that the NSW Public Sector disability distribution index for 2021 is 96, while for Department of Communities and Justice it is 103.

Explanatory note: a distribution index score of 100 indicates that the distribution of members of the Workforce Diversity group across salary bands is equivalent to that of the rest of the workforce. A score less than 100 means that people with disability tend to be more concentrated at lower salary bands than is the case for other staff. The reverse may be indicated where scores are more than 100.

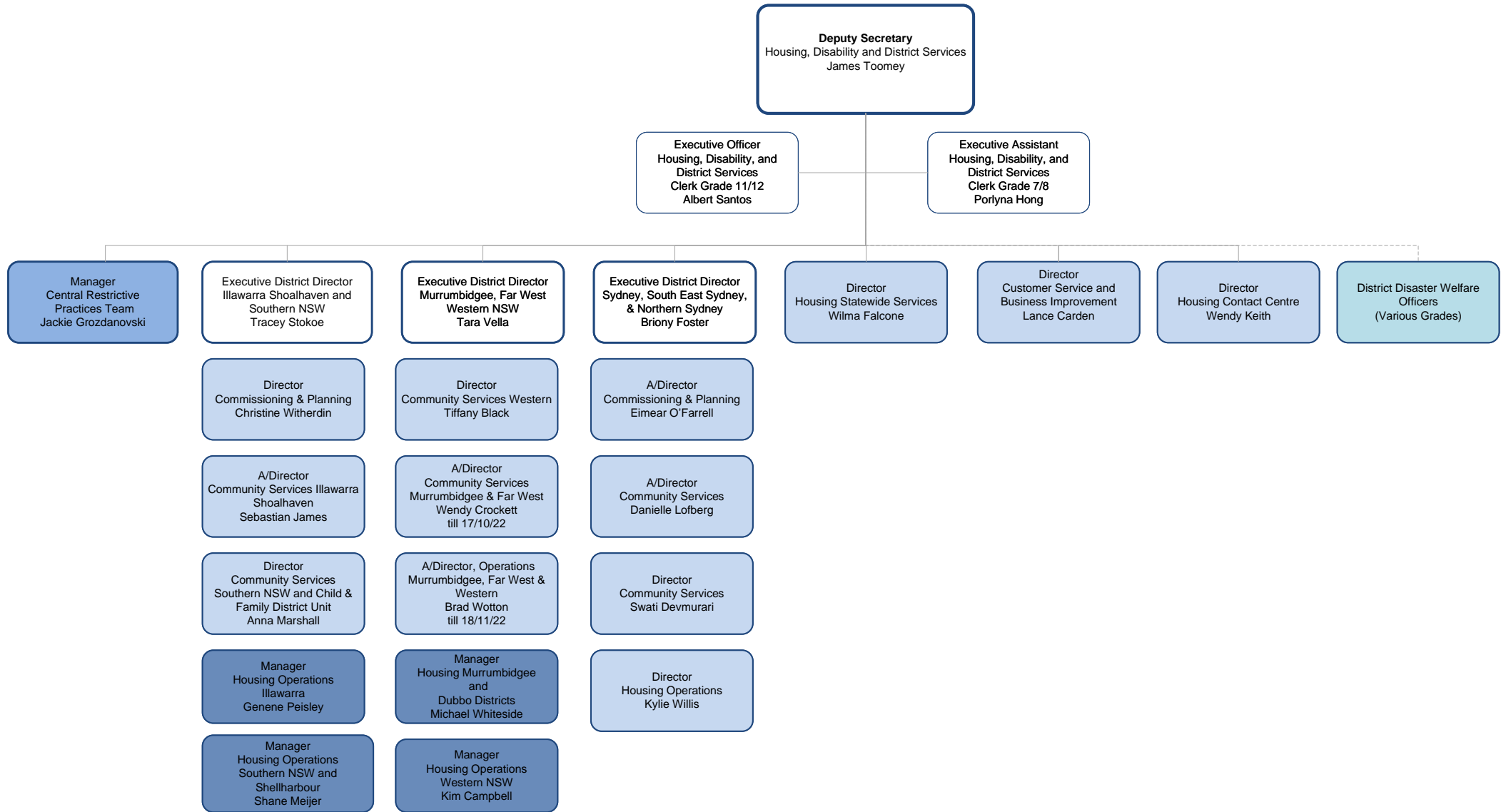


Department of Communities and Justice

Executive Structure



As of 16 September 2022



Total Fare

Travel Type	DomInt	Traveller	Vendor	Class of Travel	Date (StartDate)	Date (EndDate)	Transaction Desc (Trs Total Fare)	
Air	Domestic	VEVERS / PAUL MR (2423184)	Qantas Airways	Economy Class	29/11/2021	29/11/2021	Ticket	\$168
Air	Domestic	VEVERS / PAUL MR (2423184)	REGIONAL EXPRESS A	Economy Class	29/11/2021	29/11/2021	Ticket	\$436
Fee	Domestic	VEVERS / PAUL MR (2423184)	FCM Travel Solutions	N/A	16/11/2021	16/11/2021	Fee	\$17
Fee	Domestic	VEVERS / PAUL MR (2423184)	FCM Travel Solutions	N/A	04/11/2021	04/11/2021	Fee	\$7
Air	Domestic	MORGANTHOMAS / ELERI MS (2406995)	Qantas Airways	Economy Class	23/02/2022	24/02/2022	Ticket	\$299
Fee	Domestic	MORGANTHOMAS / ELERI MS (2406995)	FCM Travel Solutions	N/A	11/02/2022	11/02/2022	Fee	\$17
Air	Domestic	JEFFERS / NICOLA MRS (3491730)	Qantas Airways	Economy Class	02/03/2022	04/03/2022	Ticket	\$413
Fee	Domestic	JEFFERS / NICOLA MRS (3491730)	FCM Travel Solutions	N/A	21/02/2022	21/02/2022	Fee	\$17
Air	Domestic	MORGANTHOMAS / ELERI MS (2406995)	VIRGIN AUSTRALIA	Economy Class	24/02/2022	24/02/2022	Ticket	\$80
Fee	Domestic	MORGANTHOMAS / ELERI MS (2406995)	FCM Travel Solutions	N/A	24/02/2022	24/02/2022	Fee	\$17
Air	Domestic	VEVERS / PAUL MR (2423184)	VIRGIN AUSTRALIA	Economy Class	31/03/2022	31/03/2022	Ticket	\$90
Air	Domestic	VEVERS / PAUL MR (2423184)	Qantas Airways	Economy Class	01/04/2022	01/04/2022	Ticket	\$168
Fee	Domestic	VEVERS / PAUL MR (2423184)	FCM Travel Solutions	N/A	26/03/2022	26/03/2022	Fee	\$17
Fee	Domestic	VEVERS / PAUL MR (2423184)	FCM Travel Solutions	N/A	26/03/2022	26/03/2022	Fee	\$22
Air	Domestic	MORGANTHOMAS / ELERI MS (2406995)	Qantas Airways	Economy Class	18/05/2022	18/05/2022	Ticket	\$150
Air	Domestic	MORGANTHOMAS / ELERI MS (2406995)	VIRGIN AUSTRALIA	Economy Class	19/05/2022	19/05/2022	Ticket	\$80
Fee	Domestic	MORGANTHOMAS / ELERI MS (2406995)	FCM Travel Solutions	N/A	16/05/2022	16/05/2022	Fee	\$17
Air	Domestic	MORGANTHOMAS / ELERI MS (2406995)	Qantas Airways	Economy Class	18/05/2022	18/05/2022	Ticket	\$150
Air	Domestic	MORGANTHOMAS / ELERI MS (2406995)	VIRGIN AUSTRALIA	Economy Class	19/05/2022	19/05/2022	Ticket	\$80
Fee	Domestic	MORGANTHOMAS / ELERI MS (2406995)	FCM Travel Solutions	N/A	16/05/2022	16/05/2022	Fee	\$17
Air	Domestic	TOOMEY / JAMES MR (7328177)	REGIONAL EXPRESS A	Economy Class	29/06/2022	30/06/2022	Ticket	\$392
Fee	Domestic	TOOMEY / JAMES MR (7328177)	FCM Travel Solutions	N/A	22/06/2022	22/06/2022	Fee	\$5
Air	Domestic	TOOMEY / JAMES MR (7328177)	Qantas Airways	Economy Class	20/07/2022	20/07/2022	Ticket	\$232
Air	Domestic	TOOMEY / JAMES MR (7328177)	VIRGIN AUSTRALIA	Economy Class	21/07/2022	21/07/2022	Ticket	\$86
Fee	Domestic	TOOMEY / JAMES MR (7328177)	FCM Travel Solutions	N/A	18/07/2022	18/07/2022	Fee	\$17
Air	Domestic	TOOMEY / JAMES MR (7328177)	REGIONAL EXPRESS A	Economy Class	04/08/2022	05/08/2022	Ticket	\$420
Fee	Domestic	TOOMEY / JAMES MR (7328177)	FCM Travel Solutions	N/A	27/07/2022	27/07/2022	Fee	\$17
Air	Domestic	TOOMEY / JAMES MR (7328177)	Qantas Airways	Economy Class	17/09/2022	17/09/2022	Ticket	\$183
Air	Domestic	TOOMEY / JAMES MR (7328177)	Jetstar Airways	Economy Class	17/09/2022	17/09/2022	Ticket	\$176
Fee	Domestic	TOOMEY / JAMES MR (7328177)	FCM Travel Solutions	N/A	06/09/2022	06/09/2022	Fee	\$17
Fee	Domestic	TOOMEY / JAMES MR (7328177)	FCM Travel Solutions	N/A	06/09/2022	06/09/2022	Fee	\$11
								\$3,813

Start Date	End Date	Activity	Location	Merchant Name	Deputy Secretary Name	Amount	line_description	Comments
31/03/2022	1/04/2022	Visit to Ballina/Lismore flood emergency accommodation	Lennox Heads	Travel Agencies and Tour Operators	PAUL VEVERS	\$ 184.85	Accommodation, The Nest	Visit cancelled
20/12/2021	20/12/2021	Visit to Illawarra Shoalhaven and Southern NSW District	Coniston	SMP Coniston Bakery	PAUL VEVERS	\$ 12.60	Meeting with Housing Operations Manager, Illawarra	
20/12/2021	20/12/2021	Visit to Illawarra Shoalhaven and Southern NSW District	Coniston	TRANSPORTFORNSW TAP	PAUL VEVERS	\$ 15.28	Meeting with Manager, Housing Operations	
29/11/2021	29/11/2021	Quarterly Business Review - Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW District	Orange	KIM BEVERLEY ELLIS	PAUL VEVERS	\$ 8.50	QBR MFWWNSW - Afternoon Tea	
18/05/2022	19/05/2022	Visit to Ballina Motorhomes, West Ballina, Camp Drewe	Various	RAMADA BALLINA HOTEL A	ELERI MORGAN-THOMAS	\$ 227.61	Hotel accommodation, Ramada Hotel	Hotel Spa Room
29/06/2022	30/06/2022	Quarterly Business Review - Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW District	Orange	ORANGE TAXI 131008	JAMES TOOMEY	\$ 48.20	Taxi fares from Airport to Orange CSC for Q3 QBR	
29/06/2022	29/06/2022	Quarterly Business Review - Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW District	Orange	THE ORIANA ORANGE	JAMES TOOMEY	\$ 63.00	MFWWNSW QBR - Dinner 220629	
30/06/2022	30/06/2022	Quarterly Business Review - Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW District	Orange	THE ORIANA ORANGE	JAMES TOOMEY	\$195.00	Accommodation, The Oriana	Standard Queen Room
30/06/2022	30/06/2022	Quarterly Business Review - Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW District	Orange	GM CABS PTY LTD	JAMES TOOMEY	\$ 109.78	Taxi fares from Orange CSC to Airport for Q3 QBR	
20/07/2022	21/07/2022	Visit to Northern NSW Flood Affected Areas	Ballina	LEGMAN PTY LTD	JAMES TOOMEY	\$ 225.00	The Manor Boutique Hotel - visit to NNSW	Classic King Suite
4/08/2022	5/08/2022	Homelessness Expo	Wagga Wagga	THE HOUSTON WAGGA	JAMES TOOMEY	\$ 156.00	Accommodation, The Houston	Mini Junior Suite
5/08/2022	5/08/2022	Homelessness Expo	Wagga Wagga	GM CABS PTY LTD	JAMES TOOMEY	\$ 112.81	Travel from airport to Home	
						\$ 1,358.63		

Transaction Date	Merchant Name	Deputy Secretary name	Amount	line_description	Expense Type
11/08/2021	85 DEGREES COFFEE BU	Paul Vevers	\$ 11.50	Coffee for Outreach Team	CATERING-STAFF-FACS
12/08/2021	TRANSPORTFORNSW TAP	Paul Vevers	\$ 10.29	TAP, no receipt provided	PUBLIC TRANSPOR-FACS
11/09/2021	MCDONALDS WERRINGTON	Paul Vevers	\$ 9.65	Lunch - Visit to Kingwood 110921	TRAVEL-FACS
22/09/2021	SUBWAY KINGSWOOD	Paul Vevers	\$ 14.75	Social Housing Visit - Kingswood - Lunch	TRAVEL-FACS
23/09/2021	WOOLWORTHS 265 CHALMERS S	Paul Vevers	\$ 52.31	Food for Tenant - 1006 Solander	GROCERIES - FACS
25/10/2021	SECURE PARKING	Paul Vevers	\$ 70.73	Minister's Office Briefing - 25102021	PARKING-FACS
29/10/2021	TRANSPORTFORNSW TAP	Paul Vevers	\$ 3.20	Budget Estimates	PUBLIC TRANSPOR-FACS
17/11/2021	TRANSPORTFORNSW TAP	Paul Vevers	\$ 10.65	Travel for HCC QBR	PUBLIC TRANSPOR-FACS
29/11/2021	KIM BEVERLEY ELLIS	Paul Vevers	\$ 8.50	QBR MFWWNSW - Afternoon Tea	TRAVEL-FACS
30/11/2021	TRANSPORTFORNSW TAP	Paul Vevers	\$ 19.68	MFWWNSW QBR Visit	PUBLIC TRANSPOR-FACS
4/12/2021	TRANSPORTFORNSW TAP	Paul Vevers	\$ 11.88	HCC Applause Awards Liverpool	PUBLIC TRANSPOR-FACS
15/12/2021	TRANSPORTFORNSW TAP	Paul Vevers	\$ 3.20	Fare to attend Housing Operations Meeting	PUBLIC TRANSPOR-FACS
20/12/2021	SMP Coniston Bakery	Paul Vevers	\$ 12.60	Meeting with Housing Operations Manager, Illawarra	TRAVEL-FACS
21/12/2021	TRANSPORTFORNSW TAP	Paul Vevers	\$ 15.28	Meeting with Manager, Housing Operations	PUBLIC TRANSPOR-FACS
24/12/2021	TRANSPORTFORNSW TAP	Paul Vevers	\$ 5.44	Meeting with Minister, Parliament House	PUBLIC TRANSPOR-FACS
2/02/2022	TRANSPORTFORNSW TAP	Paul Vevers	\$ 2.48	Meeting with the Secretary	PUBLIC TRANSPOR-FACS
1/03/2022	TRANSPORTFORNSW TAP	Paul Vevers	\$ 2.24	Meeting with Minister Maclaren-Jones	PUBLIC TRANSPOR-FACS
1/03/2022	THE LEGISLATURE	Paul Vevers	\$ 11.00	Parliamentary Pass renewal fee	FEES OTHER-FACS
3/03/2022	SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK P6	Paul Vevers	\$ 18.00	Crisis Policy Committee Meeting	PUBLIC TRANSPOR-FACS
3/03/2022	NTH SYDN COUNCIL PARKI	Paul Vevers	\$ 2.00	Parking fee for Ministerial visit	PARKING-FACS
3/03/2022	NTH SYDN COUNCIL PARKI	Paul Vevers	\$ 2.00	Parking fee for Ministerial visit	PARKING-FACS
3/03/2022	NTH SYDN COUNCIL PARKI	Paul Vevers	\$ 2.00	Parking fee for Ministerial social housing visit	PARKING-FACS
8/03/2022	SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK P6	Paul Vevers	\$ 18.00	Parking fee - Crisis Policy Committee Meeting	PARKING-FACS
22/03/2022	TRANSPORTFORNSW TAP	Paul Vevers	\$ 4.48	Fares - Minister's Meeting, 52MP	PUBLIC TRANSPOR-FACS
25/03/2022	Travel Agencies and Tour Operators	Paul Vevers	\$ 184.85	Accommodation - visit to Ballina/Lismore	TRAVEL-FACS
29/03/2022	TRANSPORTFORNSW TAP	Paul Vevers	\$ 9.92	Fares - Minister's Meeting 220328	PUBLIC TRANSPOR-FACS
5/04/2022	TRANSPORTFORNSW TAP	Paul Vevers	\$ 4.48	Fares - Travel to Minister's Meeting	PUBLIC TRANSPOR-FACS
12/04/2022	TRANSPORTFORNSW TAP	Paul Vevers	\$ 4.55	Fare for travel to Minister's Meeting	PUBLIC TRANSPOR-FACS
27/04/2022	TRANSPORTFORNSW TAP	Paul Vevers	\$ 2.24	Fares - Travel to Minister's meeting	PUBLIC TRANSPOR-FACS
18/05/2022	RAMADA BALLINA HOTEL A	Eleri Morgan-Thomas	\$227.61	Hotel accommodation	ACCOMM-FACS
29/06/2022	ORANGE TAXI 131008	James Toomey	\$ 48.20	Taxi fares from Airport to Orange CSC for Q3 QBR	TAXI-FACS
29/06/2022	THE ORIANA ORANGE	James Toomey	\$ 63.00	MFWWNSW QBR - Dinner 220629	TRAVEL-FACS
30/06/2022	GM CABS PTY LTD	James Toomey	\$ 109.78	Taxi fares from Orange CSC to Airport for Q3 QBR	TAXI-FACS
7/07/2022	web therural	James Toomey	\$ 4.00	The Rural - local newspaper in Wagga	BOOKS,SUBSCRIPT-FACS
13/07/2022	Sette Posta	James Toomey	\$ 11.00	personal transaction, reimbursed on 8/8	TRAVEL-FACS
20/07/2022	LEGMAN PTY LTD	James Toomey	\$ 225.00	The Manor Boutique Hotel - visit to NNSW	ACCOMM-FACS
22/07/2022	GM CABS PTY LTD	James Toomey	\$ 19.32	Taxi Fare - Interview with The Project	TAXI-FACS
28/07/2022	THE LEGISLATURE	James Toomey	\$ 22.00	Security Pass - Parliament House	MEMBERSHIP FEES-FACS
4/08/2022	web therural	James Toomey	\$ 16.25	Local paper for media coverage of Wilks Park	SUBSCRIPTIONS-FACS
8/08/2022	PAYMENT FILE UPLOAD	James Toomey	-\$ 11.00	Reimbursement for personal transaction 13/7	TRAVEL-FACS
			\$ 1,263.06		

Photographs relating to travel by Deputy Secretary James Toomey



Picture taken from flood affected property in Lismore



Picture taken from a drive by of a social housing property in Orange