

1. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Is one of the reasons that the Museum of Sydney is being used here because visitor patronage has been lower than you would hope for this site up to now? Is that one of the reasons why this is the site that is now being examined?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: No, not at all.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **What was the visitation for the last period? Can you tell us?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I don't have those numbers in front of me. If you'd called Mr Lindsay, who is the CEO, I'm sure he could have answered that question. But I can get that for you on notice, of course

ANSWER:

Visitation numbers for the Museum of Sydney are as follows:

- FY16 – 93,283 (full year, open 7 days)
- FY17 – 84,386 (full year, open 7 days)
- FY18 – 68, 824 (full year, open 7 days)
- FY19 – 87,803 (full year, open 7 days)
- FY20 – 56,503 (closed from March due to COVID-19)
- FY21 – 21,945 (closed part year due to COVID-19, open part of year, 4 days per week)
- FY22 – 36,054 (open from mid-October, 4 days per week)

In the initial two months of FY23 (July and August 2022) there were 26,192 visitors. During this period the museum re-opened 7 days a week (for the first time since the advent of COVID-19) with free entry. Extrapolating for the full year, SLM is on track to exceed the 100,000 visitor target.

2. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I'm glad you've advocated for the importance of budgets for these institutions. **What is the budget for this transformation of the Museum of Sydney?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Good question. We'll have to take that on notice. The understanding is that it's being met from within existing budgets, but we'll take the question on notice.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **So there's no additional money?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I'll just have to take the question on notice. If we had the CEO of Sydney

Living Museums here, he could perhaps provide further information. But I'm happy to take that on notice.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **Could you take on notice the budget for both financial year 2022-23 and over each year of the forward estimates?** If your contention is correct, Minister, that this

is to be done out of the existing budget—quite a slim budget is the view that's been put to me in my short time as the Arts shadow—

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Congratulations, I should say, Mr Graham.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Thank you. It's a pleasure to be here asking you about these issues, Minister.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: It's a pleasure having you.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: In that short time, the view has been put to me that the budget is quite slim for this institution. There are significant new commitments on the horizon in this space, as well, that we'll turn to later. **Is it really good enough that this significant transformation and Indigenous cultural centre for New South Wales is done on the cheap out of the existing resources?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Again, I don't agree with the contention. I don't have that information to hand, but my commitment is that this will be done appropriately, respectfully and incredibly well—

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **Do you think we'd be able to get it this afternoon?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: We'll do our best—as would be expected for this sort of institution in Sydney.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **When will it be done, Minister? When will this be complete? When will this transition be?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: It's started now. It will be an ongoing transition, but it's already begun.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Yes, hence my question: **When will that transition be complete?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Again, I'm happy to provide that on notice.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Is there not a plan for the transition?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: But it's an ongoing thing. We've started right now.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: When will you consider that it's completed?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I don't know that the celebration and support for Aboriginal cultural facilities and institutions is ever completed. I think that there should be a constant assessment of how we do things and of the representation that Aboriginal people and Aboriginal heritage have in this State. I don't know that there's ever an end day.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Yes, but you agree it's not meeting this mission at the moment. Will this transition be solely to experiences focused on this set of issues around providing an Indigenous cultural centre to Sydney? Will we see the other exhibitions and experiences that are currently located there phased out over time?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Yes, that's my understanding.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **When will that have occurred by?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Again, I'll have to take that on notice. I'm sure Mr Lindsay, who is in fact the CEO of the institution, could provide those details, but I would expect it to happen within six to 12 months.

ANSWER:

There is no additional budget provided for the transition to a First Nations Cultural Space. However, SLM has committed significant capital expenditure in recent years to improving the theatre space, commercial kitchen and foyer, leaving the exhibition and gallery space to be updated and transformed. Additional budget outside of the normal recurrent levels are not required to finalise this transition as;

1. This is a progressive transition over a number of years and not achieved all at once;
2. Content, exhibition and displays will remain in place until they are due for refresh and the new content that is to be added will be consistent with the transition; and
3. SLM will achieve the realisation of this space in partnership with other organisations which will defray the direct costs to SLM.

Museums and cultural institutions are constantly evolving, so, with respect to when the transition will be finished, no definitive date can be given.

The progressive approach we are taking will see more and more stories and voices of Aboriginal people introduced. By doing this steadily, SLM in partnership with the Aboriginal Languages Trust will have the time and space to consult, listen, research, experiment, and transition audiences into the new interpretation.

This approach will yield a better outcome by allowing the institution to form partnerships and relationships with a diverse range of organisations and communities.

This transition will not displace or erase the colonial history and its significance to NSW.

3. QUESTION

LISA HAVILAH: The renewed Powerhouse in Ultimo will include upgraded exhibition spaces alongside new exhibition space that will be dedicated fashion and design galleries. We will also have increased public domain, which will connect into all of the changes that's happened around the museum that the Minister just referred to. We will have new education and public program space alongside an academy, which will support regional New South Wales students and the opportunity to engage with design programs, connected with surrounding partners. We will also have new food and beverage spaces that will connect to the public domain as well. But we will also ensure that the museum is fit for purpose in terms of addressing the multiple issues on that site, including issues around circulation and issues around the ability to present and support international exhibitions. It's very expansive in terms of the renewal, and it will give an incredible benefit back to—

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **Ms Havilah, can I ask about some of those specifics? How much new exhibition space are we talking about?**

LISA HAVILAH: I'll have to take that on notice, but I can get that for you.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **How much new education space are we talking about?**

LISA HAVILAH: I can get you the full details in terms of square meterage.

ANSWER:

The design brief for Powerhouse Ultimo is currently being developed. Exhibition spaces will exceed 10,000 sqm, and new education space will be approximately 1400 sqm.

4. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **Ms Havilah, how many food and beverage establishments will be added?**

LISA HAVILAH: I'll take that on notice and get the actual square meterage for you. The concept with the food and beverage is to connect into the goods line and really think about reorientating the museum to connect with the city so that it can be more useful and connected to its communities in terms of its opening hours, which

are currently limited to 10 to five. We're looking at being as much open in the evening as well.

ANSWER:

In responding to the design brief, design teams will be asked to identify opportunities to incorporate bespoke, distinct and connected retail, food and beverage across the Powerhouse Ultimo precinct with a combined total target area of 760 sqm.

5. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Very good. Minister, there's just over \$4 million committed in the budget for this financial year out of this \$500 million. That's a tiny amount, really, of the total amount you're hoping will be spent here. Does that concern you that it's such a small amount this financial year?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: No, not at all. As you would understand in terms of infrastructure programs, you start out smaller when you're doing business cases and so forth and then build when you actually get into the construction costs.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: What is the amount that's committed over the forward estimates?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: The whole project has a cost of \$480 million to \$500 million.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Hence my question: **What is the amount committed over the forward estimates?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I don't know if we have those details.

KATE FOY: I do, in my bag.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: We'll get that information for you.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Great. Ms Foy, if you're able to come back as soon as possible on that, that would be helpful.

KATE FOY: I certainly can.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Ms Foy just wanted to add something quickly on Parramatta, if that's okay.

KATE FOY: I just wanted to add about Parramatta. We have, and members of the steering committee have, a target for completion and opening the Powerhouse by the end of 2024. There is budget allocated in 2025 because there are always things that need to be done when you complete a project, but I just want to reinforce that I understand we are fixed and determined to have this open by the end of 2024. We are fixed and determined to do it, but as the Minister and Lisa have said, there are things that are outside of our control. I just don't want us to be misinterpreted around our ambition to have this project open.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: What does that mean, though, Ms Foy? Will this project be open at the end of 2024?

KATE FOY: That is our ambition—is to have it open by the end of 2024. There are often—

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: How is that going to happen given the information we've just been given that the fit-out won't commence until—

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: No, no, no—

KATE FOY: The fit-out happens concurrently as you build—

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Which is what Ms Havilah said.

KATE FOY: —which is the same as what we're doing with the Art Gallery or other projects. You have a concurrent thing and then you have exhibitions being put in and installed in the last phases of the project. I don't want to be misunderstood about our ambition to have it open by the end of 2024, but understanding that there can be external factors but that is our ambition that we're working towards.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **Why does the budget say this will be open in 2025? Who is miscommunicating this to the Treasury?**

KATE FOY: I would have to go and check on why that 2025 is there, but I'm very clear on our ambition.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: You concede this would have been run past the agency, Ms Foy.

KATE FOY: It is not unusual for funds to be allocated into the next financial year.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **You accept, though, there would have been consultation with the agency for those budget figures?**

KATE FOY: I will come back to you on the detail of that, but I just want to be definitive about our ambition as a steering committee around the delivery of the project.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **Were you definitive with the Treasury when they were writing the budget?**

KATE FOY: Treasury are part of the steering committee.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: And they've made their view clear and public.

KATE FOY: I will check why that is the case and come back with a much more detailed answer.

ANSWER:

The 2022-23 NSW Budget Papers \$179.5 million has been allocated over the next four years for Powerhouse Ultimo.

The target date for construction completion of Powerhouse Parramatta is the end of 2024. It is expected to open to the public in early 2025. This is reflected in the 2022-23 NSW Budget Papers.

6. QUESTION

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Can you tell me how many land claims are still outstanding?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I can. The claims that are undetermined or partially undetermined as at 31 August this year are 39,371.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **What was that figure in March?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I don't know. I'm happy to take that on notice.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Would you be able to take it on notice?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Yes, of course. Absolutely.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: I know it's an issue that you are concerned about.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Absolutely.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: At estimates, you previously said that you established a task force. I'm just trying to understand whether there has actually been any improvement and how many have been resolved.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Yes.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **Can you tell me about how many times the task force has met since March?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I can't. Just give me a moment. I don't know if Mr Ireland has information, otherwise we will have to take that on notice.

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: I think we will take it on notice for you, if that's all right.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Yes, we will take it on notice.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: That's fine.

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: I do have data about the number of claims resolved in the 2021-22 financial year compared to the 2020-21 financial year: 720 resolved in 2021-22 compared to 467 in the year before.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: That's good. That's a doubling, but 720 is still—I haven't done the maths—a long way from 39,000. We're talking decades here.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: No, absolutely.

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: That's understood.

ANSWER:

1.

Total land claims registered and determined over the lifetime of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act	As at the end of 31 March 2022	As at the end of 31 August 2022	Variance
Total number of land claims registered:	54,141	54,534	393
Total number of land claims granted/partially granted	3,729	4,001	272
Claims refused/partially refused by Crown Lands	10,137	10,227	90
Claims incomplete (undetermined or part undetermined)	39,368	39,371	3

2. Aboriginal Affairs NSW has facilitated a series of working group meetings with the Registrar Aboriginal Land Rights Act, Crown Lands NSW and the NSW Aboriginal Land Council to agree an approach to a coordinated response to the Auditor General's report on the performance audit of the Aboriginal Land Claims Process.

The working group recently confirmed its agreement to establish an overarching taskforce to oversee implementation of the recommendations of the report.

7. QUESTION

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Sorry, Minister. **Is Crown land 2031 a strategy for all Crown land or is it specifically targeted in relation to Aboriginal land claims?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I think it's—

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: I realise this is not your portfolio but obviously it is key to—

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: It's not.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Well, you are putting it forward as the key document.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Indeed. I think it's broader, I want to say, but we're happy to take that on notice.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Yes.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Can I also say that I'm advised that the Department of Planning and Environment has increased its resources to assess land claims and to accelerate Aboriginal land agreement negotiations, which are agreements that are entered into with local Aboriginal land

councils, which are an alternative to determining the land claims on a case-by-case basis. That's to start packaging them together and to prioritise them, as we discussed before. Three of those have been finalised already but we're hopeful, obviously, of more. Clearly, it needs more resources, which I'm advised is happening.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Sorry, more resources from where?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Into Lands so that there are, in fact, more people who are focusing on the determination of claims.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **Was that in the budget?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I don't know. I've been advised that, but I can take that on notice, happily.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: If you could take that on notice, that would be great. It would be good to know.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: That's important. I think all of those elements add together, along with the fact that I believe—and I'm happy to be corrected—that the Minister has delegated the responsibility of determining Aboriginal land claims to—

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: Ms Hawyes, yes. Mel Hawyes.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: —Mel Hawyes in the department, with the aim of speeding up the process as well. I don't know if you have anything further to add, Mr Coutts-Trotter.

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: She has established an Aboriginal Land Strategy division, headed by an Aboriginal executive director. It's a threefold increase in resourcing for the team within that division that handles claims, and there are actions—number one, the Government accepted all of the Audit Office's recommendations from the report in April. I'm happy to provide an update, on notice, on the progress against each of those actions, if you would like.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Yes, I would really appreciate that. That would be great. Thank you.

ANSWER:

This is a matter for Crown Lands and the question should be directed to the Minister for Lands and Water

8. QUESTION

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: **Minister, how many section 90 heritage impact permits have been granted in the past 12 months?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Good question. I don't have that information, and I don't know if—

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: No, I don't have it to hand, I'm afraid.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: That's, I presume, under the auspices of the heritage Minister, I would guess.

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: It is.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: We'll obviously have to take—

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: Could you take that on notice? I would have thought it's pretty important to your—

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Yes, I understand its importance. But as I don't have a direct responsibility, I'll get that information from the heritage Minister.

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: The impact is to destroy cultural heritage.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I understand.

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: **If you wouldn't mind taking it on notice, how many have been granted in the past 12 months, 24 months and five years? How many refusals for the same period of time? I'd be very grateful.**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Happy to take all that on notice

ANSWER:

This is a matter for Heritage NSW and the question should be directed to the Minister for Environment and Heritage.

9. QUESTION

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: **Yes, but as the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, given how significant a place is to a community, could you please nominate Gaahna Bulla as an Aboriginal place? Could you also please consider nominating the incredibly culturally rich site of the former Dunoon Dam area as an Aboriginal place?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I'm happy to look at both of those issues and to examine whether there is any intention to nominate either of those places as Aboriginal sites.

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: Thank you. It's just this resounding issue that we expect Aboriginal communities or supporters of places being designated as Aboriginal places to do that work, but it occurred to some people who contacted me that perhaps the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and the department might be able to take on some of that work.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Yes, and you would understand I'm carrying four portfolios, and—

Ms SUE HIGGINSON: I do. I've got 13.5, as a crossbencher.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I understand, I know this is an issue of significant focus and importance to you. I'll have a look at it, and we'll continue those discussions.

ANSWER:

Under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, anyone can propose an area to be declared as an Aboriginal Place. I encourage Aboriginal people and communities to nominate any areas that should be declared as Aboriginal Places.

As the declaration process currently sits within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Heritage, the Hon. James Griffin MP, I would be more than happy to offer any assistance possible to support Aboriginal Places nominations being considered and declared.

10. QUESTION

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Just to be clear, OCHRE was evaluated in 2019, was it not? I know that you're new.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Yes.

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: Yes, there was an evaluation in 2019.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: What has happened since then?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I think that there is much important and valuable work that's done under the OCHRE strategy. Now, it is quite clear to me—

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: No doubt about that, Minister, but it's not what I'm asking you.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I understand.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **I'm asking you what happened after the evaluation. Has the Government formally responded to it?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Obviously that was before I was made a Minister in December last year. I don't know if Mr Coutts-Trotter has any information on that.

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: No, I don't have it to hand, I'm afraid, Ms Sharpe.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: We're happy to take that on notice and provide information for you.

ANSWER:

The NSW Government has not released a final response to the first phase of the evaluation. An interim response to the Evaluation was published in December 2018 as *OCHRE Five Years on*, which laid the groundwork for the development of a full response, incorporating the recommendations from the NSW Ombudsman's special report on *OCHRE*.

The development of a final response to the first phase of the Evaluation was delayed due to several factors, including:

- The reprioritisation of resources to support the safety of Aboriginal communities during the COVID pandemic response and the natural disasters in 2019/2020. This appropriately saw plans to engage with communities on *OCHRE* recommendations put on hold.
- Ongoing discussions on the relationship between *OCHRE* and Closing the Gap, given the parallels between the CTG reform priorities and the objectives of *OCHRE*.

This work has now recommenced and will also consider the findings of the second phase of the Evaluation, which is in its final stages.

11. QUESTION

The only other point I would make, in terms of the Premier's re-reporting measure is, yes, it remains a priority. The most recent published data is from 2021. We saw a reduction for a number of years and then an increase. I keep in close contact with my former colleagues on this. The good news is that the three strategies that have been deployed appear to be working, and I think the next dataset to be published will show a significant improvement and a credible trajectory to achieving that target.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **The figures in relation to re-reporting, are they broken down between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children?**

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: I'm not sure how they're published but, of course, they can be, because there was a lot of focus on—

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Could you take it on notice?

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: I'm happy to.

ANSWER:

The reporting of data concerning children and young people at risk of serious harm reporting is a matter for the Department of Communities and Justice and the question is best directed to the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services.

12. QUESTION

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: That's great. Can I just ask you a couple of more specific things?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Sure. I appreciate your support.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: How many dedicated staff have been employed in CAPO? What resources have you given them to support the NSW Implementation Plan?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: We've given them significant resources, including a significant uplift in this—

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: How many?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I don't have those figures in front of me.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: You can take them on notice?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: But all I'm saying is—

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Mr Ireland, I'm going to be asking you this afternoon.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Let's perhaps allow him to answer the question now if he has that information, which he may not. Welcome, Mr Ireland.

TIM IRELAND: So from the 2021 budget, CAPO was provided \$3.9 million to employ—

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Over what period?

TIM IRELAND: Over 18 months. That takes their contract up to August this year. Then, under the 2022-23 budget, an allocation was made to further the partnership with CAPO.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **How many extra staff did that \$3.9 million equate to?**

TIM IRELAND: I might need to take that on notice.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Yes, that's fine. So it was \$3.9 million in 18 months. What was it in the 2022-23 budget?

TIM IRELAND: Just let me check.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I want to say \$4.6 million, but I might be wrong.

TIM IRELAND: **It was close to 10, but I'll just take that on notice.**

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: It's okay. If you take it on notice, we can come back

ANSWER:

The \$3.9 million funding for 18 months provided in the 2020-2021 Budget for NSW Coalition of Aboriginal Peak Organisations created 22 extra positions.

The allocation in the 2022-2023 Budget for the NSW Coalition of Aboriginal Peak Organisations partnership under Closing the Gap is \$9.2 million over two years, \$4.6 million in 2022-2023 and \$4.6 million in 2023-2024 financial years.

13. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **The question is this: Feel New in NSW, the campaign designed to bring people to New South Wales—most of the money appears to have been spent in New South Wales. Is that correct?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I'll ask Mr Cox to make some comments on this, but that wouldn't be surprising, if that were the case. I'll ask Mr Cox to comment.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I might indicate, Mr Cox, I'm just keen for you to confirm those figures.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: They did switch their focus to domestic travel before the international borders reopened. I'm saying that it intuitively makes sense—

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I'm happy to take either—

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: —but I won't pre-empt Mr Cox.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: —but I think we're with Mr Cox at the moment.

STEVE COX: Good morning, Mr Graham. I would need to take on notice the exact split. I did actually publicly record those in the recent media article so, if you're taking it from that article, that would be correct.

ANSWER:

The Feel New Visitor Brand Strategy was launched on 24 October 2021 with Feel New Sydney activity in market from 1 December 2021. Travel in Australia continued to be impacted by COVID-19 with the Omicron outbreak causing a spike in cases. Destination NSW increased advertising in NSW to promote intrastate visitation by enticing NSW residents to travel in their home state.

14. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: You're entitled to put that view. **I'm asking this specific question: Of the 2.1 million leads, is it common sense that one-third of those would've come from New South Wales?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I'll leave that with Mr Cox.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I think you've taken that on notice.

STEVE COX: Again, I'll take it on notice to give you the exact numbers.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **Of the \$120 million brought into the State's visitor economy, it'd be common sense that more than one-third of that would be from New South Wales. Is that—**

STEVE COX: **Again, to get the exact numbers, we'd need to take that on notice.** I think the point is, as the Minister was just saying, visitor spend within New South Wales is critically important, especially during the period of the pandemic, when Sydney was supporting the visitor economy of regional New South Wales.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I agree with that. I think you're taking that on notice.

ANSWER:

Destination NSW has confirmed that one third of the 2.1 million leads generated are from NSW.

15. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **The Government has got a bold commitment to \$65 billion of visitor expenditure by 2030. How much of that target is not attracting people from Victoria, Queensland or, perhaps, across the globe, but simply getting people from New South Wales to move around New South Wales?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I know that, of that \$65 billion, \$25 billion—

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Sixty-five billion.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Sixty-five billion. Apologies. Twenty-five billion is envisaged to come from regional tourism. I believe that \$10 billion is to come from day trips, if I remember correctly. As I say, I'm only just getting my head into this space. Perhaps Mr Cox will have some more information.

STEVE COX: Again, I think the numbers, I'd just need to check for the exact—I'm happy to take it on notice, but I'm also happy to give you the exact numbers in the afternoon session. The numbers are within the visitor economy strategy itself, so they are to hand—the splits between intrastate and day-trip visitation, interstate visitation and international visitation. Those numbers are available.

ANSWER:

The table below details the source of 2030 total visitor expenditure target of \$65 billion.

INTRASTATE SPEND		
	<u>2030 (\$bn)</u>	<u>2030 (%)</u>
Domestic	\$47.88 billion	73%
International	\$17.96 billion	27%
Total	\$65.83 billion	100%

16. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: My question, though, is **how much of the \$47 billion of domestic tourism that we're trying to generate is simply New South Wales citizens moving around?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I understand the question. I'm answering as best as I can, which is to say that \$10 billion of that is in terms of day trips. In terms of the more detailed part of the question, I'm very happy for us to take that on notice.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I think Mr Cox has taken that on notice. **Of the \$65 billion—\$17 billion in international and \$47 billion on domestic—where does the other \$1 billion of visitor expenditure come from, if not international or domestic tourism?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I assume that we're talking about decimal points here, but I don't know.

STEVE COX: I would expect it's a rounding error, but I'm happy to take it on notice

ANSWER:

Please refer to Question 15 for answer. Put answer back

17. QUESTION

Okay. Ms Herron, just turning to some of those details, what is the difference between the A and the B version of this show? Just give us some sense of that.

LOUISE HERRON: One is louder than the other—specifically, the bass is louder in the louder version, obviously, and it was turned down. But, also, obviously everyone is very concerned about what happens at the Opera House, and we actually had fewer complaints once the noise was turned down from the people who were in the show. We had more compliments about the show once it was turned down than in the previous version.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **Ms Herron, in the B version of the show, how much are you turning down the bass?**

LOUISE HERRON: I would have to take that one on notice. Percentage-wise, decibel-wise—how can we best provide the answer?

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I would be happy with either, Ms Herron. I'm comfortable in either format, actually.

ANSWER:

Rather than turning the overall bass volume down, the Sydney Opera House and the FANGIRLS team worked through each individual sound cue in the performance to identify the sections that were contributing to the sound transfer from the Drama Theatre to the Concert Hall. The sound transfer in those sections was then eliminated through dynamic processing, equalisation and rebalancing of instrument sound levels.

18. QUESTION

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I've been seeing shows at the Drama Theatre for the last 30 years and I have never seen a louder show than FANGIRLS.

LOUISE HERRON: It was very loud.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **How loud are we talking here? What is now, in your view, the maximum?**

LOUISE HERRON: That's the decibel number that I will have to come back to you on.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: So you will take that on notice, Ms Herron?

ANSWER:

FANGIRLS was a unique production, with prolonged periods of bass and sub-sonic frequency ranges that are not typical of musicals or general programming in the venue. There are currently no maximum sound levels for the Drama Theatre. The Sydney Opera House will now determine acceptable sound levels for the Drama Theatre, depending on the nature of the performance and the range of frequencies used in its sound design.

19. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **What I'm really interested in is what the recurrent funding is flowing from the Government to the Art Gallery. Can you narrow it down between the \$66.9 million from the Minister or your \$71 million? What detail can you give us on that?**

MICHAEL BRAND: In terms of FY23, my figure for actual recurrent, which I guess would be sort of pure operational costs, is 41 million and in the previous year it was 39.5 million.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I think what we're seeing here is that there are clearly a range of different definitions that are being caught up in what is recurrent. So, Mr Graham, perhaps to alleviate any doubt, what we might do is to take this body of questions on notice. Ideally, we will be able to provide more information by this afternoon so that you can drill down into that further. I'm conscious that there are different numbers floating about

here

ANSWER:

The total funding the Art Gallery of NSW will receive from the NSW Government in FY 2022/23 is as follows:

- \$41.8m in Recurrent Funding to support the Art Gallery's general operating costs
- \$25.1m in Recurrent Funding which is Non-Operating
- \$4.2m in Minor Capital Funding.

The total funding received by the Art Gallery is therefore \$71.1m, including a total of \$66.9m in Operating Costs and Non-Operating costs.

20. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **How much of the cost for the Parramatta build is the cost of building or reworking Castle Hill?**

LISA HAVILAH: I'll just find that number.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Thank you.

LISA HAVILAH: I'm sorry, I'll have to take that on notice, but we can get it for you straightaway.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Yes, I don't have it with me either, I'm afraid.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Okay, we'll come back to that. Minister, I might just turn to the merger of Sydney Living—

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Sorry, Mr Graham—

LISA HAVILAH: We'll take it on notice.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: We'll take it on notice, sorry.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: We'll come back to that in the officials session if that's okay.

ANSWER:

The total amount allocated for the Castle Hill Museums Discovery Centre budget is \$44 million, which is contained within the \$840 million NSW Government commitment to the Powerhouse Museum in Parramatta. The construction contract award amount for Taylor Constructions, the builder for Castle Hill, is \$24,467,396.

21. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I want to turn to the State Archives merger with Sydney Living Museums and the creation of a museum of history. Minister, Can you take us through your understanding of what will happen with the old Registrar General's Building?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Let me go back a step. As you know, we commissioned an inquiry under the leadership of former Prime Minister Paul Keating and former Lord Mayor Lucy Turnbull to look at the entire Macquarie Street east precinct and what we needed to do in terms of revitalising and honouring that extraordinary precinct. One of the things, for example, we've done is the upgrade to the State Library that's going on at the moment. Part of that is clearly the Registrar General's Building, and we are looking at what the long-term future and home of the Registrar General's Building will be.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Yes, and that's subject to a business case.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: And it's subject to a business case, absolutely.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **That's been \$7 million for the business case. Is that correct?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Do we know? We'll take that on notice. And then at the moment what we've done is we have activated the site with RGB Creative, which has got 13, I believe, organisations and institutions—things like the Australian Theatre for Young People, Monkey Baa, House that Dan Built.

ANSWER:

This matter is Cabinet in Confidence.

22. QUESTION

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Minister, I wanted to get an update on how things are going at Cabbage Tree Island post floods. It's my understanding the Government's committed \$70 million to restore Cabbage Tree Island and work with the Aboriginal community. Is that correct?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: No. Not just for Cabbage Tree Island. That \$70 million was to rebuild and repair Aboriginal housing broadly. Obviously, there will be—

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Obviously there are other housing—

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Obviously. **A significant part of it will go to Cabbage Tree Island, but that \$70 million isn't entirely focused just on—**

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **Do you know what percentage is going to—**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I don't know.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Are you able to tell me?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: No. I don't know.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: I'm happy for you to take it on notice.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: This is obviously outside of my remit. This is the emergency services Minister. But I'm happy to see if I can find that out for you, of course.

ANSWER:

I am advised the Aboriginal Housing Office is still in the early stages of the procurement and can only confirm how many eligible assets Cabbage Tree Island has in the program, which is 25 homes. A full breakdown will be available after the Request for Tender Process is complete, which is anticipated to be in March 2023 per the Commonwealth Disaster Relief Funding Arrangement guidelines.

As this is a matter for the Aboriginal Housing Office, for any further details, this question should be directed to the Minister for Planning and Homes.

23. QUESTION

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: My understanding is that the Bundjalung community have put forward a plan to address workforce shortages, obviously a huge issue in the recovery. I'm just wondering if you have any advice about what the Government's response has been to that proposal or if you're aware of that proposal.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: So is this part of the Bundjalung Nation flood report?

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: I believe so, yes.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: There are some excellent recommendations in the report, which the Government is obviously considering. I know that there are two that are specifically relevant to Aboriginal Affairs, which is recommendation number nine, which is to develop a plan with traditional owners to plan and protect cultural heritage sites before, during and after natural disasters, which makes a lot of sense—

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Not sure how you deal with the landslips but, yes, it is a good idea.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Indeed. Clearly, it's about maximising that. But, second, a review of the NSW Aboriginal land rights legislation to improve and enhance resilience and capacity of local LALCs during time of disasters, both of which I think, without in any way pre-empting the Government's response—those two fall under my jurisdiction, both of which seem eminently sensible.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **What's the time frame for that response?**

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I don't know.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Can you take it on notice?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Mr Coutts-Trotter, do you have—

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: No.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: It sounds like it's whole of government. Is it a whole-of-government thing?

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: I think so.

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: Yes, it is. I'm not sure. We can take that on notice.

ANSWER:

The issues identified by the Bundjalung Nation Flood Response Report have been considered as part of the response to the NSW Independent Flood Inquiry and the Select Committee on the Response to Major Flooding across NSW in 2022. More information can be found here: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/nsw-government/projects-and-initiatives/floodinginquiry>

24. QUESTION

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: So they've gone into the new INSW office. Who is the most senior person at the Destination NSW offices overseas?

STEVE COX: The country managers.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **How much are they paid?**

STEVE COX: I would need to take that on notice.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: I'm happy for it to be a band; I'm not actually asking for everyone's individual salary.

STEVE COX: Again, I'm sorry, I don't have that. I may have it to hand if you give me one moment. If I can take it on notice for the moment, Ms Sharpe, and perhaps I can answer it. I'll see if I can get an answer for you in a moment.

ANSWER:

Noting Mr Cox provides an answer later in the hearing. Cross reference with question 33

Role	Location	Contract type	NSW Public Service Equivalent Grade
Country Manager	New Zealand	DNSW International Contract	Grade 11/12
Regional Manager	South East Asia (Singapore)	DNSW International Contract	SE Band 1
Regional Manager	UK & Germany (London)	DNSW International Contract	Grade 11/12
Regional Manager	USA (Los Angeles)	DNSW International Contract	SE Band 1
Country Manager	Japan (Tokyo)	DNSW International Contract	Grade 11/12

Country Manager India and Regional Manager North Asia are vacant.

25. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: The Minister gave a range of views about that. Accepting all those things on record, what can you tell us about the nature of the transformation that's got to take place, given what's in existence at the moment at the Museum of Sydney?

KATE FOY: The transformation from the Museum of Sydney through to a dedicated centre?

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Yes, precisely.

KATE FOY: It's probably more a question for the Chief Executive of Sydney Living Museums, but I can say that that process has commenced. As the Minister said this morning, he expects it to be about a six- to 12-month transition. The other point I would make is that a transformation or a transition doesn't mean that you strip out everything that's in there at the moment, but you may bring a First Nations lens to telling a story—say, for example, a story of the First Fleet. The Sydney Living Museums may bring a lens around that first contact from an Indigenous point of view. Anything in detail, I'm very happy to take on notice and come back with quite a bit more. Because it's a matter of programming.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Yes, I appreciate that.

KATE FOY: The other point I'd make around the budget—relevant to budget estimates—is that Sydney Living Museums has an operating budget, as it does for all of its locations. They plan as part of their forward programming to have different types of programming. So that is why its current budget can accommodate change and doesn't necessarily need an additional budget. It certainly hasn't been identified as requiring additional budget.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I think you're confirming the issue that the Minister indicated but really said he'd take on notice—that there is no additional budget.

KATE FOY: It's currently out of its current operating budget. My understanding—my advice today—is that that's what they're planning on the basis of. Again, that transition is about six to 12 months.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Acknowledging that, you accept that this is quite a different proposition to what might have been possible or might have been planned in those concept designs at the Barangaroo space? In particular, I think we would highlight the idea of a performance space of 500 to 600 people, perhaps welcoming international visitors to experience Indigenous culture in Sydney. That is not the sort of activity that would be possible in the more limited space in the Museum of Sydney. Is that a fair comment?

KATE FOY: I think the point I'd make there is that each location, each facility, will have a different type of operation and a different type of cultural offering. Barangaroo and the future of the Cutaway doesn't preclude it from having First Nations exhibitions or activities there in a broader civic context, the same as the work that Dr Brand is doing at the Art Gallery in a dedicated space to Indigenous art doesn't preclude a broad range of offerings: the Australian Museum, the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences and the like. Of course, the Museum of Sydney is a specific space with a specific type of focus. Through the partnership with the Aboriginal Languages Trust, they will work together on what that future programming would look like. I might also say, to The

Cutaway, I would like, with your permission, to take some information and come back on notice. The 2014 report that Ms Sharpe was talking about—what I want to clarify is what was the nature of that work that was actually national. I think you referred to the national Indigenous organisations and some national bodies. I do want to confirm what in that was national, and part of the Federal Government's approach, and what was the role of the New South Wales Government because I think there are some complexities there that I wouldn't mind teasing out for the benefit of the Committee.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Accepting all that background, which was actually quite useful, I'm simply asking the question—obviously these are different plans. If this is to be the dedicated Indigenous cultural centre for Sydney or for the State, it won't include a performance space for 500 or 600 people, where you might welcome visitors to Sydney from around the State, interstate or internationally? That just wouldn't be possible in this particular space—the dedicated space that's now being considered.

KATE FOY: I suspect the size of it would preclude a certain scale of audience, but I'm happy to come back with advice from Sydney Living Museums on what type of programming could be there as well as what type of performance or cultural activities could be performed, also recognising that is on a broader—there's a forecourt—and on just how that all might work. I'm just not aware off the top of my head; I'm sorry, Mr Graham.

But certainly the Cutaway would present a different type of experience.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Yes. I was just slightly unclear after the exchange—although that was really because of the shortness of time—about what happens to the existing assets of the museum. It's had some exhibitions that have been ongoing. Are they simply reinterpreted or are they abandoned? What happens with those in this transformation?

KATE FOY: Again, I'm not across the detail of the programming. I know, from a brief conversation with Sydney Living Museums, the museum can interpret some exhibitions through a different lens. But I'm happy to come back with some detail. **If they have detail about any programming that they might be planning, I'm also very happy to come back if that's appropriate.**

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I acknowledge you may want to come back on notice; this is a question really for the Sydney Living Museums. The plan for the Museum of Sydney had been to have visitation of 100,000 by 2022—by this year. Obviously, COVID has intervened, so I'm not critical of the fact that we're not there, but visitation—total audience reach—was just 32,000 in the last report.

KATE FOY: Yes.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Perhaps on notice, or anything you can add now, what are the plans now to readjust? Is that goal of 100,000 visitors now in reach? What's the plan? What has been the readjustment in the hopes for the visitation this site might reach?

KATE FOY: I'm happy to give some general comments. Some advice that came through today, and I wish to validate it, is that the visitation—I think I had some figures somewhere from about 2016 through to 2019. They hover year on year from anywhere between 70,000, 80,000 and 90,000 visitations a year. In 2020, in that period affected by COVID, there were large closures, so the site was closed for a period of months, as well as having some COVID-safe rules around social distancing and having a shortened week. For some period of time it was open about four days a week. The visitation numbers were lower. I will test with SLM what their target is around

future visitation, as you've pointed out, and just confirm what their figures are for their aim for 2022, 2023 and 2024. The history of it shows that there was good, strong visitation, and I'll test what their plan is to get to that level, if not higher, in the future years.

ANSWER:

Visitation

In the initial two months of FY23 (July and August 2022) there were 26,192 visitors to the Museum of Sydney signalling a significant uplift in attendance patterns when compared to prior years and the Museum is on track to exceed the 100,000 visitor target. While visitation targets have not yet been adjusted, the new Board of MHNSW will be responsible for leading the development and endorsement of a new Strategic Plan for the organisation, which will factor in visitation goals and strategies.

Programming:

The plans for programming and works at the Museum of Sydney over the next 6-12 months are as follows:

- Continuation of First Nations Speaker Series.
- A sound commission from Nardi Simpson and Kaleena Briggs that speaks to the death of Arabanoo at First Government House.
- A collaborative community cultural learning event to make Nawi for future installation in the foyer.
- Women's weaving with strong visitor participation. The weaving produces an evolving installation with a series of creators and visitor contribution.
- Installation of newly acquired large-scale Brenda Croft portraits.
- Residency outcomes for Aboriginal artist Julie Gough and refugee curator.
- Requiem for Arabanoo commission installation.
- Integrated Acknowledgement of Country and introduction of First Nations language.
- Potential partnership with La Perouse Aboriginal Community Alliance to develop and deliver their cultural strategy.
- Launch of new and improved First Nations in-conversation series.

What will happen to the existing SLM exhibits and items:

- The current permanent and semi-permanent exhibitions at the Museum of Sydney will be gradually transformed to explore and amplify Aboriginal perspectives of the histories and stories that come from this special place.
- The items that are currently on display will be incorporated into the new approach or used in other ways to illustrate the stories and histories (across SLM's houses and museums).

26. QUESTION

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Right. My understanding is that there has been information provided to the Minister's office seeking some action around this, which sounds different to me than the document and the sort of whole-of-government plan that the Minister referenced earlier today.

You're all looking blankly at me. If you're not aware of it, that's fine. I might take it up separately because there is not much point asking you about something that you don't know much about. My understanding is that Jali believes that the \$70 million is for the rebuild of Cabbage Tree Island. Do you have any information on how much the rebuild of Cabbage Tree is going to cost and what work's been done that?

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: No, I don't. Tim?

TIM IRELAND: No, not broken down.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **How many houses do you believe that the \$70 million is going to rebuild?**

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: I'm happy to take that on notice. That will be kind of a function of what can be achieved by the Aboriginal Housing Office in conjunction with Aboriginal community housing providers.

TIM IRELAND: That's right.

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: Everybody brings some of their own assets to it as well as the additional money.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: I might pursue some of that on notice if that's unclear. Can I just go back to OCHRE. How many regional alliances are there?

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: I think we've got that. Either Tim or I will be able to give you that information. This is an assessment centre task, Tim—who gets there first. There are currently eight alliances actively participating in local decision-making in New South Wales.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Was each of those supposed to operate under an accord?

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: That was the model, yes.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **How many of them actually formally signed an accord?**

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: I'm just reading. I can take that on notice. Let me take that on notice for you, Ms Sharpe.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: I wanted to ask you about the closure of the reparations scheme. Sorry, I'm moving on very quickly. My understanding is that the reparations scheme closes in June next year. Is that correct?

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: Yes, I think that's right.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **Are you able to give me some information—obviously you can take it on notice—in relation to how many people per year the scheme has assisted since its inception?**

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: Yes, we can take that on notice, unless you've got that information to hand, Tim.

TIM IRELAND: No, we'll take it on notice.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **My interest is in, I suppose, what communications there are around the changes to the scheme.**

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: That's a good question. Tim, do you know?

TIM IRELAND: Not offhand. We'll have to take that on notice.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: That's fine.

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: I can't give you the yearly figure; I can give you the total figure of Stolen Generations survivors who have received reparations. As at 30 June 2022, it was 900 people, totalling \$67.5 million with an additional \$6.1 million paid in funeral assistance.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: What is the estimated number of people from the Stolen Generations who are actually eligible for these payments? Not who's applied—

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: Sorry, I don't—

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: We don't know how many people we have in New South Wales?

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: No, I don't have that number.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Just to check, the \$6.5 million, which was the funeral costs—has that been \$7,000 the whole time of the program?

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: It's \$6.1 million.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Sorry, 6.1.

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: I'm sorry, I don't know that. Tim, do you?

TIM IRELAND: Seven thousand funeral assistance fund payment.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **Yes, so has it always been 7,000? I'm trying to understand how many funerals it has paid for.**

TIM IRELAND: We'll have to take that on notice.

ANSWER:

Aboriginal Housing Rebuild

I refer to my previous answer regarding Cabbage Tree Island.

Local Decision Making (LDM)

There are eight Alliances in addition to the NSW Coalition of Aboriginal Regional Alliances (NCARA).

Of these, five Alliances have signed Accords under the LDM program.

Three Alliances are currently working with the NSW Government to deliver outcomes for their communities outside of a formal Accord.

Stolen Generations Reparations Scheme:

How have changes to the Scheme been communicated?

The extension of the Scheme was communicated in the NSW Parliament on 7 June 2022. Since then, it has been directly communicated to key community and government partners including Stolen Generations Organisations, Legal Aid NSW, Corrections NSW, NSW Trustee and

Guardian, Aboriginal and community legal services, and aged care centres. The updates have also been made to information available on the AANSW website.

What is the total estimated number of eligible Stolen Generations Survivors?

At the Scheme's inception, the total estimated number of eligible Stolen Generations survivors was 730. This number was exceeded in early 2020. On current projections, up to 1,356 eligible Stolen Generations survivors are expected to apply.

How many funeral payments have been made?

There are one-off payments of \$7,000 to assist with the cost of funerals in recognition of the entrenched economic and social disadvantage experienced by survivors. Survivors may elect to receive their funeral grant at the same time they receive their reparations payment, defer the payment to a time of their choosing or until it is needed. As at 31 August 2022, 908 funeral payments had been paid to Survivors and 32 funeral payments are deferred.

If an eligible Stolen Generations survivor dies before applying to the Scheme, another person may apply for a funeral assistance payment on their behalf. As at 31 August 2022, funeral grants have been paid to the families of nine people who would have been eligible for funeral assistance had they applied while they were alive.

27. QUESTION

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: So, for example, children in out-of-home care sits within DCJ. Is that right?

TIM IRELAND: That's right.

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: But each of those groups is co-led by an Aboriginal-controlled organisation and a State government agency.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Just using this as an example because I'm most familiar with it, for First Nations children in out-of-home care in the child protection system, is the co-chair of that someone like AbSec?

Who is the co-chair?

TIM IRELAND: **There's a families officer-level working group that has responsibility for that particular target. It's co-chaired by AbSec and I believe the deputy secretary in the Department of Communities and Justice.**

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: Yes.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: I'm happy for you to take this on notice. Would you be able to provide that to the Committee across all of them?

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: Yes.

ANSWER:

Working Group	CTG Targets	Coalition of Aboriginal Peak Organisations co-chair	NSW Government co-chair
Partnerships	PR1 - Formal Partnerships	Link Up	Aboriginal Affairs NSW
Community Controlled Sector	PR2 - Building ACCO sector	NSW Aboriginal Land Council	Communities and Justice
Transformation	PR3 - Transforming Government	NSW Aboriginal Land Council	NSW Public Service Commission
Data	PR4 -Data Sharing	Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council	Premier and Cabinet
Employment	PR5 - employment, business growth and economic prosperity, 8 Employment	NSW Aboriginal Land Council	Investment, Enterprise and Trade
Health	1 Life Expectancy, 2 Healthy Birthweight, 4 Child Development, 14 Suicide Prevention	Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council	Health
Education	3 - early childhood, 5 - year 12 attainment , 6 - higher education, 7 - youth engagement	Aboriginal Education Consultative Group	Education
Justice	10 adult incarceration, 11 youth incarceration	Aboriginal Legal Service	Communities and Justice
Families	12 child protection, 13	AbSec	Communities and Justice

	domestic and family violence		
Housing	9 Housing	NSW Aboriginal Land Council	Planning and Environment
Land and Waters	15A Land, 15B Sea, 15C Inland Waters	NSW Aboriginal Land Council	Planning and Environment
Languages and Culture	16 Aboriginal Languages	Aboriginal Education Consultative Group	NSW Aboriginal Languages Trust
Digital Inclusion	17 Digital Inclusion	BlaQ	Customer Service

28. QUESTION DEIT – Powerhouse

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Turning to the budget for Parramatta and Castle Hill, \$278 million has been spent; 246 is committed in this financial year. What's the total in the forward estimates?

ANNETTE PITMAN: I haven't got that in front of me.

LISA HAVILAH: **The total budget for Parramatta and Castle Hill, which also includes other costs including the collection, digitisation and relocation project, is \$840 million in total. But in terms of breakdown of that budget, we're happy to take that on notice and give you those details**

ANSWER:

The total budget and split of costs were provided in the hearing and in follow up questions below. The total remaining in the forward estimates is a matter for Infrastructure NSW.

29. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Great. Okay. That's really helpful. So we will have spent by the end of this year \$524 million. Can I conclude that the remainder of the \$840 million—that is, 840 minus 524—will be in the budget? It's in the forward estimate; it's budgeted for.

LISA HAVILAH: That's correct.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **But you'll take on notice the timing of that— in which financial year it's timed—although "hopefully very soon" is the answer, looking at the time lines you took us through beforehand.**

LISA HAVILAH: That's correct.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **Thank you. Of the \$840 million, you took on notice to tell us— perhaps in this session—what amount was allocated to Castle Hill. What's that amount?**

ANNETTE PITMAN: I can take that one. The Castle Hill budget is embedded within the broader budget for Powerhouse Parramatta. So we'd like to take it on notice just so that we can extract it out properly, rather than trying to do it quickly on the fly.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Ms Pitman, I'm not entirely happy with that. I mean, this is budget estimates and this is a key project. I would've thought it's a relatively simple question, isn't it? Isn't this something that would just be part of your overall planning for the project?

ANNETTE PITMAN: It is, but because both of those projects are happening in parallel, there are a number of things—like, staffing, for instance, for our teams—that go across both of those projects that sit within that project budget. If I were to provide you with an accurate assessment of the cost of Castle Hill, we would just need to do the work to estimate that.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Look, I think that is a reasonable answer—**that some of those costs on staffing you should carefully attribute**, and I'm happy for to you do that on notice. **For the capital cost alone, though, that shouldn't be that complicated. What's the difference here just on the capital side between these two projects? What is the proportion allocated at Castle Hill?**

ANNETTE PITMAN: The staffing costs are provided in the capital budget as well, so that's the work that we need to do, sorry.

ANSWER:

The total amount allocated for the Castle Hill Museums Discovery Centre budget is \$44 million, , which is contained within the \$840 million NSW Government commitment to the Powerhouse Museum in Parramatta. The construction contract award amount for Taylor Constructions, the builder for Castle Hill, is \$24,467,396.

30. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Thank you, I really appreciate you giving that answer. Can you just give me some sense of what might be attributed to Castle Hill but is not in that? I think the staffing is common sense. Is there anything else?

ANNETTE PITMAN: That would not include the design costs. It wouldn't include the staffing, as we said, and I believe the land acquisition isn't in that number as well.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **What is the land acquisition cost?**

ANNETTE PITMAN: Off the top of my head, I can't—I can try and get it to you for the end of this session.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Yes. Could you come back and attribute the other two on notice? Again, I would have hoped the land acquisition would be known at this point in the cycle, if you could tell us that now. I think it would be appropriate to take away the other two matters and attribute and then come back on notice

ANSWER:

Land acquisition costs were provided later during the hearing:

ANNETTE PITMAN: I have the land acquisition costs.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Fantastic.

Thank you. ANNETTE PITMAN: It's \$2,710,889.

31. QUESTION DEIT – Powerhouse

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I think that means you've got \$36.8 million still to go to be able to deliver this.

LISA HAVILAH: Yes.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: What's the timing of that? Obviously this project is moving very quickly. Are you confident you'll meet the short time lines that you've got to complete the project?

LISA HAVILAH: I feel completely confident. We have a really exciting pipeline of partnerships that we're looking forward to announcing over the next year, and we feel very confident that the target will be met and exceeded before the museum opens.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **What are the salaries paid in total to the fundraising team?**

LISA HAVILAH: I would have to take that on notice.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I'm happy for you to take that on notice. What is the ongoing operating budget for the Powerhouse at Parramatta?

LISA HAVILAH: We have an integrated operating budget for Parramatta, Castle Hill and Ultimo. We also operate Sydney Observatory. I'm happy to give you the total budget for 2023, if that's helpful.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: What is the total budget for 2023?

LISA HAVILAH: The opex budget is \$56.5 million, and the capex budget is \$3.9 million, with a total of \$60.4 million in investment for the 2022-23 financial year.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: What will that increase to in 2024-25, given the opening that we talked about earlier?

LISA HAVILAH: It might be more helpful if I give you the end state Government investment—which is 2027-28—which is \$68.3 million.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Sixty-eight-point-three will be your ongoing operational expenditure. Is that—

LISA HAVILAH: Correct.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: You're comparing those two numbers.

LISA HAVILAH: Yes.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **At that point, what will be the breakdown between those four sites that you mentioned?**

LISA HAVILAH: Each site will have its own operational cost, but it's an integrated model of operating. It's very hard to break down the cost of each location because it's all integrated. We have one facilities team that runs the facilities operations across all of the sites. I'm happy to take that on notice and look at how much detail we can give you.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I'm happy for you to take that on notice and come back. I can see the point you're making. I think it's also a legitimate question to get some sense of what the break-up here is.

LISA HAVILAH: It is.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I appreciate you've given me the key figure for operating. I really appreciate that. But, if you come back on notice, we'll pursue that on notice, if we then need more detail on that front.

ANSWER:

The total Powerhouse campaign team salaries for last financial year was \$951,194.

The Powerhouse has a confirmed integrated budget across all sites that delivers efficiencies, value and consistent quality of community amenity and service. Operational budget is not split between sites.

32. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Thank you. When it comes to staff in 2027-28, how many staff do you expect to be operating at each of those four locations?

LISA HAVILAH: If you just give me one second, I think, I can answer that. Yes, 400 in total.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Great. Thank you for the total. **What about between the four locations, for each of the locations?**

LISA HAVILAH: We do have that, but I'll have to take that on notice.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Great. **I would've hoped you're able to provide that in detail.**

LISA HAVILAH: We can.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I would've thought that's a reasonable—

LISA HAVILAH: I can give you an overview. The majority of staff will be at our flagship, which is Powerhouse Parramatta.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: When you say "the majority"—perhaps more than 200 at Parramatta?

LISA HAVILAH: **I don't want to guess, but at least half at Parramatta.**

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: At least half, but feel free to take it on notice

ANSWER:

The expected allocation of staff across the four sites is approximately 50% at Parramatta, 20% at Ultimo, 25% at Castle Hill, and 5% at Sydney Observatory.

33. QUESTION

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Mr Cox, I want to just go back to the Destination NSW overseas offices. Can you explain to me the KPIs that they operate under?

STEVE COX: Yes, Ms Sharpe. Before I go on to talking about KPIs—I said I'd try and get back to you with the salary bands. They're not in the GSE Act, they're in the international offices. That's why I can't give you a band number.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: That's fine.

STEVE COX: But they're paid between 120 and 200. It depends upon the market conditions. We tend to line them up with similar roles for Tourism Australia and contracts from the local market employment conditions. It's a case-by-case local market assessment that occurs. There is some variance, obviously, due to the cost of living in different locations, but we don't pay additional living expenses.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Are most of them recruited in country? Or do we have a mix?

STEVE COX: To my knowledge, Ms Sharpe, they've been recruited in country. In my time there's only been one vacancy—that is currently being recruited—which is for the India country manager role. We would look to recruit that in country. Generally, we look for people with local, on-the-ground experience, connections, understanding of the visitor economy et cetera. So they tend to come from the market—obviously, language, a deep understanding of that area.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Great. Thank you. How do you measure how well they're doing?

STEVE COX: Ultimately it comes down to the volume of travel from that destination into New South Wales. We have an international target. The international target is broken down, country by country or area by area and region by region. Then they are assessed against how much travel expenditure we're getting across, bearing in mind they influence most but not every single piece. Students is an important part. Business travel is an important part. It's those pieces. It's the execution of campaigns and how effective they've been. We do partnership campaigns with airlines and the like. It's ensuring that the New South Wales product, beyond Sydney, all of New South Wales product is represented in their major partners, if you like, within the ecosystem so that, if you're in India and you go into Mumbai and you want to buy a trip to Australia, the New South Wales product is well represented—proportion of the product that we have and how that's represented in those top operators. There's a few different pieces. The biggest measure, ultimately, is the dollar value.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Where would I find this dollar value?

STEVE COX: We don't have it in the annual report broken down country by country, but we've got the total amount.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **Could you provide it to me on notice, country by country?**

STEVE COX: I need to have a look at that. But I will certainly take the question on notice and provide what we're able to do.

ANSWER:

Destination NSW has a standard KPI target in place for each market that has two-way travel with Australia. The KPI relates to the delivery of partnership campaigns to drive demand and generate visitation to the state.

34. QUESTION

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Trying to steal the F1 Australian Grand Prix from Victoria. How'd that go?

STEVE COX: I'd rather not call it steal.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: I think the Victorians would call it stealing.

STEVE COX: Give it the opportunity to be raced in the premier location in the Asia-Pacific is perhaps the way that I would like to think about it.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Sure. How's that going?

STEVE COX: It was a good process. At the end of the day, a decision to stay in Melbourne has been made by Formula 1.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: How long have they decided to stay there?

STEVE COX: **Off the top of my head, Ms Sharpe—it is publicly recorded. I think it was to 2032. I would need to reconfirm that number.**

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: So they're not coming here anytime soon.

STEVE COX: No. That's correct.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Thank you. **I was trying to work out how this is reported. But I'm interested in the number of events and the amount of support provided between east of Parramatta and west of Parramatta. You may have to take that on notice. But, as I was preparing for this hearing, I saw many, many, many events this side and not very many events on the east side. So I'm trying to get a bit of a sense of the split literally. I know that you sort by regions. If you have to do it, sort by regions. But the line I'm looking for is the north-south line east-west of Parramatta. You going to be able to provide that for me?**

STEVE COX: I can certainly provide the information, Ms Sharpe. What I can certainly also say is that we recognise the opportunity for some more major events in the Central River City and the Western Parkland City and we have work in progress right now with Destination management plans for both of those regions.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: When are they due to be finalised?

STEVE COX: Within this calendar year, Ms Sharpe. We are also working on—and we've been doing extensive consultation with all the different stakeholders in the Central River City and Western Parkland City to try to identify those large-scale major events that we might be able to bring into that region. So it's a work in progress and we can certainly provide you the information that you've requested.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Where's the funding for events like Parramasala up to? It's been an

ongoing issue over many years.

STEVE COX: I don't believe that we fund that one.

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: It sits in the budget of Multicultural NSW, from memory.

STEVE COX: Destination NSW—for us to invest in an event, it needs to drive ex-region visitation. So there are some wonderful events that occur, such as this one, and certainly as part of that work in looking at the Central River City and Western Parkland City, we do look for and we have been looking for events that are more community based at the moment that perhaps could be taken to that next level to drive, in particular for us, international visitation. Something like Parramasala, anything that attracts those large communities—if we can bring an international flavour to it, there's certainly an angle there. But for us to invest, an event has to be a major event and a major event defined by the level of visitation from outside of the 50-kilometre radius to the event. There are some wonderful events that are community events that we do not invest in, but we certainly look at those kinds of events and look for opportunities to how could we, with a bit of extra effort, make them larger and something that people will travel interstate—and really internationally is what we're ultimately looking for.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **But you will on notice be able to provide me with a breakdown east to west on the number and the amount invested from Destination NSW?**

STEVE COX: The amount invested is commercial in confidence.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **Are you able to provide it to me as a global figure?**

STEVE COX: We would be able to provide an expected visitor spend related to the events that we are investing in.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: No, **that's not the question that I'm asking. I'm wanting to understand, of taxpayers' dollars that go into tourism in this city, how much money is being spent by Destination NSW west of Parramatta?**

STEVE COX: The events budgets are commercial in confidence for very good reason—for the people of New South Wales.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Sure, I'm familiar with this argument. We've been having this over many estimates in various forms but that's not really what I'm asking.

STEVE COX: **I'm happy to report to you the number of events and the value of the visitor spend expected to come from those events, absolutely.**

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Well, no. With respect, Mr Cox, that is not what I'm asking you to provide. I'm not asking you to identify event by event. I'm asking to understand how much taxpayers' dollars spent in Greater Sydney in your agency for events go west of Parramatta versus east of Parramatta.

STEVE COX: Ms Sharpe, the level of investment that we make in events, whether it's individual or combined as a total, is a commercial-in-confidence number.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **I mean, this has been an ongoing issue for quite a long time. I didn't really anticipate that this was going to be that hard. I don't understand why you cannot provide that amount, the funding, if it is not identified event by event.**

STEVE COX: I'm happy to take it on notice and, if we can provide that information, I'm certainly happy to do so. I'm not trying to be obstructive in any way.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **Well, you're not agreeing to tell the Parliament how much money you're spending.**

STEVE COX: I will take it on notice and provide what we're able to provide at that time.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Can I just encourage you to do that. I agree with my colleague. That is the baseline public transparency we would expect. I'm glad Ms Sharpe raised it, because I have some similar questions later on. But, if you can't provide that on notice, you're just inviting the upper House to inquire in far more detail by requesting some of these documents. In my view—I'm not speaking for the Committee—that is a totally reasonable expectation.

STEVE COX: I understand, Mr Graham.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I think that'll be a much more efficient way to provide it than the other ways that we might seek the information.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: It's not a threat, by the way.

STEVE COX: I understand. I agree—

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: I just suggest it's a wise—

STEVE COX: I'm just not in a position to sit here right now and say definitively yes or no. I'm happy to take it on notice—

ANSWER:

Formula One - On 16 June 2022, the Victorian Government announced it had secured an extension of contract rights for the Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix at Albert Park until at least 2035.

Please refer to question 48 for answer.

35. QUESTION

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: I wanted to ask about the NSW Youth Parliament. The Minister has suggested that there has been a review of the bills from the 2020-2021 Youth Parliament. Has that happened?

JULIA RYAN: The Youth Parliament is administered by the Y, I believe. It's not one of the Aboriginal—

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: I know that. What I'm saying is that the Minister spoke to the Youth Parliament and indicated that the bills from the previous Parliament had been gone through by, I assume, your department or your office. I'm just wondering if that has occurred.

JULIA RYAN: Not that I have personally gone through them, but our office does work with the Y and we have a lot of links together, so they may have provided those bills to the team.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **But you don't know what has happened? Could you take on notice, in terms of the examination of the bills, which bills were examined and what action was taken as a result?**

JULIA RYAN: Yes.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **And by whom?**

ANSWER:

On 31 March 2021 the 2021 Youth Parliamentarians presented their Bills to me and my colleagues, the Hon. James Griffin, Minister for Environment and Heritage, the Hon. Bronnie Taylor, Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health, and the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman, Minister for Local Government.

We discussed each Bill and how Government could support regional youth.

The NSW Youth Parliament Bills cross over several ministerial portfolios, and it is outside of the remit of the Minister for Regional Youth to make a comment about overall Government support for each Bill.

36. QUESTION

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Yes. **But does your Minister have any role in relation to seeing the grant applications, giving advice on the applications? Is there an expectation that he will be consulted in relation to the youth applications?**

JULIA RYAN: There's no formal process for the Minister's involvement in this current round of Stronger Country Communities Fund.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Previous rounds?

JULIA RYAN: There was, in the youth round—there was a role for the Minister.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: What was his role?

JULIA RYAN: That was the former Minister for regional youth.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: That's okay.

JULIA RYAN: Let me just find the detail of that.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: The former youth Minister was Ms Taylor, wasn't it?

JULIA RYAN: Ms Taylor, yes. **I would have to take that specific role of the Minister on notice.** I've got some further figures around that round, which was \$54.4 million, as I mentioned.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: If you can provide, on notice, where they went and how much they were?

Are all of the grants online?

JULIA RYAN: All announced grants are listed online.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Terrific. I won't ask you to provide them; we can look them up ourselves. **But I am very interested in what role the Minister played in relation to that. Do**

they formally have a role? Was it just consulted, Minister to Minister? When did she first see a list of those, and at what stage of the process—and whether she had any formal sign-off as well?

JULIA RYAN: I will definitely take that on notice. I wasn't in the role at the time, so I don't have them directly.

ANSWER:

Stronger Country Community Fund Round three applications were assessed by a Departmental Assessment Panel. Suitable projects were provided to the Deputy Premier for final approval. The Deputy Premier consulted the Minister for Regional Youth as the focus of the round was on regional youth projects. The Deputy Premier was the final approver of Round three projects.

37. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **Can I ask specifically about the potential demolition of the 1960s Peter Hall building at the rear part of the building. Is that contemplated? Is that a possibility?**

The Hon. SHAYNE MALLARD: Are you a fan of that building?

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I'm just simply asking. I'm more interested in whether Ms Foy is.

KATE FOY: I'm afraid I would have to go back and get some detail, and take that on notice, as well as considering what Cabinet confidentiality might apply to the whole project.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Understood. If you were able to answer that on notice, that would be appreciated.

KATE FOY: Of course

ANSWER:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Planning and Minister for Homes, as responsibility for the Registrar General's Building sits within the Planning portfolio.

38. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I turn to one issue with Sydney Living Museums. The Minister made the point that the CEO is not here, so feel free to—

KATE FOY: I was wishing he was.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **I'm sure that's right. I did just want to ask about his salary. The public reporting is quite good on this, as it is with all the institutions. That is reported publicly, certainly, for 2021—the most recent report. The one question I had was, this is allocated as a 0.5 FTE in the report. That's because of the administrative arrangements that are in place between SARA and Sydney Living Museums. Is the salary that's publicly reported also 0.5 of the salary or is it the total?**

KATE FOY: I'm afraid I don't have the document in front of me, but I'm happy to go back and confirm that to be the case. But your assumption around 0.5 being shared between the two budgets—for Sydney Living Museums vis-a-vis State Archives and Records Authority—I imagine that assumption to be correct. I'll come back and confirm that.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I think it's entirely reasonable to come back on notice. Perhaps with the merger that's now been announced, is that salary changing at all?

KATE FOY: I do not believe that the salary changes or the role changes. It simply will confirm that that is the ongoing structure of the position. So my belief is no, it doesn't change. If that is incorrect, I'll confirm that.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: That's appreciated. There's been a process ongoing about the leases down at Walsh Bay. Can I get a progress report on that issue?

KATE FOY: Yes, of course. I'll invite Ms Pitman, who has been leading that particular project.

ANNETTE PITMAN: We have nine tenants at Walsh Bay Arts Precinct. Those tenants include Sydney Theatre Company, Sydney Dance Company, Bangarra Dance Theatre, Sydney Philharmonia Choirs, Gondwana Choirs, The Song Company, Australian Chamber Orchestra, Australian Theatre for Young People and Bell Shakespeare. Those tenants are all now operational in the precinct. The precinct is operational. The individual arrangements with the individual tenants have been negotiated through individual leasing. The majority of those leases are in place. All of the agreements to lease are in place and all of the tenants are operating under the agreements to lease. Finalisation of those is ongoing.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **When you say "the majority" of leases have been signed, how many of the nine?**

ANNETTE PITMAN: I'll need to come back to you with the specific information.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **So you'll tell us how many of the nine, and can you tell us which institutions?**

ANNETTE PITMAN: Yes, I'll tell you how many and which.

ANSWER:

With respect to the CEO salary, 0.5FTE is recorded and paid by SARA and 0.5FTE is recorded and paid by SLM in recognition that the two organisations share 1 FTE CEO position between them.

Walsh Bay Arts Precinct - organisations and status of lease:

Australian Chamber Orchestra	Subleases signed
Australian Theatre for Young People	Sublease signed
Bangarra Dance Theatre	Sublease signed
Bell Shakespeare	Sublease signed
Gondwana	Sublease signed

Song Company	Sublicence signed
Sydney Dance Company	Final versions of Sublease agreed, pending signature by the tenant.
Sydney Philharmonia Choir	Final versions of Sublease agreed, pending signature by the tenant.
Sydney Theatre Company	Final version of Sublease to be agreed with the tenant.

39. QUESTION

JULIA RYAN: There was a departmental assessment of eligibility, viability, community support and alignment with objectives, and then a prioritised list of the projects for each LGA—there was an allocation for each LGA—was submitted to the Deputy Premier based on the assessment and the funding available. The department was able to recommend part-funding, where appropriate. This is in the guidelines that were published publicly for the 2019 Stronger Country Communities Fund. The Deputy Premier will consider the prioritised list of eligible and viable projects with community support and make final approvals in consultation with the Minister for Regional Youth. That was the assessment process.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **Do you know, in terms of the prioritised list that went to the Deputy Premier and the Minister for Regional Youth, whether those were changed?**

JULIA RYAN: I don't know that.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Could you take that on notice? In fact, what I would like, ideally, is the list of the prioritised projects as recommended through that process, and then the final list that was provided.

JULIA RYAN: I will take that on notice.

ANSWER:

Details of successful projects are available on the NSW Government website. Details regarding unsuccessful projects are not made public to provide confidentiality to applicants.

40. QUESTION

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Maybe this is to you, Mr Coutts-Trotter: Hasn't the Premier put out a Premier's memorandum in relation to grants administration?

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: The product of the grants administration review is a new guide, which is empowered in legislation, as you would know. That is gazetted, effective 19 September. The guide becomes operative from 19 September. It is prospective in its operation, so I don't know how it would interact with the process that's underway.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: So it would be outside—

JULIA RYAN: The process has been reviewed to be—

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: To be congruent—to be in line with the recommendations of the review.

JULIA RYAN: Yes, it is compliant.

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: In that case, if there was a decision by a Minister to fund something that was not recommended by the assessors, that is fine, if they're the decision-maker. They just have to make that clear publicly.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: That's where I was getting to. I was trying to understand when that had been turned on.

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: It turns on 19 September. My colleague tells me that—

JULIA RYAN: We've prepared ourselves to be compliant ahead of time.

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: Great.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: They also have to provide a reason, under those guidelines.

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: Yes, that's right.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Yes.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Where does that reason appear? Is it when it's announced? So you go through the process and it's announced. Is it on the website?

JULIA RYAN: All successful grants are recorded publicly. They're publicly announced within 45 days of the decision. All decisions and interactions with the Minister are reported, and records are kept of any of those interactions.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Reported where?

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: We are working towards a whole-of-government grants portal akin to the Commonwealth's, but we start from where we start from. I assume there'll be a period where this kind of thing would be reported on an agency's own website. We are trying to aggregate that so there is one place you go to find out about grant opportunities and one place you go to find out about decision-making.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **You would anticipate, Ms Ryan, then, that the announcement of this program—there will be the list. Would we expect, at the same time, a link or whatever that would explain whether the Minister has deviated from the recommendations? Where would we find that?**

JULIA RYAN: I will take that on notice. I think it would be a functional issue of the process of approving the grants.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: A footnote at the bottom of the list?

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: No, it would be as open as any other information about the decision-making in the grants program.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Just to clarify, though, the baseline commitment is—I understand the point about centralised versus the agency. But it'll be a public—

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: Yes, absolutely.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: —commitment? And that's contained in the guidelines?

MICHAEL COUTTS-TROTTER: Yes, it is. Absolutely.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Mr Graham's about to walk away, and I think that I'm actually done.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Can I just ask about how that relates to Mr Cox's activity? Do you have an exemption from that approach where all grants awarded need to be published?

STEVE COX: Our grants that we operate are published, and the guidelines are on the Destination NSW corporate sites. We have got a number of grants that we run throughout the course of the year—Refresh And Renew programs et cetera. Investments in events are separate to grants, and we've got an agreement on the way

that we're able to work with those.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: With whom is that agreement?

STEVE COX: The Information and Privacy commissioners, in the way that we release our information with relation to contracts.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **When was that agreement reached?**

STEVE COX: **The exact date, I'll have to take on notice.** It was in the last few months.

ANSWER:

To date, the Minister for Regional Youth has not deviated from the recommendations provided by the Department. Should this occur in the future, the Department will follow the process outlined in the Grants Administration Guide.

Destination NSW will comply with the grants administration frameworks detailed by Department of Premier and Cabinet and Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade.

Destination NSW engaged with the Information Commissioner to seek guidance on the disclosure of contract values for its contracts over \$150,000 ex GST.

On 29 March 2022, the Information Commissioner determined that disclosure will be on a case-by-case basis in line

41. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I have seen, for example, for your accommodation providers that information is reported and reported in the way I would consider as standard for other agencies. I did want to ask about the \$24 million music venue funding, which was very welcome to the sector. I didn't check back in the lead-up to this, but it came out of your budget, Mr Cox. Is that correct?

STEVE COX: The live music venues support program?

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Yes.

STEVE COX: It was administered through us, yes.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Very good. And when you draw that distinction between coming out of your budget or being administered by you, why do you draw that distinction?

STEVE COX: Similar to something like Business Events Sydney. Sometimes we hold the funding and then we release it to Business Events Sydney, so we oversee the process—similar to that.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: And to who were these funds awarded?

STEVE COX: I'd just need to get that detail if you excuse me for one moment—\$24 million for the live music fund, closed on 19 April. The program assisted 86 venues in Sydney and 77 in regional New South Wales which had been significantly impacted by COVID-19 related restrictions over the past year.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **I'm familiar with the program. It was very welcome. It was one of the first times that sort of funding has been available from the State Government in New South Wales. It was a really important program to getting these venues through for COVID. Which venues received the funding?**

STEVE COX: I'm happy to take that on notice. I don't have the full list. There's 163 venues, so I can take it on notice and I can provide you the detail.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Great. But that's the sort of program that you would be expecting to just provide in public?

STEVE COX: Yes.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: And the reason I ask is, I don't believe it has been. I haven't checked for a little while but—

STEVE COX: Ordinarily it's in our annual report, and this was in this financial year and our annual report hasn't come out yet. Our grants funding is provided in the annual report on an annual basis. That has not been released as yet.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: If you could provide that on notice, that would be useful. As the secretary is changing the approach on the grants culture in the Government and requiring other agencies to publish their grants perhaps earlier than just in the annual report, will you be changing your culture at DNSW and publishing this information ahead of the annual reporting process?

STEVE COX: We will certainly align with the requirements of the review and the work that the secretary has just spoken to.

ANSWER:

Live Music Venues list

Venue Name
Bridge Hotel Rozelle
Crowbar Sydney
HiWay

Leichhardt Bowling and Recreation Club
The Merton Hotel
Coogee Bay Hotel
Little Jack Horner
EL SOL
The Brass Monkey
The Vinyl Room
3 Doors Down
Max Watts Sydney - House of Music
Hordern Pavilion
Roundhouse @ UNSW
Dangar Island Bowling Club
Donny's Bar
Knox St Bar
Lord Gladstone Hotel
Manning Bar and Hermans Bar
The Lansdowne Hotel
Kelly's on King
Petersham Bowling Club
The Enmore Theatre
Venue 505 & Old 505 Theatre
Narrabeen RSL
Butchers Brew Bar
Camelot Lounge
Gasoline Pony
Lazybones Lounge Restaurant & Bar
Marrickville Bowling and Recreation Club
Red Rattler
The Factory Theatre
The Great Club
Agincourt Hotel
Australian Heritage Hotel
Bad Mama Surry Hills
Bank Hotel
Bungalow 8 & The Loft
Burdekin Hotel
Cafe del Mar Sydney
Club 77

Cruise Bar
Cult
Fortune of War Hotel
Foundry616
Frankies Pizza By The Slice
Giant Dwarf Theatre
Golden Age Cinema & Bar
Hard Rock Cafe
Home The Venue and Tokio Hotel Sydney
Hustle & Flow Bar
ivy - Building 1
Kings Cross Hotel
Low 302
Macquarie Hotel
Marble Bar Hilton Sydney
Marlborough Hotel
Mary's Underground
Metro Theatre Sydney
MoshPit
Opera Bar
Orient Hotel
Oxford Art Factory
Potts Point Hotel
Slip Inn
SMCFC
State Theatre
Surlys
Surry Hills Hotel
The ArtHouse Hotel
The Bearded Tit
The Cliff Dive
The Glenmore Hotel
The Imperial Hotel
The Mercantile Hotel
The Soda Factory
Union Hotel Newtown
Vanguard Newtown
The Unicorn Hotel

Bondi Beach Public Bar
Music@ StreetMarket
The Concourse Chatswood
Avalon Restaurant
Blackheath Bar and Bistro
Lawson Bowling Club
Il Fingers
Nest Cinema Cafe Books
Slipway Hotel (Slipway Inn)
Wharf Bar & Restaurant, Ballina
Beach Hotel Byron Bay
Brunswick Picture House
Great Northern Hotel
Kulchajam
The Shaws Bay Hotel
Armatree Hotel
Little Alberts
Longstocking Brewery
Tathra Hotel
The River Rock Cafe
Smokey Dan's
Steampacket Hotel
Tilba Valley Winery and Alehouse
Saraton Theatre
The Village Green Hotel
Yamba Bowling Club
Hotel Illawong
Element Bar
Moonee Tavern and Bottleshop
Park Beach Hotel Motel
Red-C Events
Seaview Tavern
The Coffs Hotel
Loco Hotel, Junee
Link and Pin
Goulburn Club
Australian Hotel McGrath's Hill
Anitas Theatre Thirroul

Mary's Underground
El Corazon cocina de Mexico
Kiama Inn Hotel
Court Stars Entertainment
Flutterbies Cottage Cafe
The Murwillumbah Citadel Pty Ltd
Smokey Horse
The Queanbeyan Hive
Banjo Paterson Inn
Euston Bowling and Recreation Club
Edward River Hotel
Wade Hotel
Flow Bar
Cambridge Hotel
Kent Hotel
Lizotte's Restaurant
Stockton Bowling Club
The Beach Hotel
The Newcastle Hotel
The Rogue Scholar
Vandenberg Hotel
The Agrestic Grocer
The Blind Pig Sound Lounge & Cocktail Bar
Cambridge Hotel
Bellingen Brewing company
Upper Lansdowne Memorial Hall
Diamond Dogs Lounge
The Tamworth Hotel
The Welders Dog Craft Beer Bar Tamworth
Avoca Beach Theatre
Hardys Bay Community Club
Shady Palm's Avoca Beach
Kingscliff Beach Hotel
The Batlow Hotel
Que Restaurant and Nightclub
Red Steer Hotel
The Duke of Kent Hotel
Wagga Wagga Boat Club

Bar on the Hill
Bowral Bowling Club
La La La's
Red Square Wollongong
Servo Food Truck Bar
UniBar
Vault Entertainment Venue

42. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **What's the value of the interstate expenditure in New South Wales? That is, you've given us the figure for New South Wales residents going and spending in Melbourne or other places. What about residents from other States coming here and spending?**

STEVE COX: I've only got the 2030 projection so I'll need to come back and take on notice the current numbers. But the 2030 projection, which is at that \$65 billion number, was 15.9.

ANSWER:

Interstate expenditure in NSW year ending March 2022 is \$5.28 bn.

43. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I accept that answer. Can I just be more specific in the question. What is best practice when it comes to spending these sort of tourism marketing dollars? What's the balance between interstate and international expenditure that you would regard as best practice?

STEVE COX: Best practice really relates to the return on the marketing investment dollars made as opposed to where that's done.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Precisely.

STEVE COX: It's about, if we put a dollar invested, how much return do we get? That's more what best practice is about. It depends on lots of different factors as to where your visitors are, where the target market is, time of year et cetera, whether borders are open, whether borders are closed.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **That's exactly the sort of assessment I was hoping you would be doing. What can you tell us about the return on investment between these three categories: advertising in New South Wales, advertising interstate and advertising overseas? Give us some guidance about how you think about that?**

STEVE COX: I don't have a breakdown, but I will take that on notice and if we've got the information, we can provide it to you. But we work across the board for our return number as opposed to breaking down specifically, campaign by campaign.

ANSWER:

In all instances Destination NSW looks for opportunities that drive a strong return on investment by targeting a range of source markets, including interstate, intrastate and priority international markets.

Destination NSW considers propensity to travel, potential value of travellers by market and historic visitation numbers by market. Destination NSW also considers factors including consumer sentiment, competitive context, transport accessibility and economic conditions by market.

44. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Can I ask about the boundaries for a small number of councils? I asked the former Minister some questions about this in the previous estimates. This is primarily about the Blue Mountains, Penrith and Hawkesbury and the couple of times they have been moved around within, really, inter-regional tourism and then back into the city. One of the questions I asked the Minister was why the local tourism network in his own seat was moved into the regional tourism area, and he gave some background to that.

I wanted to ask you, Mr Cox, about the fact that these three councils have now been moved back out of Sydney Surrounds North and into the city. Can you give us any background on how that happened or why that happened?

STEVE COX: Certainly, Mr Graham. When the Destination Networks were originally established in 2016, the Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury, Penrith and Wollondilly local government areas were included in the Destination Networks prior to the Western Sydney City Deal, which was signed in March 2018. The Western Sydney City Deal was the catalyst for a collaborative approach across the three tiers of government to create the Western Parkland City and the new Western Sydney Airport and the Bradfield City Centre. Our focus in the Visitor Economy Strategy is delivering across the State Government's vision for Greater Sydney region into three distinct cities, which is the Eastern Harbour City, the Central River City and the Western Parkland City. Those government areas were aligned with the Western Parkland City, and so they have been realigned and they will benefit from the focus of the work of Destination NSW to making sure—and also the greater investment for that Western Parkland City area. As I spoke to earlier on, we are currently in the process of doing—and this is collaborative with councils and local operators—the destination management plans for those two areas.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **What consultation happened with these three local government areas as those changes happened?**

STEVE COX: Destination NSW undertook an internal review and made recommendations to the Ministers. The Minister approved the recommendations with relation to boundaries, so I would need to take on notice the exact detail of what consultation.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **So you consulted the Minister. I want to know did anyone consult these local government areas?**

STEVE COX: I'll take that question on notice.

ANSWER:

The change in Destination Network borders was the decision of the former Deputy Premier and former Minister for Tourism. The decision was announced to all stakeholders via a media release from the Minister for Tourism in November 2021.

45. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: For the record, I don't agree with that assessment that they're making. In fact, my concern is quite the opposite in that it looks like these councils, including the former Minister's own area, have been moved around to follow the money—first, into regional New South Wales when there was regional funding, then into the city to follow the money that was attached to the western city deal. I can't put that question at estimates to the former Minister, but can you give me any detail, Mr Cox, about the background here?

STEVE COX: Mr Graham, I have already advised you the reason why they have been aligned. They are aligned with the Western Parkland City alignment and the Central River City, so they are aligned to those boundaries.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **But it's possible they were never asked. You will take that on notice, but that is possible?**

STEVE COX: I will take on notice the consultation

ANSWER:

Refer to answer 44.

46. QUESTION

ANNETTE PITMAN: I have that. As of 18 August of this year and since the program was launched in 2019, more than 4,527 New South Wales creative and cultural businesses are participating in the program as providers. Over 2.1 million vouchers have been downloaded by parents, and over 1.6 million vouchers have been redeemed by New South Wales children and young people.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: What's the value of the amount that has been downloaded?

ANNETTE PITMAN: Well, they're \$100 each.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I can do the maths, but I was hoping you might just place it on record.

ANNETTE PITMAN: Sorry. Doing maths while people are watching me is never a good idea.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: No worries.

ANNETTE PITMAN: So \$160 million.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: What is the budget allocation for 2022-23 for this program?

ANNETTE PITMAN: So we received funding of an additional \$22.9 million in this year's budget to extend the program to 30 June.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: So those figures you've given are consistent with the March ones—slightly updated, a small increase. **Could I get a breakdown since 2019 of how many have been downloaded and utilised in each financial year?**

ANNETTE PITMAN: Sure.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I won't ask you for that information now. I was keen to ask this of both Mr Cox and also of Create—this is the Minister's commitment today that he gave about the minimum fee of \$250 for musicians; other States have adopted this. Mr Cox, I asked you about this at a previous estimates. I asked you about the policy. Quite correctly, I shouldn't have put that to you. But what I want to know now, having put that to the Minister, is do you have any operational concerns if this policy was adopted by the Government about how it would unfold in your areas?

STEVE COX: Sorry, which policy is that, Mr Graham?

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **This the policy of if there is public funding for an event, then there would be a minimum guarantee for a musician that performed at the event. It's a policy which has been campaigned for around the country and adopted in some other States by their creative agencies. For your programs funded by Destination NSW, can you foresee any operational problems?**

STEVE COX: Mr Graham, I haven't considered that previously, so I would need to take that on notice and give it some full diligence.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Okay. I would be happy with that on notice. Ms Pitman, perhaps from a Create point of view?

ANNETTE PITMAN: As the Minister said this morning, our grant application forms require applicants to acknowledge that they're paying industry rates, and if they're not, they need to provide an explanation. If the policy changed, then we would fold that into our agreements.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **Great. I'd be happy, on notice, if you want to provide any policy guidance about operational issues. I think that would be welcome. I understand the point you're making but, yes, if you were able on notice to provide some background, that would be helpful.**

ANNETTE PITMAN: Okay.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **Can I ask of Tourism—we talked, Mr Cox, just before about some of the accommodation grants that had been given, particularly the grants to deal with the issue in regional New South Wales about substandard accommodation—people wanting to travel in New South Wales and perhaps the accommodation isn't up to standard. There is a program for grants to those accommodation providers. What assessment has been done about the benefits of that grant program? I want to be clear that I'm talking about the accommodation, not the experience grants.**

STEVE COX: I understand. I just need to take that on notice at this moment in time. I think if you're referencing the Refresh and Renew Fund—

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: I am.

STEVE COX: —which targets New South Wales, 787 applications, 104 successful recipients were awarded the funding. Your question is about the follow-up assessments. I would need to take that on notice, Mr Graham.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: **Just to give you some background as you're doing that, it's an unusual program in that you're really funding a private benefit. There's a public policy issue there. These motels essentially have to show that people have complained about their facilities, and then they're given public money to build something that they then use to capture private profit. While there's a problem, it's quite an unusual grant scheme in that most of the benefit goes to the private operator rather than into the public interest. I'm interested in what assessment has been done and what public benefit you are showing as you assess this way of handing out quite a significant amount of public funding.**

STEVE COX: I understand, Mr Graham, and I'm happy to take it on notice.

ANSWER:

Musician fees – Destination NSW works with the events industry to secure, support and retain events for NSW. Events stakeholders are required to operate within relevant NSW Government legislation in the delivery of their events.

Refresh and Renew – The Refresh and Renew Fund was part of the NSW Government's response to helping businesses and regional communities recover from the impact of drought, floods, bushfires and the COVID-19 pandemic by creating jobs, enhancing the appeal of regional NSW, and improving the quality of the visitor experience.

In terms of public benefit, the Refresh and Renew Fund supports regional accommodation establishments, which account for 77 per cent of the State's total accommodation providers. These establishments contribute to the 146,800 direct jobs delivered by the visitor economy, 71 per cent of which are in regional NSW. Thirty-two per cent of the State's 112,825 businesses involved in tourism are located in regional NSW.

The program was designed to assist regional NSW accommodation businesses to better meet consumer expectations by refreshing their accommodation offering. The funding supports improving the visitor experience for the many people who would typically travel to overseas destinations for their holiday to consider travelling domestically to regional NSW destinations.

These grants improve the overall visitor economy offering and contribute to growth of the visitor economy of regional NSW and by increasing visitation deliver strong flow on effects to the broader economy, which was severely impacted by the combined effects of drought, bushfires, COVID-19 and floods.

Utilisation of Creative Kids vouchers:

FY	Downloaded	Redeemed
FY 18/19	247,905	126,060
FY 19/20	323,989	231,882
FY 20/21	790,781	618,968
FY 21/22	769,315	602,316
FY 22/23	54,944	35,578
Total:	2,186,934	1,614,804

Payment for artists

Create NSW funding spans a wide range of individuals and organisations working across a number of art forms, and whose fees and payments are subject to industry awards or enterprise agreements. However, in several creative disciplines minimum fees are only *recommended* by member based organisations such as the National Association for the Visual Arts (NAVA) or the Australian Writers Guild.

Ensuring payment for artists is essential to a sustainable creative sector, and all Create NSW funding applicants are required to provide the following information in their application:

- Outline how the applicant intends to pay the artist/s, arts worker/s and/or cultural advisor/s, and which industry rate has been referred to, or
- Outline the reasoning for not paying the artist/s, arts worker/s and/or cultural advisor/s at the industry rate

If a future policy requiring minimum payment for musicians was endorsed, Create NSW would update these criteria to align with the policy decision.

47. QUESTION

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: Yes, I think it's a good point that it's a challenge for other States as well. The concerning thing about the Treasury analysis is not that there's a deficit but that the deficit is getting worse, and it is accelerating. The particular graph doesn't have the figures for the tourism trade deficit for New South Wales. Could you provide your view on notice about what the deficit has been in the years previously? Perhaps the past 20 years would be useful, given the Treasury analysis.

STEVE COX: Of course, Mr Graham. As I said, **the 2019 number off the top of my head—but we'll give you the exact number on notice—is \$14 billion.**

ANSWER:

This information is available from Tourism Research Australia (tra.gov.au) who provides statistics and research, including the International Visitor Survey and National Visitor Survey data.

48. QUESTION

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: Mr Cox, I want to come back to you about events, and I appreciate the information you gave to me over the break. Just to confirm, I think the information you provided to me is that you'll be able to **provide the information on the number of events plus the total dollar amount that's invested.**

STEVE COX: The total dollar investment across the total number of events, that's correct.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **Is that across the three cities? Is that right?**

STEVE COX: We can do that across the three cities, the Central River City, the Western Parkland and the Eastern Harbour.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **Yes, that's great. Can you separate out Sydney Olympic Park in terms of the number of events when you're breaking that down?**

STEVE COX: Yes, we can show it as a line.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: I just know that it's such a large driver.

STEVE COX: Yes, it is.

The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: **I'm interested in what's happening outside of that precinct.**

STEVE COX: Yes, absolutely. Happy to, Ms Sharpe.

The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM: The one other issue I had meant to ask was the follow-up to that question, which I might just ask now and I'm happy for you to take on notice. Given the commercial-in-confidence arguments that Destination NSW wants to assert—and there is hot competition between the States for event funding—the problem it creates is there's just no way to assess whether or not there's a public benefit when we're looking at the events you fund. That information isn't available to the Parliament or to interested parties. We're left relying on the agency's analysis and the fact that a Minister hasn't inserted themselves into the process. Could you explain on notice what is the process that you're using to analyse the benefit of those events? I'm particularly interested in how it compares to the INSW framework, for example. Do you have a benchmark for the benefit-cost ratio? Are there thresholds that you must clear in order to be funded, or is it a free-for-all and you'll measure against those criteria but make a choice in the end? I'm happy to invite you to respond briefly now, but I'd be equally comfortable on notice.

STEVE COX: Yes, I'll take it on notice. But it is a process agreed with the Treasury guidelines. It's certainly not a free-for-all, Mr Graham, but we'll take it on notice and provide information.

ANSWER:

Event invested in 2021/22

2021/22	Number of events	Total investment
Central River City (incl: Sydney Olympic Park)	20	\$15,789,086
Sydney Olympic Park	10	\$14,146,586
Western Parkland City	3	\$899,500
Eastern Harbour City	35	\$65,870,000
Total	58	\$82,558,586

Event Analysis Process – Destination NSW has established criteria that form the basis of consideration for potential investment in events. These criteria consider the economic impact, strategic marketing impact and community impact of an event, along with its ability to provide benefit in key international markets and secure private sector investment.

Destination NSW analysis estimates potential visitation and its value to the NSW economy for each event proposal considered for funding. Evaluation of ratios (including Return of Visitor Expenditure against NSW Government Investment and Cost Benefit Ratios - as per NSW Treasury Guidelines for Investment Justification using Cost Benefit Analysis) as well as evaluation of the strength of the strategic and community impact are also conducted.