



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2023-2024

Supplementary questions

Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health

Health, Regional Health, the Illawarra and the South Coast

Hearing: Thursday 26 October 2023

Answers due by: Thursday 23 November 2023

Budget Estimates secretariat

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Health, Regional Health, the Illawarra and the South Coast

Questions from Dr Amanda Cohn MLC

Paediatric cardiac surgery services

1. Assurances have been made by the Minister that emergency ECMO can continue to be provided safely at the Sydney Children's Hospital in Randwick without requiring a cardio-thoracic surgeon. Which Sydney Children's Hospital clinicians have been involved in discussions regarding ongoing safe provision of emergency ECMO?
2. What work has been done to measure or mitigate the impact of ceasing elective cardiac bypass at the Sydney Children's Hospital in Randwick on the provision of surgery other than cardiac surgery, for example airway reconstruction surgery?
3. Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick clinicians have been told that when cardiothoracic surgeon Dr Peter Grant retires, an on-site cardiothoracic surgical service will be provided in-hours. Can you confirm if this will be a consultant sub-specialist surgeon, or a fellow or a registrar?
4. In the Budget Estimates hearing, the Minister stated that the volume of paediatric cardiac surgery requiring bypass is "heading south," however data shows that following a decrease during the worst of the COVID pandemic, case number have increased between 2022 and 2023. In addition the capacity of the Childrens Hospital at Westmead has reduced as a result of two surgeons leaving the service. In light of this new information, would you reconsider your position not to restore medium complexity cardiac surgery services at the Sydney Childrens Hospital in Randwick?
5. Why are you funding the initiation of a heart transplant program at the Sydney Childrens Hospital in Randwick, an extremely rare and high risk procedure, while much more frequently required medium complexity cardiac surgery requiring bypass is not being provided at this site?

NSW Health workforce

6. What is the proportion of non-clinical to clinical staff employed by each LHD?
 - (a) How has this changed over the past 10 years?
7. I understand that in NSW Health facilities where night shift is 8 hours, fatigue management for day staff is inadequate as some staff are required to leave after 2300 and return before 0700 the next day, and that bedside handover is unachievable in a safe manner due to the inadequate shift

overlap of 15 minutes at these facilities. Have you committed to implementing 10 hour night shifts across all NSW public hospitals?

(a) If so, what is the timeframe for this to be implemented?

Hospital-Acquired COVID-19

8. With COVID-19 activity now declared to be at moderate levels, what protocols have been implemented to prevent transmission of COVID-19 in NSW Health facilities?

Allocation of Paramedics

9. How did the NSW Ambulance Strategic Workforce and Infrastructure Team choose to allocate funds from the \$1.76 billion funding pool announced in June 2022 to deliver an extra nearly 2000 paramedics to NSW?

(a) Why hasn't the modelling behind this decision-making been released?

10. How is the NSW Government ensuring that every additional Paramedic position they fund is added to the Planned Ambulance Rosters (PAR) level NSW Ambulance is required to maintain?

Dental services

11. In 2020-2021, an estimated 83,000 hospitalisations for dental conditions could have been prevented with earlier treatment. What is the NSW government doing to provide earlier treatment and access to affordable dental care, given that the Australian Dental Association has warned that costs of services for private dentists are expected to increase?

12. A 2022 survey of dental clinic operators conducted by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia and the Australian Dental Association estimated that approximately 9% of dentists were considering downsizing or closing their clinics due to the impact of rising costs across the industry. The number of dentists servicing the community has already declined by 2% per annum. What is the NSW Government doing to support access to dental services, especially in the wake of the recent payroll tax changes?

Albury Hospital Redevelopment

13. How much money has been spent, in total, on master planning for Albury Wodonga Health since NSW Health Infrastructure took over the project?

14. During recent consultation in Albury-Wodonga, NSW Health Infrastructure acknowledged that for effective hospital traffic management and public transport access, extensive upgrades will be

required to be undertaken on Borella Road and the intersections of Keene and East Streets. Has the cost of these upgrades been considered in the costs of the redevelopment of the existing site?

Muswellbrook Hospital

15. What is the rationale for planned upgrades at Muswellbrook Hospital to have been scaled back from their original design?
16. When will new operating theatres at Muswellbrook Hospital be operational?
17. What plans are in place to support surgical services at Muswellbrook Hospital when current temporary compliance measures expire in December this year?
18. Does the Minister believe it is appropriate for patients being transferred for emergency Caesarean section at Muswellbrook Hospital to have to be transferred out the main entrance of the hospital and through the emergency department?

Single Digital Patient Record system

19. What was the tendering process followed to award Epic Systems the contract for this project?

COVID-19

20. Dr Chant has stated that we are seeing an increase in community COVID transmission as reflected by the weekly respiratory report. Why is the risk level for transmission in healthcare settings still set to Foundational given this increase?

Health Services in Griffith

21. Given the long wait list for the occupational therapist lymphoedema service which is offered one day per week in Griffith, which is attended by patients from Lake Cargelligo, Hillston, Jerilderie, and Hay, what are the barriers to expanding this service to additional days per week or full time?
22. What work has been undertaken to address vacancies for occupational therapists in Griffith?
23. Given the high rates of suicide in the region, are there plans for a mental health inpatient unit at Griffith Base Hospital? If not, why not?
24. There is a shortfall of accommodation for patients and support persons at Griffith Hospital with the recent opening of the radiotherapy unit. Will the Government allow land on the Griffith Base Hospital site to be used for patient accommodation?

Tocumwal Ambulance Station

25. The population of Tocumwal is increasing. When will Tocumwal receive a much needed Ambulance station?

Health, Regional Health, the Illawarra and the South Coast

Questions from Ms Abigail Boyd MLC

Inclusive healthcare partnership with Get Skilled Access (GSA)

26. Which hospitals have to date received funding under the inclusive healthcare program, in partnership with Get Skilled Access (GSA)?
- (a) How many of these hospitals are regional hospitals?
 - (b) How much money has each hospital received, in the financial year 2022-23?
27. Which hospitals will be receiving funding under the inclusive healthcare program, and when?

Specialised Intellectual Disability Health Service (IDHS)

28. Is there an intention to broaden the specialised Intellectual Disability Health Service across all 15 Local Health Districts, in line with the recommendations from the Disability Royal Commission?
- (a) If yes, what is the timeline for any future plans?
29. For each financial year since establishment, how much money was spent on each of the existing specialised Intellectual Disability Health Services:
- (a) Hunter New England LHD and Central Coast LHD?
 - (b) Northern Sydney LHD, Mid North Coast LHD and Northern NSW LHD?
 - (c) South Eastern Sydney LHD, Nepean Blue Mountains LHD and Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD?
 - (d) Sydney LHD and Western Sydney LHD?
 - (e) South Western Sydney LHD and Southern NSW LHD?
 - (f) Western NSW LHD, Murrumbidgee LHD and Far West LHD?
30. For each financial year since establishment, how much money was spent on providing health assessment and recommendations for people with intellectual disability at each of the existing specialised Intellectual Disability Health Services:
- (a) Hunter New England LHD and Central Coast LHD?
 - (b) Northern Sydney LHD, Mid North Coast LHD and Northern NSW LHD?
 - (c) South Eastern Sydney LHD, Nepean Blue Mountains LHD and Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD?

- (d) Sydney LHD and Western Sydney LHD?
 - (e) South Western Sydney LHD and Southern NSW LHD?
 - (f) Western NSW LHD, Murrumbidgee LHD and Far West LHD?
31. For each financial year since establishment, how much money was spent on capacity-building for health professionals at each of the existing specialised Intellectual Disability Health Services:
- (a) Hunter New England LHD and Central Coast LHD?
 - (b) Northern Sydney LHD, Mid North Coast LHD and Northern NSW LHD?
 - (c) South Eastern Sydney LHD, Nepean Blue Mountains LHD and Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD?
 - (d) Sydney LHD and Western Sydney LHD?
 - (e) South Western Sydney LHD and Southern NSW LHD?
 - (f) Western NSW LHD, Murrumbidgee LHD and Far West LHD?
32. For each financial year since establishment, how many staff engaged in services relating to capacity-building for health professionals at each of the existing specialised Intellectual Disability Health Services:
- (a) Hunter New England LHD and Central Coast LHD?
 - (b) Northern Sydney LHD, Mid North Coast LHD and Northern NSW LHD?
 - (c) South Eastern Sydney LHD, Nepean Blue Mountains LHD and Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD?
 - (d) Sydney LHD and Western Sydney LHD?
 - (e) South Western Sydney LHD and Southern NSW LHD?
 - (f) Western NSW LHD, Murrumbidgee LHD and Far West LHD?
33. What strategies are currently in place to measure the success and capability of each of the specialised Intellectual Disability Health Services?

Training for NSW Health staff in relation to treating patients with disability

34. What consultation was undertaken in designing and updating the training that NSW Health staff receive in relation to treating patients with disability, in particular people with complex disabilities?
- (a) Were any disability stakeholders consulted with?
 - (b) Is there ongoing consultation with the disability sector in this respect?
35. How much funding did NSW Health receive for education and training of health staff in relation to treating people with disability, for financial years 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23?

Physical restraints in NSW hospitals

36. During the 2021-22 and 2022-23 financial years, how many investigations have there been into the use of physical restraints used on patients with disability in NSW hospitals?
 - (a) Have there been any disciplinary actions taken against staff engaging in inappropriate physical restraint techniques?
37. Is there any intention to mandate comprehensive training for all staff across all wards, in relation to treating people with disability?
38. What is being done to address the gap in the level of training and education received by regular NSW hospital staff and agency and casual staff?

The Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability

39. Will NSW Health be adopting the recommendations from the Disability Royal Commission directed to state and territory health settings?
 - (a) Will recommendations 6.31.b, 6.32a, 6.32b, 6.32c, 6.33, 6.34, 6.35, 6.36 and 6.40 be adopted?

One Stop Shop clinic trial at Westmead Hospital established by Dr Peter Smith and Dr Rummana Afreen in 2020

40. How much money does this clinic receive to operate on a trial basis?
 - (a) Will this clinic be receiving long-term sustainable funding?
 - (b) What strategies are in place to monitor the success of the clinic?
 - (c) What are the indicators required to secure long-term funding?
41. Will NSW Health be setting up additional similar services across the state?
 - (a) If yes, where will they be located?

Abcare

42. Have you met with Abcare to discuss the proposed Early Intervention Assessment Centre?
43. Will you be funding the Early Intervention Assessment Centre?

Questions from Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC

Two-strike pre-court diversionary scheme

44. In your Budget Estimates evidence, the Minister stated that the two-strike diversionary scheme “will potentially stop around 6,000 people from going into the court system for very low possession”.
- (a) Please provide a basis for this projection.
45. During the hearing, Dr Kerry Chant stated that “We're currently contracting that service to an existing drug and alcohol service provider”.
- (a) Has the provider for the tailored intervention been decided?
- i. If so, who is the provider?
- ii. If so, through what mechanism was the provider identified?
- (b) Has the provider for the tailored intervention been contracted?
- i. If so, what is the length of the contract?
- (c) If the provider has been commissioned by the NSW Government to provide any current or previous services, please provide a detailed breakdown of those services and the contract lengths.
- (d) Was any tender process undertaken to identify the provider?
- i. If not, why not?
- (e) How many tailored interventions are projected to be required every year?
- (f) How much will the provider be paid per intervention undertaken?
- (g) Will the intervention for a first caution and the intervention for a second caution carry the same cost to the NSW Government?

Medicinal Cannabis

46. How many NSW residents are currently prescribed medicinal cannabis?

Health, Regional Health, the Illawarra and the South Coast

Questions from the Hon Chris Rath MLC (*on behalf of the opposition*)

Health / Regional Health

Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD)

47. The Clinical Practice Handbook provides advice in relation to a patient dying before the VAD process is completed. It seems to be silent on what happens if the VAD process is unsuccessful. What guidelines are in place if the drugs administered do not cause death?
48. Given Clause 4 of the NSW VAD Act which provides that a person who is a regional resident is entitled to the same level of access to care and treatment as those in metropolitan areas, what is being done to ensure that those living in rural, regional, and remote NSW have the same access to high quality palliative care as those living in metropolitan areas?
49. How much money is being spent on enabling access to VAD in regional and rural NSW?
50. Are people who receive VAD able to be organ donors?
51. If so, does this mean there are any changes to the protocol in the way in which VAD is administered in that situation?
52. What are the expected out of pocket costs for an individual seeking VAD?
53. What are the expected costs incurred by the health system in providing VAD to an individual who desires it?
54. In reviewing reasons patients request VAD, is there a plan to document the reason for the request including poor quality of life without access to palliative care?
55. Dr Kerry Chant stated “What we obviously want to do is make sure that people have access to voluntary assisted dying if they want it administered where they might want it administered.” If a Local Health District (LHD), through autonomy, decides that its Palliative Service will not provide VAD via its clinicians or in its inpatient wards, and advises patients be transferred out of the palliative care ward for requested VAD, how does this comply with Dr Chant’s statement?

Palliative Care

56. How much money is being spent on regional and rural access to Palliative Care?
57. What are the average costs of providing palliative care to a patient? Can you provide figures covering 3, 6, and 12 months?

58. How many Specialist Palliative Care Physicians are employed by NSW Health west of the Great Dividing Range?
59. How is NSW Health planning to assess waiting times and numbers of patients unable to access palliative care.
 - (a) Will this information be made public?
 - (b) Will it be measured against palliative care NSW standards?
60. There remains significant misunderstanding around what Palliative Care is, especially amongst the Indigenous and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities. This uncertainty will be added to by some Palliative Care units across the state providing VAD and others not. How will the health system cope with patients and families refusing a referral to Palliative Care because of this confusion?

Indigenous Australians Health

61. Can you provide details on the discrepancy of health outcomes for Indigenous Australians and the rest of the population?
62. How much money is being spent to improve the health outcomes of Indigenous Australians?
63. What percentage of Palliative Care admissions are Indigenous Australians?
64. What is being done to ensure equitable access to palliative care for Indigenous Australians, especially those living in rural and regional areas?
65. What is being done to ensure equitable access to VAD for Indigenous Australians, especially those living in rural and regional areas?
66. What is being done to communicate information about palliative care in a culturally sensitive and appropriate way to Indigenous Australians?
67. What is being done to communicate information about VAD in a culturally sensitive and appropriate way to Indigenous Australians?

Rural and regional hospitals

68. How many beds in rural and regional hospitals are occupied by aged care patients?
69. When will birthing services be returned to Milton Hospital, as promised during the election campaign?

Rouse Hill Hospital

70. Can you provide a breakdown of what has been spent so far on the Rouse Hill Hospital development and in what areas?

Workers Compensation claims

71. How many harassment and bullying workers compensation claims have been made in the Department and LHDs in the past 5 years?
72. Can you provide the total cost of those claims?

Health sector workforce

73. What percentage of the NSW health workforce earns under \$60,000?
74. What percentage of the NSW health workforce earns over \$90,000?
75. Can you provide information on worker retention rates for healthcare workers from 1-5 years?

Medical students

76. Has research been done, or obtained, by the Department to determine the factors which contribute to the non-completion rate of medical students?
77. Can you provide figures on the non-completion rate of healthcare students, broken down by profession?

Wellbeing and Health In-Reach Nurse Coordination Program

78. When will the final Wellbeing and Health In-Reach Nurse Coordination Program report be released?
- (a) Will the report be publicly available?
79. Will you guarantee that the 98 Wellbeing and Health In-Reach Nurses will be safe?
80. Do you commit to continuing the funding for the 106 positions?

Forster Hospital

81. In a letter dated 25 October from your Parliamentary Secretary to the Member for Myall Lakes, Dr Holland states, “Planning for the project is continuing, including for health services in the Forster-Tuncurry area...”
- (a) How can this planning continue when you cut \$20 million in funding allocated to the Forster Public Hospital?
- (b) Is this a direct contradiction to your position on funding for the Forster Hospital?

82. As Minister, you stated in your Hearing that the Government has “decided to pause—not scrap but pause—that project at the moment.” How will you communicate this to the people of Myall Lakes when there is no allocation for funding in the 2023-24 Budget?

Comments from the Parliamentary Secretary for Health and Regional Health

Regarding comments Parliamentary Secretary for Health and Regional Health made in a Facebook post on the ‘One Eurobodalla’ Facebook page on 3 October 2021:

83. What measures have you taken to ensure your public servants are protected from any future demeaning and derogatory comments from the Parliamentary Secretary for Health and Regional Health?
84. As Minister, how can you and the Premier continue to support your Parliamentary Secretary for Health and Regional Health, given there was a complaint made about the Facebook comments in an email dated 3 October 2021 to the Ministry of Health?
85. Have you discussed these comments with the Secretary for Health?
86. As Minister, will you continue to support your Parliamentary Secretary?

Parliamentary Secretary for Health and Regional Health Disclosures

87. Can you confirm your Parliamentary Secretary’s disclosures are honest and accurate?

Regional Health Ministerial Advisory Panel

88. How many Expressions of Interest were received for positions on your Regional Health Ministerial Advisory Panel?
89. In appointing the Panel, was Ministerial discretion used?
90. How often will the Advisory Panel be meeting?

Gunnedah Hospital Redevelopment

91. The Gunnedah community have been disappointed by cuts to their hospital. Have these concerns been raised with your Office?
- (a) How much correspondence have you received?
- (b) How much correspondence has your department received?
92. How much would it cost to deliver the upgrade in full?
93. What steps has NSW Health taken to engage and listen to the concerns of Gunnedah’s residents?

94. Can you confirm patients requiring renal and chemotherapy services in the Gunnedah region will have to commute to Tamworth?

(a) How long will this continue to be the case?

95. The Premier visited Gunnedah before the election and committed to the hospital upgrade. What reasons have been given for this election promise not to proceed?

Health Worker Study Subsidy

96. Of the total number of scholarships available in the next calendar year, how many will be allocated to nurses?

97. What will be the number difference between the applicants and those who get the scholarship?

98. To increase the health workforce, will you increase the number of scholarships available?

Ministerial Diary Disclosures

99. Do any of the representatives from Health Services Union have security passes to:

(a) 52 Martin Place?

(b) Parliament House?

100. Do any of the representatives from Public Service Association have security passes to:

(a) 52 Martin Place?

(b) Parliament House?

101. Do any of the representatives from Australian Salaried Medical Officers Federation have security passes to:

(a) 52 Martin Place?

(b) Parliament House?

102. Do any of the representatives from the NSW Nurses and Midwives Association have security passes to:

(a) 52 Martin Place?

(b) Parliament House?

103. How many of these Security Passes have been signed off by either you or your Office?

Illawarra and South Coast

Minister for the Illawarra and South Coast

104. What are your primary responsibilities as the Minister for Illawarra and South Coast?
105. What department supports these responsibilities?
106. How many departmental staff are explicitly allocated to the Illawarra and South Coast portfolio?
107. How many staff in your Office are dedicated to the Illawarra and South Coast portfolio?
108. Do these staff have other portfolio responsibilities?
109. Do you have any staff that are solely responsible for the portfolio of Illawarra and South Coast?
110. How many hours per week would you say you spend on the portfolio of Illawarra and South Coast?
111. How many briefs as Minister for Illawarra and South Coast would your Office receive per week, on average?

Operational Questions

Qantas

112. Are you a Member of the Qantas Chairmans Club?
 - (a) Have you ever previously been a member? When did you cease to be a member?
 - (b) When did you initially become a member?
 - (c) When was this declared on the Ministerial gifts register?

Department / Agency Staff

113. How many senior executive service employees were employed by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities on:
 - (a) 28 March 2023?
 - (b) 23 October 2023?
114. What is the expenditure on senior executive service employees employed by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities since 28 March 2023?
115. How many individuals were employed as internal legal counsel by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities on:
 - (a) 28 March 2023?
 - (b) 23 October 2023?
116. What is the expenditure on internal legal counsel employees employed by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities 28 March 2023?

117. How many redundancies were processed by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities since 28 March 2023?
- (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - i. Voluntary
 - ii. Forced
 - (b) What was the total cost of all redundancies in each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities?
118. Is any former employee from your ministerial office now employed by any Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities?
119. How many staff were dismissed from each Department/agency under your portfolio responsibilities since 28 March 2023?
- (a) Without identifying individuals, what were the reason(s) for each dismissal?
120. What was the total amount each of the Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities spent on stationery since 28 March 2023?
121. How many employees in each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities are working in an 'acting' capacity?
122. What is the average number of days worked from home by employees in each Department/Agency within your portfolio responsibilities?
123. Do any senior executive service employees in any of the Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities have a driver that is paid for by the Department/agency?
- (a) If so, what is the number of senior executive service employees that have a driver, and which senior executive service employees have a driver?
 - (b) How much was spent on these drivers since 28 March 2023?
124. Since 28 March 2023, how much has been spent on charter air flights by your portfolio agencies, broken down by agency?
125. Since 28 March 2023, how much has been spent on domestic flights by your portfolio agencies, broken down by agency?
- (a) Of these, how many flights were taken in business class?
 - (b) Of these, how many flights were taken in first class?

126. Since 28 March 2023, how much has been spent on overseas flights by your portfolio agencies, broken down by agency?
- (a) Of these, how many flights were taken in business class?
 - (b) Of these, how many flights were taken in first class?
127. What was the total expenditure since 28 March 2023 by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities on:
- (a) Taxi hire?
 - (b) Ridesharing services?
 - (c) Limousine/private car hire?
 - (d) Hire car rental?

Hospitality

128. How much has your ministerial office spent on hospitality, including catering and beverages, since 28 March 2023?
129. How much have Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities spent on hospitality, including catering and beverages, since 28 March 2023?
130. Have you been the recipient of any free hospitality?
- (a) What was the total value of the hospitality received?
131. Have any staff members in your office been the recipient of any free hospitality?
- (a) What was the total value of the hospitality received?
 - (b) Are these gifts of hospitality declared publicly?
 - (c) Do staff declare their gifts publicly?

Agency Invoices

132. How many invoices to suppliers or contactors from your portfolio agency were not paid on time since 28 March 2023, broken down by agency?
133. How many invoices to suppliers or contactors from your portfolio agency were paid over 30 days late on time since 28 March 2023, broken down by agency?
134. How many invoices to suppliers or contactors from your portfolio agency were paid over 60 days late on time since 28 March 2023, broken down by agency?
- (a) What was the penalty for paying suppliers or contactors late, broken down by agency?

Car/Driver

135. Has your Ministerial car been subject to any traffic or parking fines?

- (a) If so, please provide details of each fine?
- (b) Who was driving the car at the time of each incident?
- (c) Who paid any of the fines?

136. Has your Ministerial Car been pulled over by the police?

- (a) If so, who was driving the car?

Complaints

137. Since 28 March 2023, how many consultancy contracts have been signed in your portfolio agencies, broken down by agency?

- (a) What was the individual amount of each contract?
- (b) What is the purpose of each contract?
- (c) Who was the contract with?
- (d) Did the contract go to a competitive tender?

138. How much did the Department/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities spend in legal costs since 28 March 2023?

- (a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?

139. Have any Department/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice since 28 March 2023:

- (a) Social media?
 - i. What were the cost of these services?
- (b) Photography?
 - i. What were the cost of these services?
- (c) Videography?
 - i. What were the cost of these services?
- (d) Acting training?
 - i. What were the cost of these services?

(e) Ergonomics?

- i. What were the cost of these services?

Departmental Credit Cards

140. For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report:

- (a) How many credit cards are currently on issue for staff?
 - i. Please provide a break-down of this information by grade.
- (b) What was the value of the largest reported purchase on a credit card for the last year?
- (c) What was each largest reported purchase for?
- (d) What was the largest amount outstanding on a single card at the end of a payment period and what was the card holder's employment grade?
- (e) How many credit cards have been reported lost or stolen?
 - i. What was the cost to replace them?
- (f) How many credit card purchases were deemed to be illegitimate or contrary to agency policy?
 - i. What was the total value of those purchases?
 - ii. How many purchases were asked to be repaid on the basis that they were illegitimate or contrary to agency policy and what was the total value thereof?
 - iii. Were all those amounts repaid?
 - iv. If no, how many were not repaid, and what was the total value thereof?
- (g) What was the largest purchase that was deemed illegitimate or contrary to agency policy and asked to be repaid, and what was the cardholder's employment grade?
 - i. What amount was repaid, in full?
 - ii. What amount was left unpaid?
- (h) Are any credit cards currently on issue connected to rewards schemes?
 - i. Do staff receive any personal benefit as a result of those reward schemes?
- (i) Can a copy of the staff credit card policy please be provided?

Efficiency Dividends

141. Was an efficiency dividend applied to any Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities in the 2023-24 NSW Budget?

- (a) If so, what was the efficiency dividend applied to each Department/agency?
- (b) What measures are being considered to achieve this efficiency dividend?

GIPA Applications

142. How many GIPA Applications have been received by your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?

- (a) How many of these Applications have been accepted?
- (b) How many of these Applications have been rejected?
- (c) If so, what were the reasons provided?
- (d) How many of these Applications were re-assigned?
- (e) How many of these Applications had fees waived/reduced?
- (f) Please provide in table form the following details of each Application received by your office:
 - i. Date received.
 - ii. Date acknowledged.
 - iii. Date responded.
 - iv. The description provided for the information sought.

143. How many GIPA Applications have been received by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities since 28 March 2023?

- (a) How many of these Applications have been accepted?
- (b) How many of these Applications have been rejected?
 - i. If so, what were the reasons provided?
- (c) How many of these Applications were re-assigned?
- (d) How many of these Applications had fees waived/reduced?
- (e) Please provide in table form the following details of each Application received by your office:
 - i. Date received.
 - ii. Date acknowledged.
 - iii. Date responded.
 - iv. The description provided for the information sought.

Labour Hire Firms

144. Have any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms since 28 March 2023? If yes, please advise in table form:

- (a) The names of the firms utilised.
- (b) The total amount paid to each firm engaged.
- (c) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company.
- (d) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company.
- (e) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company.
- (f) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company.
- (g) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company.

Media and Public Relations

145. How much has your ministerial office spent on advertising or sponsored posts since 28 March 2023 on the following social media platforms:

- (a) Facebook
- (b) Instagram
- (c) LinkedIn
- (d) TikTok
- (e) YouTube
- (f) WhatsApp
- (g) X (formerly known as Twitter)

146. How much has each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities spent on advertising or sponsored posts since 28 March 2023 on the following social media platforms:

- (a) Facebook
- (b) Instagram
- (c) LinkedIn
- (d) TikTok
- (e) YouTube
- (f) WhatsApp
- (g) X (formerly known as Twitter)

147. Have you had media training or public speaking training?

- (a) If yes, who paid for it?
- (b) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount paid since 28 March 2023?

148. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies and what is the total cost to employ these advisers?

149. What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed in each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities and their total cost?

150. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities?

Merchant Fees

151. Please provide a list of all transactions where customers need to pay a merchant fee on credit and/or debit card payments in each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities.
152. Please provide the percentage and/or amount of the merchant fees applied to all credit and/or debit card payments/transactions payments in each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities.
153. What was the total amount paid in merchant fees on credit and/or debit card payments made by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities since 28 March 2023?

Ministerial disclosures

154. Did you make any updates to your Ministerial disclosure on or after 2 August 2023?
- (a) If yes, what prompted this update to your disclosure?

Office Administration

155. What brand of paper is used in your office?
- (a) Is it recycled paper?
- (b) Is it Australian made paper?
156. How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS6 grade for the following months:
- (a) April
- (b) May
- (c) June
- (d) July
- (e) August
- (f) September
- (g) October
157. How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS5 grade for the following months:
- (a) April
- (b) May
- (c) June
- (d) July
- (e) August
- (f) September

(g) October

158. How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS4 grade for the following months:

(a) April

(b) May

(c) June

(d) July

(e) August

(f) September

(g) October

159. How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS3 grade for the following months:

(a) April

(b) May

(c) June

(d) July

(e) August

(f) September

(g) October

160. How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS2 grade for the following months:

(a) April

(b) May

(c) June

(d) July

(e) August

(f) September

(g) October

161. How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS1 grade for the following months:

(a) April

(b) May

(c) June

- (d) July
- (e) August
- (f) September
- (g) October

162. What is the average salary for staff members in your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?

163. How many DLOs were seconded to your ministerial office for the following months:

- (a) April
- (b) May
- (c) June
- (d) July
- (e) August
- (f) September
- (g) October

164. How many staff in your office are employed as 'caucus liaison officers'?

- (a) What are the responsibilities allocated to 'caucus liaison officers'?
- (b) Have 'caucus liaison officers' been directed to only work with Government MPs?
- (c) Do 'caucus liaison officers' contact members of the Australian Labor Party as part of their regular work duties?

165. How many staff members employed in your office under the Members of Parliament Staff Act 2013 have been seconded from a NSW Government Department/agency?

- (a) Please list each Department/agency staff members have been seconded from.

166. What is your ministerial office budget for 2023-24?

- (a) How much of this budget is allocated to staff?

167. How many iPhones/Smart Phones are assigned to staff in your ministerial office?

- (a) For each phone, how much was each bill in 2022-23?
- (b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?
 - i. What is the cost of replacing those phones?

168. How many iPads or tablets are assigned to your ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?

- (a) What was the cost of providing iPads or tablets to your ministerial office in 2022-23?
- (b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage in 2022-23?

- i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?
169. How many laptops has the Premier's Department or The Cabinet Office assigned to your ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
 - (a) What was the cost of providing laptops to your ministerial office in 2022-23?
 - (b) How many laptops have been replaced due to lost or damage in 2022-23?
- i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?
170. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?
 - (a) What is the cost of this?
171. Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?
 - (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
172. What was the total amount your office spent on stationery since 28 March 2023?
173. What was the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals, and periodicals since 28 March 2023?
 - (a) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
174. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office since 28 March 2023?
 - (a) What were the gifts purchased?
 - i. Who were they gifted to?
175. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
 - (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?
176. What is the total spend for your office since 28 March 2023 for:
 - (a) Taxi hire?
 - (b) Ridesharing services?
 - (c) Hire car rental?
 - (d) Limousine/private car hire?
177. Were any planes or helicopters chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money since 28 March 2023?
 - (a) If yes, please provide details of the trip including the date of the trip, purpose of the trip, the method of transport and the cost?
178. How many people are employed in your ministerial office as at 1 October 2023?

179. How many women are employed in your Ministerial office as at 1 October 2023?
180. How many staff employed in your ministerial office identify as culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) as at 1 October 2023?
181. How many staff employed in your ministerial office identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander as at 1 October 2023?
182. How many staff in your office are employed as media advisers or have responsibility for media/social media/communications?
183. How many staff in your office are employed as policy advisers or have responsibility for policy work?

Overseas Trips

184. Have you had any overseas trips paid for using public funds since 28 March 2023?
- (a) If yes, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?
185. Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded since 28 March 2023?
- (a) If yes, what was the nature of these trips?
- (b) Who paid for these trips?

Parliamentary Secretary

186. Does your Parliamentary Secretary have pass access to your ministerial office?
187. Does your Parliamentary Secretary have a desk in your ministerial office?
188. Has your Parliamentary Secretary spoken on any pieces of legislation on your behalf? If so which legislation?
189. What event/meetings has your Parliamentary Secretary attended on your behalf?
- (a) Please provide in table form the date and the purpose of the event/meeting.
190. How often do you meet with your Parliamentary Secretary?
191. Has your Parliamentary Secretary travelled overseas since 28 March 2023?
- (a) If so, when, and where?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of:
- i. Airfares?
 - ii. Accommodation?
 - iii. Food and beverage?
 - iv. Transportation?
 - v. Entertainment?

192. Has your Parliamentary Secretary travelled domestically since 28 March 2023?

(a) If so, when, and where?

(b) If so, what was the cost of:

- i. Airfares?
- ii. Accommodation?
- iii. Food and beverage?
- iv. Transportation?
- v. Entertainment?

193. Has your Parliamentary Secretary received training?

(a) If so, was it speech, voice, or media training?

- i. If yes, who provided this training, on what date and at what cost?

Probity Auditor

194. Has your office or department used a Probity Auditor or Probity Advisors, or similar, since 28 March 2023?

- (a) If so please list the company and/or individual, the project, the engagement dates, and their total remuneration in tabular format.

Training

195. Have you received any training since becoming a Minister?

- (a) If yes, please provide the details of what the training was.

196. Have you received any speech, vocal or performance training?

- (a) If so, what was the cost?
(b) Was this cost covered by the taxpayer?

Website Usage

197. What were the top 20 most utilised (by data sent and received) unique domain names accessed by your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?

198. What were the top 20 most accessed (by number of times accessed) unique domain names accessed by your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?