

## QONS

### Page 3 - QON 1 – Buttigieg events

**The Hon. WES FANG:** Minister, it's a simple question. Have you attended more or less multicultural events than the Hon. Mark Buttigieg?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I wouldn't have a clue.

**The Hon. WES FANG:** Can you take that on notice as well?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I'll take that on notice as well, yes.

#### Answer

I am advised: Ministers' Diary Disclosures are published on The Cabinet Office website <https://www.nsw.gov.au/the-cabinet-office/access-to-information/ministers-diary-disclosures>

### Page 6 - QON 2 – Multicultural Media – Multicultural NSW

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** —there was a commitment made by the incoming Government around reviewing the spend to multicultural media and, as the Minister said, I think it was one of the key election pillars around trying to boost the investment in that space to make sure that the lived experience and also the blockages that would occur previously in communicating with multicultural communities would be addressed. I'm pleased to say that that review is concluded and the Cabinet's made a decision. But as Minister Kamper said before, it really is a decision for Minister Dib to announce, and I believe that a decision is imminent on that. I would also like to acknowledge and thank—

**The Hon. WES FANG:** After estimates, is it?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** I'd also like to acknowledge and thank the independent multicultural media organisation that we've been working very closely with, for their time and energy in helping us co-design this process as well.

**The Hon. WES FANG:** That's how you answer a question, Minister.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Just on that point in terms of the interviews, how many outlets were interviewed as part of the review?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** I can take the specifics of that on notice, Mr Farlow.

#### Answer

I am advised: A survey to multicultural and Aboriginal media outlets received 85 responses on challenges they are facing and opportunities they can provide to the NSW Government. 10 in-depth interviews were carried out with stakeholders. The interviews included the government contracted media agency OMD, the multicultural media sales agency Leba, the multicultural radio program peak body National Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasters Council (NEMBC), and seven other independent multicultural media outlets across five communities, which were the Arabic, Chinese, Vietnamese, Greek, and Spanish communities.

## Page 6 - QON 3 – Multicultural Media – Multicultural NSW

**MR STEPHEN KAMPER:** That's absolutely right.

**The Hon. WES FANG:** Minister, were multicultural media provided an opportunity to give feedback as part of the review? Which outlets were provided the opportunity and how did you select them? I think Mr La Posta is busting to answer.

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** How they were selected? I'll pass back to Joe in relation to that to give us the detail.

**The Hon. WES FANG:** Smart move.

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** Thanks, Mr Fang. Thanks, Minister. With respect, there was some strong representation made to the aspiring now Government in the lead-up to the election around some commitments that the Victorian Government had made about an additional investment in the multicultural media spend. We've worked with a number of the really important organisations, to be frank, that my agency has partnered with for over 40 years—you know, *Chinese Daily*, *Chinese Herald*, a number of the Arabic-speaking publications, a number of the Vietnamese-speaking, one who's on our advisory board, Mr David Giang, who does a fantastic job in communicating with communities down in south-western Sydney.

To be honest I would estimate—and I'm happy to take the specifics on notice, Mr Fang and Mr Farlow—but there would probably be about 15 to 20 different publications in the room helping and designing solutions for what's best to help the New South Wales Government take forward the multicultural media proposal and help guide Minister Dib and Minister Kamper in the Cabinet in terms of a decision that, I guess, considered all the different perspectives. One of the challenges that we have, I think, in terms of how we're currently looking at multicultural media is there is a tendency to overestimate the reach of the digital footprint that we can have, and that doesn't necessarily help people like the Minister's extended family, my own extended family and others.

### Answer

I am advised: The outlets interviewed by the Department of Customer Service are outlined in the Multicultural Media Review and Policy Report 2023. This can be accessed on the NSW Government website <https://www.nsw.gov.au/nsw-government/communications/inclusive-advertising>

## Page 14 - QON 4 – Hunter Park Business Case – Venues NSW

**The Hon. MARK LATHAM:** We unfortunately lost Minister Crakanthorp over this, but has there been any progress with the Hunter-Newcastle sporting precinct redevelopment—a business plan from Venues NSW?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** With Venues NSW, I just want to say that we've focused on our business model over the past 12 months. It's been about getting the greatest financial outcome on our asset base, and it's all about generating and continuing to generate positive revenue moving forward so we can work on upgrading and improvements and changes, whether it's the Hunter or whether it's down on the South Coast at WIN Stadium there and improving those precincts and doing what we can do there. We are currently looking at that at the moment. The Hunter Park redevelopment is a transformational project that the people of Newcastle and the wider Hunter deserve. Venues NSW has concluded the initial stage of planning for the revitalised precinct, including a new entertainment centre and a relocation of harness racing that will result in a connected and thriving sports and entertainment destination, and Hunter Park will attract local, national and international sport and entertainment events and turbocharge the Hunter visitor economy.

**The Hon. MARK LATHAM:** So the Government is committed to this redevelopment. When do you expect the final business plan to be available and made public to the people of Newcastle?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I'll take that on notice, if that's okay.

### Answer:

I am advised: The NSW Government is developing a Place Strategy that will guide land use and infrastructure investment in Broadmeadow over the next 30 years. This Place Strategy will be informed by Venues NSW planning work for Hunter Park.

## Page 17 - QON 5 – Land Audit – DPHI.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Okay, let's get to the shortlist. Wasn't it the case that on a shortlist 30 sites per tranche would be investigated for primary due diligence by the end of quarter three, 2023? Did that occur?

**LEON WALKER:** That's an estimate. The actual number depends on the attributes of the site. So the process, as you've alluded to, is that we simply look at a particular site. We then assess it based on those attributes to determine if it would be suitable for residential use.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** How many sites were assessed by the end of quarter three, 2023?

**LEON WALKER:** I'd have to take that on notice, but it's in the hundreds.

### Answer:

I am advised: 256 lots have been shortlisted as at 14 February 2024.

## Page 18 – QON 6 – Land Audit – DPHI

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Minister, have any recommendations for funding approval and the eventual transfer of land to delivery agencies been submitted to the governance committees overlooking this process of the land audit? Have you signed off on any of those?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I'll take that on notice.

### Answer:

I am advised: Please refer to the answer provided on page 18 of the transcript.

## Page 25 - QON 7 – Cooper Island Issue - DPHI

**The CHAIR:** Shortly? Okay, thank you. Can I go to some Crown land issues? I'm not going to go too deeply into the Cooper Island issue, because I know that's being handled. But I'm interested to understand what level of engagement you've had with NSW Fisheries on this matter. As you may be aware, we pay upwards of \$500,000 out of Recreational Fishing Trust money for access officers, so I'm interested to hear what level of engagement your department has had with those access officers, if any, around the Cooper Island issue particularly?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I might ask Mel to assist you with engagement.

**MELANIE HAWYES:** Yes, thanks, Minister. This was raised with us in response to a change in the situation down there whereby people began using a Crown causeway for recreational fishing. The local council and police raised concerns with us about shared access of what is quite a narrow strip of causeway which is used by a landowner to access his residence and business. Our involvement has really been around safety of access and egress and making sure that there's an ability for people to share that space. We are engaging in discussions now with council, the police, the landowner and local interests, but I'm more than happy to engage with Fisheries if you think that that's appropriate.

**The CHAIR:** I'm asking whether they've actually engaged with you. As I said, we pay their salaries out of our trust fund to manage and secure access, and protect assets.

**MELANIE HAWYES:** Yes, and they may very well have at the local level. I can take on notice who exactly is talking with who. But, just to be clear, our involvement here is as the landowner from the point of view of safety—community and public safety—using that strip of land, and to prevent conflict of use.

**The CHAIR:** Yes, sure. More broadly on this point, obviously your department deals with a lot of Crown land road issues and Aboriginal land claims. One of the projects that has been funded from the trust fund to the tune of \$150,000 is to review high volume of Crown Lands road closures, Aboriginal land claims and other public land disposals to secure angler access for the future. It seems like the Fisheries department is taking the money of our trust funds to do your job because it seems like that's your role, to manage Crown land closures and—

**MELANIE HAWYES:** I can't really speak for another department, but I'm happy to go and talk to them about their remit versus ours.

**The CHAIR:** This was a project that was put to a trust fund committee to agree or not agree with that expenditure. Were you consulted by Fisheries as to the appropriateness of this project?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** Down to the level of funded projects, I'll have to take on notice the local consultation that's occurred. I personally haven't discussed it with the head of Fisheries, but there may very well have been local connections and discussions around projects that have been funded by our colleagues in Fisheries.

**The CHAIR:** This seems broad; it's not just a local area. It seems like this will cover the whole State in terms of inland waters, so I would imagine it wouldn't be handled by a local decision.

**MELANIE HAWYES:** So you are talking about a funded project?

**The CHAIR:** This is a funded project to look at access on Crown lands and Aboriginal land claims across the whole State relating to inland water access, and it seems like it's clearly crossing into your remit of work.

**MELANIE HAWYES:** Yes.

**The CHAIR:** And it seems like they haven't consulted you on it.

**MELANIE HAWYES:** No, I didn't say that. I said I'd take on notice the detail of that consultation.

**The CHAIR:** Yes.

**MELANIE HAWYES:** It may very well be that my executive director is liaising with his counterpart on that topic. We are involved in a number of cross-disciplinary committees across the sector looking at land use access—for example, with Transport and with other agencies. I'm not across the detail of this particular project, but I'm more than happy to take it on notice.

### Answer:

I am advised: Crown Lands regional staff met with DPI Fisheries regional staff on 22 January 2024. Crown Lands staff informed DPI Fisheries staff of the safety issues present at Coopers Island causeway and that Crown Lands had installed signage restricting access.

Crown Lands regional staff have had ongoing communication with DPI Fisheries staff to keep them informed of actions and issues at Coopers Island.

#### Road Closures

When assessing an application to purchase a Crown road, Crown Lands will identify all parties that may hold existing or future interests in the land subject to the application. DPI Fisheries is referenced authority for any proposed Crown road disposals that may affect waterways or recreational fishers.

#### Aboriginal Land Claims

DPI Fisheries also provides information of use to Crown Lands in relation to Aboriginal Land Claim Assessments on a case by case basis.

#### DPI Fisheries role

DPI Fisheries and Crown Lands met on several occasions in 2012 to discuss the process for DPI Fisheries to be notified, and object if required, to a Crown road being disposed of or closed. Crown Lands understand that a role was subsequently established within DPI to review and comment on any potential impacts the proposed disposal may have on recreational fishers.

### **Page 27 - QON 8 – Small business visit**

**The Hon. WES FANG:** All right. That's the answer. Stakeholders have stated they find it difficult to get a meeting with you to discuss pertinent issues around small business—things like workers comp, insurance, payroll tax, electricity costs, skills et cetera. Before the election, the Minister for Small Business and the Premier stated that a Labor government will prioritise small business and financial support. Minister, when was the last time you visited a small business?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I visit small businesses regularly. I communicate with small businesses regularly.

**The Hon. WES FANG:** When was the last time?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** My whole life was around small business community.

**The Hon. WES FANG:** You're talking at me. You're not providing an answer. When was the last time you visited a small business?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I visited small business all time. I can't give you that. I'll take that on notice, when the last time was. Could've been this morning. Could've been last night. I'll think about it.

#### **Answer:**

I am advised: The last time I visited a small business prior to this question was on the evening before the Budget Estimates session (19th February 2024).

### Page 33 - QON 9 – Local defib

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Minister, will you be advocating for more funding and be changing the eligibility requirements for this program?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I'll be reviewing the program, definitely.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** And will you be reviewing the application of the program to certain postcodes?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I'll review the whole program and see what we can do better in the future.

**The Hon. WES FANG:** Do you commit to not making further cuts to the program?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I will take that on notice, in terms of what the cuts were and what the—I think it's detail that I haven't got in front of me.

#### Answer:

I am advised: The Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program was initially funded at \$1 million per annum over the four years from 2017 to 2021.

### Page 33 - QON 10 – Local Defib – Sport

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Minister, does it concern you that within the electorate of Leppington the Gregory Hills Football Club play in the 2577 postcode and they're ineligible, while the Eschol Park Football Club play in 2588, just seven minutes drive away, and that they're eligible?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I'll take that on notice and I'll provide you detail.

#### Answer:

I am advised: The Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program in 2023-24 used the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) to identify the areas of greatest financial need, by postcode. Deciles one to five were eligible. The use of postcodes is the most localised method available for identifying areas of need geographically, using the most reliable source of the data.

### Page 35 - QON 11 – Pay equity. Department took on notice - Sport

**Dr AMANDA COHN:** Acknowledging that there's an indirect link between many of those initiatives and pay equity, is the office or the Ministry doing any work to actually track the impact of those programs on pay equity?

**KAREN JONES:** Yes, absolutely. As part of this funding that's provided to sporting organisations, there is an acquittal process where they will actually have to demonstrate to us how they've complied with our requirements as well as their own women in sport strategies as well.

**Dr AMANDA COHN:** To be more specific, is there any tracking on pay equity, noting that for some of those grants, for example, it's about participation?

**KAREN JONES:** I'll have to take that on notice as to whether or not we're specifically tracking that.

#### Answer:

I am advised: The Office of Sport monitors new pay deals for female athletes, noting that this usually relates to professional sport which is run by National Sporting Organisations and rates of pay in sport are also often governed by multi-year Collective Bargaining Agreements struck between the sporting organisations and player associations.

### Page 36 - QON 12 – Indigenous Land Use Agreements – DPHI.

**The Hon. TANIA MIHAILUK:** Minister, can I just ask you some questions about the Crown Land Management Act, which you have carriage over? How many Indigenous land use agreements have you signed off on in your time as Minister?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I would have to take that on notice. I don't have those numbers in front of me right now.

#### Answer:

I am advised: No Indigenous Land Use Agreements have been signed off during this period.

### Page 37 - QON 13 – Aboriginal land claim assessors - DPHI

**The Hon. TANIA MIHAILUK:** Minister, how many staff in your department are involved in administering this Act as it relates to Aboriginal land claims?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** There are 15 assessors. I think we're increasing—

**MELANIE HAWYES:** We did.

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** We have increased it recently.

**The Hon. TANIA MIHAILUK:** So there are 15 assessors?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** Yes.

**The Hon. TANIA MIHAILUK:** How many of those are Aboriginal or identify as Aboriginal?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I wouldn't have that number in my head. We can take that on notice.

**MELANIE HAWYES:** We can take it on notice. Obviously, it's up to somebody to identify that they're Aboriginal but, if you want to know how many of the assessment team are Aboriginal, we can take that on notice.

#### Answer:

I am advised: Please refer to the answer provided on page 77 of the transcript.

### Page 41 - QON 14 – Unite Round

**The Hon. WES FANG:** Great, thanks Minister. Do you consider the A-Leagues Unite Round to have been a success?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I think the A-Leagues Unite Round was—it's the first time we've done that and it was a great concept. You determine success over a period of time, and I think—

**The Hon. WES FANG:** Did you attend any of the matches, Minister?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** No, I was away at the time. I couldn't attend. I would have loved to have attended, to be honest with you.

**The Hon. WES FANG:** Do you know what the attendance figure was?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** No, I'm not across the attendance figures. We'll take that on notice.

#### Answer:

I am advised: The responsibility for the Unite Round is held by the Minister for Jobs and Tourism.

### Page 42 - QON 15 – Gema Group – MO

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Okay, we might ask Minister Graham those questions when he comes up later on—or one of our colleagues will. Minister, of course, there has been a changeover from VenuesLive to Venues NSW. Can you explain what has taken place with VenuesLive at Accor and CommBank stadiums and their management?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** Yes. I think this is—what I might do is I might pass on to Kerrie to give us some greater detail on what the difference is and why we went down the path—

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Minister, I'll ask, while Ms Mather is coming—

**KAREN JONES:** Sorry, while Kerrie is making her way up to the table, we just might need to confirm if Kerrie needs to be sworn in.

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** Have you been sworn in, Kerrie?

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** While that's arranged, I'll ask you, Minister, why did you decide not to issue a media release or statement with respect to the New South Wales Government regarding the change?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I thought we did—I'll stand to be corrected. I thought that there was.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Will you take that on notice then?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** Yes, I'll take it on notice.

#### Answer:

I am advised: Information was provided to the media regarding the change on 9 November 2023.

## Page 42/43 - QON 16 – Redundancy – Venues NSW.

**KERRIE MATHER:** Thank you, Minister. The contract that you're referring to expired on 31 December last year. As a result of that, the food and beverage, which was the largest part of that operation, was retendered, so there was an extensive procurement process that was conducted last year. The winner of that tender was the Gema Group, who are actually a Western Sydney business. What we were excited about with their resulting bid was they're actually bringing the best of Western Sydney's diverse culinary culture to both Accor Stadium and CommBank Stadium. Is there anything else you need to—

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** No, I think that's fine from you, Ms Mather. Minister Kamper, was any financial feasibility study undertaken before the decision was made?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** Absolutely. It was an important decision, and one that would—I'm not sure how much we can talk about—

**KERRIE MATHER:** What was the question?

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PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 4 - REGIONAL NSW

Tuesday 20 February 2024

Legislative Council

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**UNCORRECTED**

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** Was any financial feasibility done in relation to this—

**KERRIE MATHER:** Yes.

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** —and there was. A decision has been made in and around the best potential model moving forward.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** How many jobs were lost as part of the change?

**KERRIE MATHER:** I'll answer that, Minister. The new catering provider, Gema Group, actually took all of the catering staff, and all of the operational staff were offered continuing employment. About 80 per cent of them took up those jobs. And then there were a handful of senior management, or duplicated senior management, positions and some duplicated back office administrative roles that didn't continue, and a number of those continued with the existing organisation.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Thank you, Ms Mather. How much in redundancy was paid out to employees as part of this change?

**KERRIE MATHER:** I would have to take that question on notice.

### Answer:

I am advised: \$1.1 million.

## Page 50 - QON 17 – Contaminated land equestrian - Sport

**The Hon. MARK LATHAM:** There you are. They're homeless and groundless and got no interest in sport. They're only interested in underground cables. Finally, what recommendations of the outstanding Mookhey public works committee report into the contaminated land at SIEC, Horsley Park? An Equestrian NSW grant had been implemented, which had been rejected, and why was there any rejection?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I might pass that over to Karen.

**KAREN JONES:** Thank you, Minister. I think, out of fairness, that report was handed down before the Minister came into government.

**The Hon. MARK LATHAM:** Yes, but it's a good report.

**KAREN JONES:** Yes, and thank you for your input into that report.

**The Hon. MARK LATHAM:** You're welcome.

**KAREN JONES:** From the Office of Sport's perspective, yes, we did respond to the recommendations from that committee and we have been implementing the recommendations. In terms of the status of those recommendations and the implementation, I'm happy to take that on notice and I'll provide that information to you.

### Answer:

I am advised: The NSW Government provided a response to the Committee's recommendations tabled in Parliament on 16 December 2022.

In relation to the Office of Sport recommendations these have been completed.

## Page 51 - QON 18 – CMCT

**Ms CATE FAEHRMANN:** So the Auditor-General meets with you, expresses her concern and what does she say to you—that the CMCT, let's use that acronym, is a State-controlled entity, the only one that's not opening its books; I told you how serious that was? What did she say—something to those effects, Minister?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I can't recall the conversation, but we agreed to disagree on a number of things. But by the same token she was quite familiar with our position in relation to cemeteries, moving forward. That's no secret. That's been quite open and—

**Ms CATE FAEHRMANN:** When you say agreed to disagree, you as the Minister for lands are disagreeing with the Auditor-General that this body, this State-controlled entity, needs to have its books audited by the Auditor-General. Is that what you were disagreeing with her about?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** No. No, I wasn't disagreeing with that. We understood that we had to look at changes moving forward until we can actually meet our audit requirements. Consequently, there's been a judicial finding in the Supreme Court.

**Ms CATE FAEHRMANN:** Which didn't help your cause.

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** What the—there's a hundred pages there to read through to see where—

**Ms CATE FAEHRMANN:** So you have read the letter, I assume, where she says that her office has not been provided with any access and then she said, "This situation has not been encountered previously, and should not be seen nor accepted as appropriate." She continues to say that conducting these financial and performance audits, as in rejecting that, should not be normalised nor considered appropriate. She's written very strong words to you, Minister, on 4 June and, I understand, again. What was your response to her with this?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I'll take on notice what my response was. I can't remember what I've written.

**Ms CATE FAEHRMANN:** Well, what's your view now? This is budget estimates.

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** My view now—I'm looking at where we are now—

**Ms CATE FAEHRMANN:** This is budget estimates, Minister.

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** —and there was a judgement on Friday that really changed it.

**Ms CATE FAEHRMANN:** Should the CMCT be opening its books to the auditor?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** The CMCT has their books audited every year.

**Ms CATE FAEHRMANN:** As a State-controlled entity—

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** It's a State-controlled entity.

**Ms CATE FAEHRMANN:** —not by the Auditor-General.

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** The definition and the status of the trust, that's all changed in many respects. Friday's outcome has probably supported the CMCT's position on this throughout the whole period. I think there's about 100-odd pages.

**MELANIE HAWYES:** The CMCT contests that it is a State-controlled entity and sought judicial advice. That came in on Friday, and we're working through that advice to understand how to take it forward. There is a contest here about the status of that entity, as to whether it is State controlled or whether it is in the control of a charity or trust.

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** If we would've moved forward with the two-operator model, part of the process would've been that we would've looked at an audit to comply with all of the requirements.

**Ms CATE FAEHRMANN:** So you didn't respond to the Auditor-General as the Minister responsible for the CMCT?

**Mr STEPHEN KAMPER:** I'll take that on notice. I can't recall.

**Answer:**

I am advised: In response to correspondence received from the Auditor-General, the Minister for Lands and Property met with the Auditor-General to discuss the matter.

The extent to which the judgment affects NSW Treasury's assessment of CMCT's status is a question for NSW Treasury.

## Page 57 – QON 19 – MNSW Grants

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Mr La Posta, while we're on grants—in the last budget estimates, we found out that the Safe Places for Faith Communities Program only had \$3 million allocated to it in this financial year. Following that hearing and when the funding round went live, it was increased to \$5 million. On the record and on behalf of the shadow Minister, I'd like to express our appreciation to you and Multicultural NSW—

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** That was a decision of the Minister, Mr Farlow, and the Government.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** —and, indeed, to the Minister, for listening to the Committee's calls for greater funding in this financial year. Are you able to advise what will now be available in the following financial years, noting they were previously \$4 million per year?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** The election commitment was 15 in totality—and we cleared that up at last budget estimates—of which we have made five available this year. Those applications have now closed. We've received over 266 applications in the safety and security round of funding.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** You've answered my next question—266.

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** Yes. Estimation in terms of over \$18 million of applications. It's a part of that. Our team needs to do a thorough and independent grant assessment of those entire 266 applications, work with colleagues right across the Government, and I'm very pleased and acknowledge the work of Michael Shaw from our community engagement team in working with the Premier's Department, New South Wales police, Public Works and a number of others to make sure it's a holistic decision that's made by government, to administer that grant program. We'll go through that process in the coming weeks, get a recommendation up to the Minister and probably have some reasonably honest conversations about whether there's any sort of flexibility in terms of that \$5 million to accommodate what has been a very, very popular grant program in these current difficult times.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Of those 266 that have applied, how many are to be successful under that \$5 million window?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** There's not a limit. My understanding is—again I'm happy to take the exact specifics on notice. It's between \$50,000 and \$250,000. Some applications have, no doubt, asked for a quarter of a million. Others have probably asked for \$50,000 for safety and security cameras and additional fencing and some of those things.

### Answer

I am advised: The grant amount available for applications is \$5,000 to a maximum of \$250,000, exclusive of GST.

Grant funding is provided as a one-off payment. The funding is non-recurrent. The project must be completed, and funds expended, by 30 June 2025.

The total grant program funding is \$15 million. In this funding round of the program, \$5 million is currently available.

## Page 57 – QON 20 – MNSW Grants

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** To continue on the grants message, are you able to advise how many organisations were supported through community grants programs?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** I can take the specifics of that on notice.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** You can take it on notice. That's fine.

### Answer

I am advised: In 2023-24, Multicultural NSW awarded 217 Stronger Together Community Grants.

## Page 58 – QON 21 – MNSW Grants

**The Hon. WES FANG:** Mr La Posta, were you provided with any disclosures, or notified of any conflicts of interest between any member of Parliament regarding any of the projects under the multicultural capital partnerships fund?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** I was not, but I don't know if that's necessarily unusual or unreasonable in the circumstances, if the Minister's already clearly stated that he didn't have any conflict.

**The Hon. WES FANG:** Not just that Minister, any member of Parliament.

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** No, Mr Fang.

**The Hon. WES FANG:** If you did not have this information, will Multicultural NSW seek to request this from the Minister or any related colleagues around any associations with any of the grants?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** I'm happy to take that on notice.

### Answer

I am advised: Ministers disclose any conflicts of interest to the Premier as required under the Ministerial Code of Conduct.

## Page 58 – QON 22 – MNSW Grants

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** While we're still on the multicultural capital partnerships fund, this was a fund that was outlined by the Government when it was in opposition, as you've rightly indicated. Have you got any information provided to you as part of the incoming briefs or the directives from the incoming Government with respect to the criteria that was used or the ranking system to determine these grants?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** Can I take the specifics of that on notice? I only say that because all election commitments that were made, that are now new Government priorities, were tracked through a central system and were effectively allocated to each of the responsible different departments. Ours is no different to, I'm sure, the Office of Sport and many other different departments right across government. Effectively, Mr Farlow, we're given our riding instructions that these are commitments that the new Government has made. It's our responsibility to ensure that the intention of those commitments is fulfilled. With regards to the specifics on what direction was provided or so forth, I'm happy to take those on notice but, effectively, if the Government's made an election commitment to a community and that is clearly tracked through the election commitment processes and then allocated to our agency to deliver, it's our responsibility to make sure that that is delivered and that it demonstrates good value for the taxpayer and so forth.

### Answer

I am advised: Projects were allocated to Multicultural NSW to deliver under the incoming government priorities. Multicultural NSW developed individual funding agreements with each grant recipient to deliver the capital projects.

## Page 59 – QON 23 – MNSW Grants

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** In the Opposition's PBO costings, it was referenced that organisations receiving funding would be required to sign an MOU with the Government in the delivery of public outreach programs upon completion of these capital works projects. Has that been completed?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** We're still working through those at the moment. That's a good example where some of the assets—and we've had this conversation with a number of groups, including, for example, the Melkite Catholic Eparchy in Guildford, where they're looking to—

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** I know it well.

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** You do. I think we've been out there together.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** We may have.

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** The reality is that they're building an educational aspect, a community facility. Part of that community facility isn't exclusive to the Melkite community; it's about supporting a lot of the neighbouring communities that are there. I tip my lid to those established faith communities for doing that work. I draw reference to my own heritage. The Italian community, which were the newcomers in the '50s and '60s, are now incredibly established. I think it's incumbent upon those established communities to help support our new and emerging communities as well, particularly those that are facing disadvantage or finding it harder to get there. That Melkite project is a great example of that. We're still working through a lot of the MOUs for those use agreements, and our intention will be that all of the programs that we partner with do have community and public access as a part of what they're doing.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** How long will those agreements last for?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** I will take the specifics of that on notice.

### Answer

I am advised: The funding agreements will be up to four years in duration.

## Page 60 – QON 24 – MNSW COMPLAN

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Thank you, Mr La Posta, in terms of COMPLAN, how many times have the members met since October 2023?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** Good question. Give me a moment. I'm happy to take that on notice and come back to you in a little bit.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Sure. Resilience NSW was a member of COMPLAN. Has any other agency or representative filled this position?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** The membership of COMPLAN at the moment, and I've been in my role now about five years, is probably as impactful and as—it's probably the most serious, I reckon, the Government's ever taken that forum, which is, I think, testament to the recognition and weighting that the Minister and partners such as the Premier's Department and others have put on that forum. As an example, the Secretary of the Premier's Department actually attended one of our recent COMPLAN forums and really set a strong tone for why he thought this forum was very valuable, and we've continued to run those forums on a regular basis. In terms of the exact number, I'm happy to take that on notice, and I am reliably informed that the Reconstruction Authority are now active members, replacing Resilience NSW.

### Answer:

I am advised: A COMPLAN Notification was issued on 9 October 2023.

COMPLAN Committee meetings were convened on 13 October and 2 November 2023.

A workshop with COMPLAN Committee members was held on 21 November 2023.

The next COMPLAN Committee meeting is scheduled for 7 March 2024.

The NSW Reconstruction Authority is a COMPLAN member, replacing the former Resilience NSW.

## Page 61/62 – QON 25 – MNSW Harmony Dinner

The CHAIR: Just back to you, Mr La Posta, about Harmony Dinner.

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** Yes.

**The CHAIR:** Full disclosure, I have paid for a ticket. I'm not one of those free-loading politicians that get a freebie. I have just had concerns represented to me from community members about the costs and how it is out of reach for some of these smaller community organisations. I note there are corporate packages and other sponsorships. Is any thought being given to how we involve some of those smaller groups in this event?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** Love it. Two things: One, there was a moment on our website when we communicated—and this is just for complete transparency, if anyone's made representations to anyone around the

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table—corporate packages of tables are still available. The minute that I was made aware of that by one of our community organisations, we took that down and made more community tables available. It is the largest multicultural dinner in the country, which is something that New South Wales should be incredibly proud of, that we and the Premier and the Minister play host to that.

In terms of the event itself, for those that are involved in any events, you'll know that event running and management costs have escalated considerably in the last four to five years. It costs us roughly—and, again, this is just being completely transparent with you—\$400 a seat to sit each of the community members on there through the sponsorship of people like Cassandra, the Business Bureau, DCJ, the Commonwealth Bank, and Settlement Services International. I could go on and on. We have received over \$205,000 of commercial support for that event. Every single dollar that is put in by those commercial partners goes to offsetting the cost of that dinner. The cheapest ticket around the table is about \$100 that we sell to our community language schools. Our community tables are \$125 a seat, and our corporate tables offset those community things. Would I love to make them free? Absolutely. Would I love there to be less comps for some of our politicians right across the board so that we can have more community people? Yes, absolutely. But it's also a balance in terms of having the right level of political leadership and others sitting around the table with our community groups.

**The Hon. WES FANG:** Tell Kamper to buy his own ticket.

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** It costs us roughly \$400, and we offset that by charging somewhere between \$100 and \$125 a ticket to community groups.

**The CHAIR:** Not that it's always about making a profit, but are we at least breaking even or are we running at a loss?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** This is part of, as Mr Farlow asked before, around our budget position going forward. There is a small investment that the Government needs to make. My aspiration is that we continue to deliver commercial support so that it's cost neutral, but it's a very modest cost after ticket sales, corporate sponsorship and those sorts of things.

**The CHAIR:** On notice, could you give perhaps an indication as to what that cost is approximately?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** Yes, and my team will be very proud because—I love telling everyone it's cost neutral, and I've owned the fact that, this year, it's slightly below, and that's again, if you look at venue hire costs and food-and-beverage costs—

**The CHAIR:** Everything's gone up.

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** Yes. We're doing our best. But, yes, I'll take it on notice.

### Answer

I am advised: It costs Multicultural NSW approximately \$400 per person for community members to attend the Harmony Dinner.

The cost is offset through sponsorship so tickets are sold at:

- standard ticket is \$220 +GST
- community tickets are \$135 +GST
- Federation of Community Language Schools tickets are \$115 including GST.

#### Page 66 – QON 26 – DPHI Land Audit

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** In terms of this and the development of the land, we had the question to the Minister before in terms of the potential. A decision hasn't been made in terms of the potential private sale of that land for development. Is there any investigation which has been undertaken in terms of alternative uses—for instance, that the Government would hold the land on a 99-year lease or the like and have a private developer? Has there been any assessment on that?

**LEON WALKER:** No. That would be unique to the specific site, but there hasn't been any determinations at this time.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** In terms of the land audit as well and making use of the land, what government delivery agencies for housing and other infrastructure are consulted as part of this process?

**LEON WALKER:** It's absolutely subject to the site. It depends who the government landowner is. This is not done independent of them, obviously. Then there's two whole-of-government committees that assist us with this process. There's the LAWG that's been referred to that has the housing delivery agencies.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** So that's Landcom, now Homes NSW.

**LEON WALKER:** Yes, for the Land and Housing Corporation and Aboriginal Housing Office. I think it has the Cabinet Office and Treasury on there as well, but let me take that on notice and I'll confirm. There's also a group called—and it needs a better name—Property, Strategy, Collaboration Committee.

#### Answer:

I am advised: Please refer to the answer provided on page 68 of the transcript.

#### Page 67 – QON 27 – DPHI Land Audit

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** When it comes to the engagement with government agencies, you've got the big beasts, so to speak, when it comes to Health, Education and the like. Are there any recalcitrant agencies, so to speak? Have you had good cooperation from all agencies with respect to the audit?

**LEON WALKER:** I guess what has been—I don't know the right way to put it but, previously, government policies in this general space have only been relevant to general government agencies and so State-owned corporations have been excluded from government policies in regard to land use. Under the Premier's directive last year, SOCs and PTEs are required to participate in this process.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** And they've all been cooperative in that participation?

**LEON WALKER:** I'd say we've gone through a learning process, but they've been generally cooperative.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** That's very diplomatic of you, Mr Walker. In terms of that 300 that you've identified for due diligence, are there any that come from a SOC at present?

**LEON WALKER:** I'd have to take that on notice.

#### Answer:

I am advised: Please refer to the answer provided on page 76 of the transcript.

## Page 67/68 – QON 28 – DPHI Land IQ

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** When was Land iQ first used by the department?

**LEON WALKER:** I think we launched it—it wouldn't have been last financial year but the year before. I can confirm that.

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**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Thank you, if you can take that on notice. When did the department first investigate using Land iQ for this process?

**LEON WALKER:** It was just—

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** A given from the beginning?

**LEON WALKER:** Yes, just a given.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** With respect to "for the first time, this takes full advantage of the Government's own data", what data does Land iQ use and what's the amalgamation of data that you are feeding into the program?

**LEON WALKER:** I'll take it on notice. I can describe the types of things but let me provide you a list on notice.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** With respect to the land audit data, where is that information being held and what sort of program are you using to compile that data and the results?

**LEON WALKER:** That's another technical question, but I'll take it on notice. It is being drawn from other government databases, so Planning. There is a whole range of government—

### Answer:

I am advised: Please refer to the answer provided on page 76 and 77 of the transcript.

## Page 69 – QON 29 – DPHI Walka Water Works

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Thank you. Going to the Hunter, actually, in this regard—and I think this is more for Ms Hawyes than it is for you, Mr Walker—Crown Lands is the owner of historical Walka Water Works, which has been largely fenced off over the last 18 months due to asbestos contamination, including the southern lawn, which is a play area for families. How much money has the New South Wales Government allocated towards the decontamination of the south lawn of Walka Water Works?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** Thank you. Just bear with me. We have collectively committed several hundred thousand. It's being done in stages, and I'll probably take on notice each stage to give you the full projection. Crown Lands has provided a letter of support confirming \$1.5 million in funding and co-contribution for these works, and that includes \$835,000 in the last financial year, with \$665,000 provided this financial year. But there are further projections out to completely remediate the site.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** When do you expect that to be completed?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** I don't have a date for now because, as we go along, it can become more complex in terms of the remediation and the works that are required. But I can take on notice the current sort of thinking as to the tranches of work we're contemplating.

### Answer:

I am advised: Council is managing the asbestos remediation project and Crown Lands is supporting Council and providing staged funding assistance.

In mid-2022, Crown Lands provided \$557,240.59 (ex GST) to undertake sampling and assessment works over the site in order to develop a remediation action plan. This includes the southern lawn area.

In early 2023, Crown Lands approved \$153,636.36 (ex GST) funding for interim controls to assist the reopening the reserve to the public. Works included fencing and gates around the site to exclude the public from areas that were yet to be remediated, and capping works to enable safe access to the

existing amenities building (in the southern lawn area) and access from the carpark through to the reservoir wall to enable the parkrun to re-commence.

In mid-2023, Crown Lands provided \$835,000 (ex-GST) to undertake remediation design over the site, complete remediation works of the Eastern Pumphouse Lawn and commence carpark remediation works.

Crown Lands funding of \$665,000 (ex-GST) is proposed to be issued to Council by mid-2024 to finalise the carpark remediation works and ready the site for future activation.

The work is being completed in stages due to the nature of the site, reports required, environmental planning approvals and funding requirements. It is estimated that it will take several years to complete remediation works.

## Page 69 – QON 30 – DPHI Old Maitland Hospital

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** With respect to Old Maitland Hospital, what's the progress in terms of the preparations of that site?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** I'd probably need to take that on notice. I think that's actually not in the Walka remit.

### Answer:

I am advised: Refer to the answer provided on page 69 of the transcript.

## Page 70/71 – QON 31 – MNSW GROW

**The Hon. EMMA HURST:** What kind of work have people been able to secure in the Murray and Riverina regions as part of this program?

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**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** I've had to check my bias a little bit. I thought this would have been more people leaving Western Sydney. The essence of GROW, for those who aren't aware—it's Growing Regions of Welcome, the acronym being GROW. It's a bit better than the acronym I heard earlier. That's all right; it's not competitive. But it's effectively about getting these regional communities to be welcoming towns, welcoming cities and welcoming regions for these new refugees that are experiencing what we call resettlement. They will settle in Fairfield, Liverpool, Cumberland or wherever, and then they'll find that, yes, it's great to have their network, their community, their language and the shops, but employment is really tricky.

What we've been doing is working with Wagga, Leeton, Griffith, Walla Walla and Albury to help them be as best prepared as they can for supporting these new refugees to help them settle into these regional areas. Obviously housing is a key consideration, and education. I thought you would see a larger influx of primary manufacturing and agriculture, but we have actually seen, really pleasingly, doctors and lawyers—those sorts of really professional practitioners. I think we're now up to 25 individuals and their families that have moved from the city into that regional area. Again, it's not about the total number of people; it's more around setting up a pilot to take some learnings to then inform the hundreds of millions of dollars that the Commonwealth Government and the millions of dollars that the State Government invests in trying to support our refugee communities settle.

**The Hon. EMMA HURST:** Given that this was originally a three-year pilot, I assume it's coming to an end in June 2024?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** Yes.

**The Hon. EMMA HURST:** What are the plans in terms of the future of this program? Will there be an evaluation? Will it be extended?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** We are evaluating the program. It coincides with the completion of the contract of our coordinator general of settlement, Professor Peter Shergold. He is away at the moment. My intention is to have discussions with him about continuing in that role—fingers crossed—and also what we will be looking at once the evaluation is completed, and then working with other parts of government to inform them of what the findings of that pilot have been to either shift their existing funding models, or it will be a part of our NSW Settlement Strategy that the Minister has endorsed to help get the New South Wales Government more focused on doing more in this space.

**The Hon. EMMA HURST:** How much funding has the pilot program received since June 2021?

**JOSEPH LA POSTA:** It was \$3 million, very kindly, from Training Services NSW. There would be a significant amount of in-kind labour from our team as well that would sit on top of that. I can take the exact specifics, but roughly about a \$3 million pilot.

### Answer

I am advised: Training Services NSW committed \$3 million to Multicultural NSW to deliver a regional resettlement pilot program in two regional sites and one western Sydney site over three years.

Program timeframes have been adjusted as a result of challenges arising from COVID-19. Multicultural NSW has commissioned an independent evaluation to assess the value of place-based investment and the social and economic benefits of regional resettlement. The evaluation will deliver insights into the impact of the GROW Model on the longer-term goals of place-based planning and regional resettlement.

### Page 72 – QON 32 – DPHI Land Audit

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** Heading back to the land audit stuff, you've got Land iQ and all these tools, but how are you storing the data? Is it per property in terms of its suitability and having run it through the matrix, or is it stored across various platforms?

**LEON WALKER:** The source information resides in the home platforms, the Land iQ tool just pulls it from that source. I will take it on notice and give you a more fulsome answer if you would like. But when they do the analysis of property, that obviously generates its own report.

#### Answer:

I am advised: Please refer to the answer provided on page 76 and 77 of the transcript.

### Page 72 – QON 33 – DPHI Land Audit

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** Just going back to the eTendering portal, does anybody here have any oversight of the eTendering portal?

**KIERSTEN FISHBURN:** Obviously, I have full oversight in my own department, but I could not answer a single question on it, I'm afraid. I would have to take it on notice.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** Okay, if you could. My understanding is that there are no current or active tenders at the moment—

**KIERSTEN FISHBURN:** For what?

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** Tenders for any particular projects through the eTendering portal. I am looking to know whether there are any plans, tenders or expressions of interest through that eTender portal, and whether there is any process or any ambition for any greater transparency around that, or is it a defunct function?

**KIERSTEN FISHBURN:** We follow all our reporting requirements for tenders, which I believe is over 50,000. I am just looking at my other colleagues. Greg has it. We publish all of those, as we are required to do so.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** In terms of any acquisitions that the agency might have—

**LEON WALKER:** Are you saying property acquisitions?

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** Yes.

**LEON WALKER:** Again, we will take it on notice, but if it meets the requirements under New South Wales Government procurement guidelines it would have to be disclosed. But that might not be us. If it is Health, for example, buying properties for new ambulance stations, they would be the ones reporting, not Property and Development NSW.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** As far as I could see just looking, I can't see any current or active acquisitions. Is that your understanding?

**LEON WALKER:** Yes. We don't acquire a lot of property. We deal with the property that we've got because, as I've said, we are a fairly substantial landowner already.

**KIERSTEN FISHBURN:** Can I take that one on notice? We might want to return to that in Mr Scully's session as the Minister responsible for the Office of Strategic Lands, which is the main land purchaser for the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** Thank you.

**KIERSTEN FISHBURN:** We'll take that on notice and return at that particular session, if that's useful.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** Yes. Thank you. Other than the threatened ecological communities, what other assessment criteria in the environment group has been activated for the purpose of the audit?

**LEON WALKER:** Can I take that on notice?

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** Sure. Out of the 4,300 properties, how many of the assessed lots failed to get to the 300 due to concerns about the environment? Is that something—

**LEON WALKER:** I'd have to take that on notice as well.

#### Answer:

I am advised: Details identifying individual lots as part of the Land Audit are Cabinet in Confidence.

## Page 73 – QON 34 – DPHI

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** All right. Thank you. On that, I've got a few questions in that stream looking for specific answers. One is: How many sites had greater than 50 per cent of those threatened ecological communities by area? Is that something you could take on notice too?

**LEON WALKER:** We'll take it on notice.

**KIERSTEN FISHBURN:** We'd have to take that on notice. It's a multi-criteria assessment process.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** Hence why I was asking about the data and how all of this is being stored.

**KIERSTEN FISHBURN:** I understand. Obviously, you would be looking—the residual zoning would have a material impact, particularly in relationship to biodiversity and conservation. We can take that on notice. I just suspect the answer is not as simple as 50 of them were knocked out.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** So the difficulty I see with that—and I understand what you're saying, and I appreciate that—we've got areas all over the place that have chosen not to zone lands as a bit counterintuitive, as one would have thought. You'd sort of go, "Oh, that's threatened ecological communities. Therefore, they would be zoned conservation." But they're not because there's been a decision.

**KIERSTEN FISHBURN:** No. There is a significant portion of unzoned land. Correct.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** Yes. Okay. I have just got a bunch of those questions. Perhaps I can submit those as supplementaries.

**KIERSTEN FISHBURN:** I think we'd need to mine into the data a bit to answer them, so we'd just have to take them on notice for the purposes of today. If you wish to submit them, we're happy to come back as supplementary questions.

**Answer:**

I am advised: Details identifying individual lots as part of the Land Audit are Cabinet in Confidence.

## Page 73 – QON 35 – DPHI

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** Has the PSCC given any feedback on sites that have conservation value that they have recommended should be set aside for conservation purposes?

**LEON WALKER:** No. It would be more the land working group. I'd have to take that on notice. It's probably more likely the recommendation would go to them suggesting that it's not appropriate because of the reason, rather than it working the other way round.

**Answer:**

I am advised: The Land Audit has been established with criteria to identify NSW Government land that is the most suitable for housing. The audit will also aim to deliver land for supporting amenities, including greenspace. Whilst land for other uses may be identified, we have not tabled any sites to the PSCC for conservation purposes. If sites are knocked out of the consideration for housing due to environmental constraints, they do not proceed any further in the process.

## Page 74 – QON 36 – DPHI

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** So in terms of cultural heritage, you're saying that those matters wouldn't just be left to an environmental planning and assessment process, as Ms Fishburn identified. They're things that you would—how would you do that? How would you identify whether somewhere is culturally significant? Is it just reference to the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System register?

**LEON WALKER:** Let me take it on notice to give you an accurate answer. Quite specific due diligence is done in respect of the site and, as I said, it covers off multiple areas. Let me come back to you.

**KIERSTEN FISHBURN:** Can I stress, though—because I think it's important to stress—even having done the land audit work, that doesn't void out the need to consider these things as part of a property development assessment as well. That doesn't take away any of the requirements that you would do for a normal DA or planning proposal.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** No, I realise that. For the purpose of those 300, though, are we suggesting that there could still be significant cultural heritage sites or areas of significance that would need further assessment?

**LEON WALKER:** I believe not because it would come up through the due diligence, but let's take it on notice and I'll confirm.

**Answer:**

I am advised: Please refer to the answer provided on page 76 of the transcript.

### Page 75 – QON 37 – DCS Engineered stone

**The Hon. WES FANG:** Has there been any discussion around the cost and method of disposal of any stock around engineered stone? Has the Minister sought to minimise the input costs and output costs for small businesses that are impacted by any work that is done in the engineered stone space?

**CASSANDRA GIBBENS:** I'm not aware, but I can take that on notice.

**Answer:**

I am advised: The Minister for Work Health and Safety and SafeWork NSW are leading the NSW Government response to the prohibition on engineered stone.

This question should be directed to the Minister for Work Health and Safety.

### Page 77 – QON 38 – Venues Accor Memberships

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Has the NRL made any representations to Venues NSW about clubs exiting Accor and going to other stadiums in the Venues NSW network?

**KERRIE MATHER:** Not to my knowledge.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Do you know what percentage of Souths' attendance is made up by Accor Stadium members?

**KERRIE MATHER:** I'd have to get back to you. It varies depending on the rivalries that are playing.

**Answer:**

I am advised: 8%.

### Page 77 – QON 39 – Venues Accor Memberships

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** So you will take that on notice. Similarly, are you aware of what percentage of Bulldogs' attendance is made up by Accor Stadium members?

**KERRIE MATHER:** I will have to get back to you on that one too.

**Answer:**

I am advised: 7%.

### Page 78 – QON 40 – OoS Perth Motorplex

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Thank you. I think that is all I have for Ms Mather, but I will hold until the Chair returns and see if any other members have any other questions for you. Now back to the Office of Sport, Ms Jones, just turning to the speedway again. Is the Office of Sport aware of the arrangements put in place by the Western Australian Government concerning the Perth Motorplex in June of 2016, where VenuesWest managed the facility until a new operator was put in place?

**KAREN JONES:** At a very high level, probably just to the extent that you've just mentioned, I was aware of that. But, if you've got any specific questions around the comparison between that operating model and this operating model, I would suggest that we'll take those questions on notice.

**Answer:**

N/A

### Page 79 – QON 41 – OoS Speedway

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Did Western Sydney International Dragway attempt to apply for permits for the speedway as well?

**KAREN JONES:** I'll come back to you on that.

**The Hon. WES FANG:** Taking it on notice?

**KAREN JONES:** I'll try and come back to you in the session.

**Answer:**

I am advised: Western Sydney International Dragway (WSID) applied for a licence on 19 October 2023, however due to the application being incomplete it did not progress.

### Page 79 – QON 42 – OoS Speedway

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Are you aware whether the speedway has public liability insurance?

**KAREN JONES:** I'll take that on notice.

**Answer:**

I am advised: Please refer to the answer provided on page 97 and 98 of the transcript.

### Page 79 – QON 43 – OoS Speedway

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** As part of that licence being granted, would a permit from the Office of Sport be required in order to gain such insurance? Do you know that?

**KAREN JONES:** I'll see if I can get back to you in the session as well on that one.

**Answer:**

I am advised: Proof of public liability insurance has to be provided for the licence to be granted.

### Page 80 – QON 44 – OoS Wollongong Kart Raceway

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** You indicated before with respect to the Wollongong Kart Raceway that that licence ended. Were there any concerns with respect to that licence before it came to its natural expiry?

**KAREN JONES:** We were aware of some concerns in terms of the operation of that facility—in particular, some race meetings at that facility—but it did not result in the licence being cancelled.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** What was the time period when those concerns were expressed?

**KAREN JONES:** Again, I'll get back to you in terms of those dates.

**Answer:**

I am advised: Please refer to the answer provided on page 97 and 98 of the transcript.

### Page 81 – QON 45 – Valuation NSW

**The Hon. EMMA HURST:** In relation to the related party transactions between family members, which may not be for market value and could therefore skew the market, the letter that I have provided for you points out that many family members do not have the same last name or may have a similar last name to someone completely unrelated to them, so I'm not quite sure that making this data available helps identify related party transactions. I'm wondering if you can elaborate on your position on this.

**STEWART McLACHLAN:** I can certainly take it on notice for a detailed position, but I think that in the large proportion of transactions the surnames are similar in nature and certainly are—obviously, there are different surnames if you take your wife's, husband's or partner's surname in a marriage. I'm aware of that. But I would need to take it on notice to provide you a falsome answer.

**The Hon. EMMA HURST:** If you could, that would be great, thank you. I'm wondering why there doesn't seem to be the same concern about the skewing of the market or problems in the mortgage market in the States and Territories that don't provide personal information as part of bulk datasets in the way that New South Wales does?

**STEWART McLACHLAN:** I certainly can't speak to what, as I said, jurisdictions that aren't at the same scale as New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia do. I can't comment on how they operate in those spaces.

**The Hon. EMMA HURST:** Is it something that will be looked into further—that is, how other States are managing to avoid any market issues despite not supplying this bulk data?

**STEWART McLACHLAN:** Yes. As I said in the previous estimates and following discussions with the Valuer General, the approach that we have taken is after weighing up all the considerations and that's both the need of industry and the need of the privacy protections afforded to individuals. We believe that we've achieved a very balanced approach. Certainly, the concerns raised by the New South Wales privacy commissioner have been satisfied or addressed in correspondence received from that office. And, obviously, we received advice in the development of those agreements that not only meet the test of the relevant Acts but, in our view, are very much enhanced from the position that was previously in place.

**Answer:**

I am advised: Please refer to the answer provided on page 85 of the transcript.

## Page 82 – QON 46 – Valuation NSW

**The Hon. EMMA HURST:** If the investigations from Queensland and Western Australia lead to some change within those States, will that influence where New South Wales sits on this issue?

**STEWART McLACHLAN:** That would be something I would need to have discussions with the Valuer General on. Obviously, it's really important to recognise that this is a function that's afforded to the Valuer General as an independent statutory officer; it's not a function of government per se. It's something that I would need to take on notice to discuss with her, but it's probably also, with respect, Ms Hurst, something that should be raised through the Joint Standing Committee on the Office of the Valuer General. These concerns were first raised through that committee in 2022. That committee wrote to the privacy commissioner, who then wrote and has corresponded on many occasions with the Valuer General and has, most recently in the last three months, written in relation to the steps that Valuation NSW and the Valuer General have taken and expressed that they satisfy those concerns.

### Answer:

I am advised: As outlined during budget estimates, the Valuer Generals from across Australia routinely meet. Where issues are identified by other Valuer Generals that intersect with the NSW Valuer General role and functions, these would be appropriately reviewed and actioned where and if necessary.

For any further information in relation to the Valuer General's meetings or forums, these should be directed through the Joint Standing Committee on the Office of the Valuer General.

## Page 82/83 – QON 47 – DPHI Land transfer

**The CHAIR:** While Ms Higginson is checking, I might start with some questions, and then we'll make a decision on the rest in a minute. Ms Hawyces, I have a question regarding some property that has been reportedly transferred from Crown Lands to Maritime. During last estimates I asked questions of Maritime around the Waterways Fund, which is drawn from boat registration fees for your benefit. They said that the fund was due to go into deficit. One of the reasons they said it was to go into deficit, or one of the pressures on that fund, they said, was that there was a significant transfer of property from Crown Lands recently—I am predicting it might have been last year—and that transfer didn't come with any additional funding to manage those properties. I am

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just wondering whether you can provide any insight as to the value or number of properties that have recently been transferred—say, in the last 12 to 18 months—from Crown Lands to Maritime, just so I get a scale of how much has been transferred over to Maritime, if possible.

**MELANIE HAWYCES:** Yes, I am absolutely happy to, but I will need to take that on notice.

### Answer:

I am advised: In 2019, the Ministers for Water, Property and Housing and Minister for Planning and Public Spaces agreed to the establishment of the MIDO and the transfer of coastal assets on Crown land to TfNSW

From 2020, Crown maritime infrastructure was transferred to Transport for NSW (TfNSW) to be managed by the Maritime Infrastructure Delivery Office (MIDO):

- 25 regional coastal harbours
- 24 break walls
- 11 lighthouses
- 3 other sites (car park and pilot stations)

Management by MIDO occurs in one of three ways:

1. as the appointed Category 1 Crown land manager under the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*,
2. via a Crown licence or
3. via a Property Management Agreement for tenures that were in place at commencement.

All the subject land remains Crown land.

Crown rents collected in the management areas are directed to MIDO. Crown Lands staff who were dedicated to the management of maritime infrastructure were transferred to TfNSW to support the transfer of management responsibility and asset management functions.

### Page 84 – QON 48 – Valuation NSW

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** The only question I'm asking is, is there any indication that there might be any changes to the methods that we are currently using to value lands?

**STEWART McLACHLAN:** I'm not aware of any changes, but I'm happy to take a question on notice and talk to the team and the Valuer General—whether they've had any—

#### Answer:

I am advised: Please refer to the answer provided on page 84 of the transcript.

### Page 84 – QON 49 – DPHI Plans of management

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** Just to Crown Lands, have there been any adopted plans of management for any Crown land since 2021?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** Yes. In total, plans of management—I believe we've done a couple of hundred. Two hundred and fifty-two to date. If you want the specifics for 2021, I'd have to take that on notice.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** Yes, just since that period, if you could.

**MELANIE HAWYES:** Yes.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** Are there regular or periodic reviews or is it plan management specific—so it will say, "This plan is reviewed in this many years"? How are you undertaking that?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** I might take that on notice because a large body of work has gone on to work with councils around how we do the plans of management and whether we can do them in bulk in some councils. I might take on notice your questions about exactly the process we follow around that.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** Why are they not available on Lands' website? Or, are they?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** I will need to take that on notice. My understanding is that they would be available, but I'll just confirm that they are.

**KIERSTEN FISHBURN:** I would think they would be available on the relevant council website.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** You would think so.

**MELANIE HAWYES:** Yes, or the council website. But we could create a link, so let me find out and I can get back to you.

#### Answer:

I am advised: Since 2021, 244 plans of management have been adopted by councils for the management of Crown reserves and 1 plan of management for Menindee Common has been adopted by the Minister for Lands.

Plans of management may include a review period, however, it is not a legislative requirement. Where the Crown land manager is a council, it is the council's responsibility to undertake reviews. For other plans of management – those on Crown reserves or commons, reviews are undertaken as identified in the individual plans.

Any adopted plans of management for Crown reserves managed by councils are required to be available to the public for inspection and purchase at the councils' office. Adopted plans of management on the Crown Lands<sup>2</sup> website include all those for Crown reserves or commons that have been adopted by the Minister for Lands.

### Page 85 – QON 50 – Valuations NSW

**The Hon. EMMA HURST:** I handed up the letter to you and asked you if you'd respond to the letter before I'd given you the actual letter that I was referring to. I think you said you had responded to it. Can I just get you to take on notice when you had responded to that particular letter that I gave to you.

**STEWART McLACHLAN:** Yes, happy to. We've responded to many letters so if it turns out that this one has not been responded to—I'm not sure, but happy to take it on notice.

#### Answer:

I am advised: Yes, Valuation NSW responded to Mr Baker's letter dated 27 October 2023 on 13 November 2023.

### Page 85 – QON 51 – DPHI CMCT

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** We'll continue back on with Cemeteries and Crematoria. With respect, CMCT now is responsible for around \$370 million worth of State-owned land, is that correct?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** My understanding is that those are the assets they hold. It's not the same as the land value. That's their trust amount.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Would this level of holding normally require a level of oversight that involves the Auditor-General?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** We've sort of talked around this and I think I said it in my previous answer. We have been working under the direction of Treasury and the Audit Office that they were a State-controlled entity. Hence that is why the Auditor-General was interested in conducting that audit. The recent appeal to the Court of Appeal—and their findings are that there is the presence of a charitable trust governing the burial of Catholic dead. We now need to work through that advice to understand the implications for the position going forward.

#### Answer:

I am advised: The extent to which the recent judgment affects NSW Treasury's assessment of CMCT's status as a state controlled entity is a question for NSW Treasury.

CMCT is the Crown land manager for the cemeteries at Rookwood Catholic, Liverpool, Varroville, Kemp's Creek and Wallacia (**CMCT Cemeteries**). CMCT's financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 as filed with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission value the CMCT Cemeteries land at \$88.4 million, not \$370 million.

### Page 85 – QON 52 – DPHI

**The Hon. WES FANG:** I've got some questions around the land audit, specifically regional land audits. I know we touched on this a little bit earlier. In what regional centres have sites been identified as being available for housing development through the Government's land audit?

**LEON WALKER:** I'll take that on notice.

**The Hon. WES FANG:** Can you also take on notice the number of sites in each centre if that's possible at all.

**LEON WALKER:** I'll take it on notice.

#### Answer:

I am advised: Details identifying individual lots as part of the Land Audit are Cabinet in Confidence.

## Page 87 - QON 53 – DPHI Boards

**The Hon. WES FANG:** Are you able to outline the cost of the board over those three years?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** The remuneration is set by the Public Service Commission, and that's all publicly available. I can't do the sums in my head quickly; I'll get it wrong for the record.

**The Hon. WES FANG:** That's okay. I'm happy for you take it on notice if you like.

### Answer:

I am advised: The Public Service Commission determined the annual remuneration level for the board at \$70,000 for the chair and \$40,000 for members. This equates to a total remuneration cost of \$270,000 per annum.

## Page 88 – QON 54 – DPHI Varroville

**The Hon. WES FANG:** Can you please provide an update on the expected cost to the New South Wales taxpayer to deliver the new 136,000-plot Crown land cemetery in Varroville?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** The CMCT is developing Varroville. I don't have those figures with me, and all of the discussions we have had to date about the state of the CMCT go to whether that is taxpayer funds or not.

**The Hon. WES FANG:** Are you able to provide some detail as to when it might open? Is it still on track for 2025, in February?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** My understanding is—I was on the site a few months ago and they had already done a fair bit of the groundwork to establish that cemetery. It will be quite a new style of cemetery for New South Wales. It's being designed in the form of parklands. I don't know when exactly they'll complete but I can certainly talk to them and try and provide that on notice.

### Answer:

I am advised: The cost of developing Macarthur Memorial Park is estimated to be approximately \$41.7m to date. There will be no cost to the New South Wales taxpayer as the costs of developing the cemetery will be fully covered by CMCT.

CMCT is working towards an opening date of March 2025.

## Page 89 – QON 55 – DPHI rent redeterminations

**MELANIE HAWYES:** Yes, and I think we talked about this in the last session. We are obliged to charge statutory rents and market rents. We have set re-determination requirements in our statute and regulations. We were working through a historic backlog of that having not been kept up to date and we have brought that up to date now. We have brought those in, and for some of the tenure holders where there were significant increases we are doing a phased-in payment so they have a bit more time to adjust.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** What was the total quantum of the rent increase?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** It varies for different—

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** I understand, for different properties. But across the portfolio what was the total quantum?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** I'll need to take that on notice because the concessions have been applied. People are still applying for concessions. We're still working that through.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** How many rent increases are forecast to occur in the next financial year? Are you doing that in phases, in terms of when they're adjusting and the like?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** We have thousands of tenures on foot and their re-determination periods come up at different times. I'll have to take that on notice as to how many are due this year.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** What's the average rent increase?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** There isn't really an average increase. Again, I'll take that on notice if you've got a particular category of user.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Sure.

**MELANIE HAWYES:** But the tenures are all different. They're for commercial through to—there are different tenures so there's no real set average.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Another one I suspect you might need to take on notice: In dollar amount, what was the single largest rent increase and what was this for?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** I will need to take that on notice.

### Answer:

I am advised: For calendar year 2023, total increase in rents from the rent redetermination program was \$7.26 million, with \$3.03 million in concessions granted that translates to a net gain of \$4.23 million.

The Crown Lands rent redetermination program is based on calendar years. The calendar year 2024 rent redetermination program covers 2,331 accounts.

For calendar year 2023, the average rent increase was \$1,381 or \$805 after concessions were applied and granted.

The single largest market rent increase for an account redetermined during the 2023 calendar year was \$394,098, for a retirement village facility. The rent for the facility was last reviewed in 2010. The account holder is eligible for concessions which reduced the rent increase to \$73,666 in the first year and \$211,600 thereafter.

The Crown Lands concession policy includes rebates and waivers available to individuals and organisations who meet the eligibility criteria under the policy. This includes pensioners, charitable or not-for-profit community services, single interest and sporting groups and registered NSW clubs.

Crown Lands also offers tenure holders who are experiencing financial hardship payment extensions, interest waivers, payment plans and other waivers on a case-by-case basis.

## Page 90 – QON 56 – DPFI rent redeterminations

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Last year we were advised that 4,613 of the 7,044 planned rent re-determinations had been completed in the 2023-24 financial year at that stage. Of the remaining 2,431 re-determinations, have they all been completed now since 31 October?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** I'll need to take it on notice. As I say, some people have lodged objections and/or sought relief or hardship provisions. I'll need to take it on notice to be completely accurate.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Thank you very much. How many of these assessed tenures applied for the concession policy?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** I'll need to take it on notice. I do know there were about 50 objections, but I'd prefer to take it on notice so it's completely accurate.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** While you're taking that on notice, would you also be able to tell us how many were actually granted as well? That would be helpful.

**MELANIE HAWYES:** Yes, absolutely.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** The estimated total gross increase of rents on 31 October 2023 for these 4,613 tenures was \$8 million, with \$2.9 million in concessions, resulting in a gross gain of \$5.1 million. Is that correct?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** I believe those are the figures that we provided, yes.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** So what is the value of the rent re-determinations and concessions undertaken since 31 October 2023?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** I will need to take that on notice because we're still working through the application of concessions, which affects the gross figure, obviously.

### Answer:

I am advised: The Crown Lands rent redetermination program is based on calendar years. For the 2023 calendar year, 5,253 rent redeterminations were completed. In the 2024 calendar year, 2,331 accounts will have rents redetermined. This includes 1,666 accounts carried forward from the last calendar year.

For calendar year 2023, 5,253 accounts had rents redetermined. Concessions are reassessed when rents are redetermined. Of the 5,253 redetermined accounts, 1,192 accounts were granted a concession.

For the 3-month period between 1 November 2023 to 31 January 2024, 873 accounts were redetermined resulting in a total rent increase of \$142,998 and net increase of \$96,809 after the concessions were granted.

## Page 91 – QON 57 – OoS Her Sport Her Way

**The Hon. EMMA HURST:** I have a couple of questions about some of those other new programs as well, but just on the Her Sport Her Way strategy, has there been an evaluation that's been started and do you have any sort of early indications around the effectiveness of that program that you can share?

**KAREN JONES:** The Her Sport Her Way strategy has undergone an evaluation. Any questions that you have around that evaluation I am happy to take on notice for yourself. In terms of the actual insights, perhaps I can provide you that on notice as well.

### Answer:

I am advised: Two independent evaluations were done by Sydney University (SPRINTER Group) of the Her Sport Her Way Grant Programs in 2021 and 2023 which are found at:

<https://www.sport.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-06/Her%20Sport%20Her%20Way%20Grant%20Program%20Evaluation%202021%20Report.pdf> and <https://www.sport.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-11/HSHW%20Grant%20Program%202023%20Evaluation%20Report.pdf>

The evaluation found that funding under previous rounds of the program had a significant positive impact on increasing organisational capability and capacity to design, deliver and evaluate new programs while fostering gender-inclusive cultures and environments.

In terms of highlights, a total of \$2.5 million over the four year period was allocated under the Her Sport Her Way grant program. This supported 101 projects across 38 State Sporting Organisations designed to break down barriers and increase participation. Case studies highlighting innovative programs and initiatives from this funding were captured.

A state-wide scale up of the award-winning Daughters and Dads Active and Empowered program across the Office of Sport and via sport variant models in Cricket, Basketball, and Football was undertaken. 77 programs were delivered across 50 locations to 2,133 participants in NSW.

Major Event Legacy programs were developed and supported in Cricket, Basketball, and Football. Innovative partnerships were funded with the Minerva Network and Sport NSW for female leadership initiatives.

The Office of Sport developed an on-line Participation Planning Tool to help State Sporting Organisations to develop and implement strategies and programs to increase participation of women and girls both on and off the field. 205 organisations utilised this tool.

A total of 34 awards were presented to individuals and organisations over the four years of the annual Her Sport Her Way Awards.

A large range of keynotes, think tanks, workshops, webinars, panels and forums were presented over the four years including the trailblazing Trendspotter Forum, Showstopper Forum, The Winning Playbook and Facility Design and Innovation webinars.

## Page 92 – QON 58 – DPHI Aboriginal Land Claims

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** Just a couple of further things. Can I move to First Nations land claims? How many outstanding land claims are there now over Crown Lands?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** There are 38,532.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** And how many have been determined so far in 2023-24?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** This year?

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** I forgot what year it was, sorry!

**MELANIE HAWYES:** We have resolved 236 so far, with 70 per cent of those—or 165—resulting in a grant or a partial grant.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** All right. Is that from 2023?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** From 1 July to 22 January. And, I should say, there is always a bit of a quiet period over Christmas because people are away.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** It's not a great period to reflect—

**MELANIE HAWYES:** So it's not a perfect line, and it will pick back up on.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** Okay. Of the 70 per cent that were granted or part granted in 2022-23, what was the part-granted proportion of those?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** Often, because it is quite a complex landscape where, spatially and temporally, claims can overlap, I quite routinely sign off where a claim is granted and therefore another is refused because it was over the same parcel or in part. So it's not a neat—there's not 38,000 parcels under claim, if that makes sense.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** I see. Yes. That does make sense. Of the ones that were granted in part or granted, of that 70 per cent, what proportion are granted, are you saying that "in part" means the other part dropped off because it might be overlapping?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** Not always. For example, there's a land claim over the entire South Coast at the same time as there are numerous land claims over parts of the South Coast. So we might part grant some of that.

**Ms SUE HIGGINSON:** And what proportion of the 70 per cent was in that category?

**MELANIE HAWYES:** I don't know. So when we say that "positive", we mean it was either granted in full or in part. If you wanted a finer-grained account for that, I would need to take that on notice.

### Answer:

I am advised: For the 2022-23 FY there were 545 grants and part grants. Of the 545:

- 484 were full grants

- 61 were part grants

The part not granted may have been due to overlapping with another claim area that was granted, or due to not being claimable under criteria assessed in section 36(1) of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*.

## Page 96 – QON 59 – DPHI Coffs

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Mr Walker, we will stick with the Coffs jetty revitalisation. What's the total projected cost over the next four financial years for that project?

**LEON WALKER:** I will take that on notice.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Has the rezoning proposal been lodged?

**LEON WALKER:** Sorry, I should say that the work that is being done at the moment is about future land use. It's obviously subject to what gets approved as to what the ultimate development within the precinct is, which includes public open space. So there would be a projection in terms of the cost—the New South Wales Government is projecting in terms of completing that process not in terms of the actual development outcomes, if that makes sense.

**KIERSTEN FISHBURN:** Can I clarify as well, from a planning perspective, a master plan has been publicly exhibited, but the rezoning proposal has not yet been.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** With respect to that rezoning proposal, when is it expected to be lodged or what is the time frame for that?

**LEON WALKER:** Yes, we're targeting the first quarter of this year.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Will the precinct include new housing?

**LEON WALKER:** The current intention, as was detailed in the master plan, is that it would include an element of residential dwellings along with short-stay accommodation.

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** How many new residential dwellings and how many short-stay dwellings?

**LEON WALKER:** Can I take that on notice?

### Answer:

I am advised: The refined masterplan for the Coffs Jetty Harbour Foreshore Precinct published in December 2022 clearly stated that:

- The NSW Government is not developing land for profit and all funds generated will be reinvested back into the Precinct.
- A minimum of approximately \$15 million is needed to upgrade basic services like electricity and sewer to adequately service the existing marina and add capacity for toilets and public conveniences across the Precinct.

The Coffs Jetty Revitalisation refined masterplan is available at:

[https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/548731/Coffs-Jetty-Revitalisation-Refined-Masterplan-2022.pdf](https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/548731/Coffs-Jetty-Revitalisation-Refined-Masterplan-2022.pdf)

The NSW Government is focused on delivering its election commitment to address the housing crisis and increase housing supply – a live and significant issue in Coffs Harbour.

Up to 250 residential dwellings and 200 short stay units are proposed, subject to planning approvals.

**Page 96/97 – QON 60 – DPHI Contaminated land**

**The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW:** Good work, then. Can you please provide a list of all sites where contaminated land is being rehabilitated and the status of each parcel of land?

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**LEON WALKER:** I can't talk for the Government as a whole, but I can take it on notice and provide it for the work that we are doing.

**Answer:**

I am advised: PDNSW is currently remediating or managing the following large scale contaminated land projects:

- Former Uranium Smelter, Nelson Parade Hunters Hill, remediation 90 percent complete, anticipated completion date second quarter 2024
- Former Gasworks, Ellis Rd Waratah (iCare funded), remediation approximately 50% complete, anticipated completion date 2026
- Former BHP steelworks (intertrade) Newcastle
- Kempt Field landfill, Allawah (on behalf of OSL), detailed investigations underway, remediation anticipated to commence third quarter 2024
- Castlereagh liquid waste disposal site, ongoing monitoring and management in accordance with EPA licence
- Pasminco Containment cell and surrounding environmental lands, monitoring and management in accordance with EPA licence and environmental management plans
- Former waste oil refinery, Rutherford (Truegain site), above ground remediation project complete, sub surface remediation planning underway, onsite remedial works anticipated to commence third quarter 2024
- Management of various closed landfill sites in Sydney basin, ongoing monitoring and rehabilitation of landfills owned by Waste Assets Management Corporation in accordance with EPA licence or surrender notice
- Investigation and management of various contaminated sites within government portfolios to identify and characterize potential environmental risk
- Management of landfill gas and leachate at Westconnex intersection with St Peters Landfill on behalf of TfNSW.