

# LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 42

# TUESDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2016

(The Questions and Answers Paper published for the first sitting day in each week will contain, by number and title, all unanswered questions, together with questions to which answers have been received on the previous sitting and any new questions. On subsequent days, new questions are printed, as are questions to which answers were received the previous day. Consequently the full text of any question will be printed only twice: when notice is given; and, when answered.)

Notice given on date shown

Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
Q & A No. 30 (Including Question Nos 0614 to 0616)	24 November 2015
Q & A No. 31 (Including Question Nos 0617 to 0635)	25 November 2015
Q & A No. 32 (Including Question Nos 0636 to 0672)	26 November 2015
Q & A No. 33 (Including Question Nos 0673 to 0673)	01 December 2015
Q & A No. 34 (Including Question Nos 0674 to 0675)	02 December 2015
Q & A No. 35 (Including Question Nos 0676 to 0687)	03 December 2015
Q & A No. 36 (Including Question Nos 0688 to 0689)	15 December 2015
Q & A No. 37 (Including Question Nos 0690 to 0709)	16 December 2015
Q & A No. 38 (Including Question Nos 0711 to 0716)	17 December 2015
Q & A No. 39 (Including Question Nos 0717 to 0717)	22 December 2015
Q & A No. 40 (Including Question Nos 0718 to 0733)	23 December 2015
Q & A No. 41 (Including Question Nos 0734 to 0782)	24 December 2015
Q & A No. 42 (Including Question Nos 0783 to 0815)	29 March 2016

## **20 OCTOBER 2015**

(Paper No. 30)

- \*614 TREASURER—REVENUE GAINED FROM ADVERTISING ON TRAINS AND IN TRAIN STATIONS—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Treasurer, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
  - (1) How much revenue was received by the Government from advertising on trains and in train stations in the following financial years:
    - (a) 2011/2012?
    - (b) 2012/2013?
    - (c) 2013/2014?
    - (d) 2014/2015?
  - (2) To which fund or funds was the revenue allocated?
  - (3) How much of the revenue was put back into the public transport system?

#### Answer-

I am advised that this question would be more appropriately directed to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure.

- \*615 TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE—STAFFING OF THE SYDNEY TRAINS NETWORK—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure—
  - (1) How many Sydney Trains staff were employed at stations on the Sydney Trains network as of:
    - (a) 1 July 2013?
    - (b) 1 July 2014?
    - (c) 1 July 2015?
  - (2) How many external contract, or non-Sydney Trains, staff were utilised at stations on the Sydney Trains network as of:
    - (a) 1 July 2013?
    - (b) 1 July 2014?
    - (c) 1 July 2015?

#### Answer-

I am advised:

Sydney Trains reports on the total number of station staff in its annual report.

\*616 TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE—OPAL TOP-UP MACHINES—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure—

(1)

- (a) How many Opal top-up machines were available at train stations as of 30 September 2015?
- (b) How many will be available by 31 December 2015?
- (2) Which stations in New South Wales have Opal top-up machines?
- (3) Will the Government roll out top-up machines that accept cash?
- (4) Why does the Government require a minimum top-up amount?
- (5) Why does the Government not allow public transport users to select their own top-up amount rather than selecting from increments?

#### Answer-

I am advised: Close to 350 machines will be rolled out across train stations, ferry wharves, and bus and

light rail stops by early next year, providing coverage for the vast majority of customers.

# **21 OCTOBER 2015**

(Paper No. 31)

- \*617 INNOVATION AND BETTER REGULATION—DATA ANALYTICS CENTRE—Mr Primrose asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation—
  - (1) When will the data analytics centre be operational?
  - (2) What is the annual estimated expenditure of the centre over the forward estimates?

(3)

- (a) What is the annual estimated income of the centre over the forward estimates?
- (b) What will be the sources of this income?
- (4) From which government agencies will data not be able to be collected?
- (5)
  - (a) Who are the members of the specialist government steering committee?
  - (b) To whom does the steering committee report?
  - (c) Will the minutes and reports of the steering committee be made available to the public?
  - (d) How will the minutes and reports of the steering committee be made available to the public?
- (6) Which agency will have responsibility for the centre after its first twelve months of operation?

Answer-

- (1) The Data Analytics Centre (DAC) was announced by the Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation on 3 August 2015. The DAC will become operational in this financial year.
- (2) Funding for 2015-16 is provided by the Department of Finance, Services and Innovation. Options for the provision of funding over the forward estimates are being examined and will be outlined as part of the 2016-17 Budget.

(3)

- (a) Options for the provision of funding over the forward estimates are being examined and will be outlined as part of the 2016-17 Budget.
- (b) Options for the provision of funding over the forward estimates are being examined and will be outlined as part of the 2016-17 Budget.
- (4) The Data Sharing (Government Sector) Bill 2015, which was passed by the NSW Parliament on 18 November 2015, outlines the framework for sharing of government data with the DAC and between agencies.

(5)

- (a) The members of the steering committee are Secretary, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation; NSW Chief Scientist and Engineer; NSW Customer Service Commissioner; NSW Information Commissioner; NSW Privacy Commissioner; together with senior representation from the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Ministry of Health, Department of Education, Department of Justice, Family and Community Services, NSW Treasury
- (b) The Steering Committee reports to the Secretary, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation c. It is not intended to publish reports or minutes of the Steering Committee at this time. d. It is not intended to publish reports or minutes of the Steering Committee at this time.
- (6) The Department of Finance, Services and Innovation.
- \*618 LANDS AND WATER—ARMIDALE SHOWGROUND RESERVE TRUST—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

Regarding the Armidale Showground Reserve Trust:

(1)

- (a) What is the current status of this Trust?
- (b) When will new members be appointed?
- (c) Is the Trust in the hands of a department-appointed Administrator?
- (d) If so, who is the Administrator?
- (e) How was the Administrator appointed?
- (f) Was this by select tender, open tender or invitation?
- (g) What is the Administrator's fee?

Answer—

- (1)
- (a) The Armidale Showground Reserve Trust is under the care and control of an Administrator.
- (b) New members will be appointed at the earliest opportunity following the adoption of a new Business Plan for the facility. \
- (c) Yes.
- (d) Group Leader Armidale/Moree, DPI Lands.
- (e) By notification in the government gazette following authorisation under departmental delegation.
- (f) Invitation. Due to the sudden resignation of the former trust members, and in order to ensure the ongoing operation of the Showground, the Group Leader Armidale/Moree was appointed based on his knowledge of the facility in his role for DPI Lands, and his prior experience in Administrator roles.
- (g) No fee. Duties as Administrator for the Armidale Showground are undertaken as part of his role as Group Leader, DPI Lands.
- \*619 SOCIAL HOUSING—PUBLIC HOUSING AT MILLERS POINT—Revd Mr Nile asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Social Housing—
  - (1) Are there sixteen tenants remaining in the Sirius building at Millers Point Sydney following the Government's public housing tenant compulsory relocation program?
  - (2) Are there approximately one hundred residents at Millers Point who are refusing, or are unable, to relocate?
  - (3) Will the Minister for Family and Community Services and Minister for Social Housing allow these residents to remain in, or relocate to, the Sirius building, public housing purpose built in 1979 and home to 79 apartments, and not hand the building over to developers for luxury apartments?

Answer-

The Department of Family and Community Services is working with each tenant to ensure they are offered suitable alternative housing options. All relocations are conducted in accordance with the department's relocations policy, with consideration of tenant needs, including provision of any support services, where identified, for individual tenants.

In November 2015, the NSW Government announced 28 properties will be retained in Millers Point. These non-heritage listed properties will be made available to remaining tenants who demonstrate moving from Millers Point will cause them real hardship.

- \*620 PLANNING—COASTAL REFORMS—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Planning—
  - (1) What resources have been allocated by the Government for implementing Stage Two of its coastal reforms?
  - (2) What community consultation has been or will be undertaken in terms of Stage Two of the Government's coastal reforms?
  - (3) Please provide details of the projects that will be undertaken utilising the \$3.2 million announced in November 2014 to enhance and protect New South Wales coasts and estuaries?

(4) To what extent has the Government considered the consequences of increasing ocean-acidification levels in the allocation of resources for its coastal reforms?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Resources for implementing the stage two coastal reforms include existing Office of Environment and Heritage and Department of Planning and Environment funding streams such as Coastal and Estuary Grants and the Coastal Land Protection Scheme. Other resources will be allocated as necessary.
- (2) Development of the stage two coastal reforms has been informed by input from experts, government agencies and coastal councils. The Minister for Planning launched major elements of the proposed reforms at the NSW Coastal Conference on 13 November 2015. The proposed reforms will be on public exhibition for three months, during which time the Office of Environment and Heritage will hold six stakeholder information sessions at different locations along the NSW coast. Information about the consultation period, including the stakeholder information sessions, is available on the OEH website at www.environment.nsw.gov.au/coasts.
- (3) Details of the projects are publicly available on the Office of Environment and Heritage website at www.environment.nsw.gov.au/coasts.
- (4) Ocean acidification is an issue for marine estate management more broadly and will be considered as part of the state-wide marine estate threat and risk assessment. Further questions on the marine estate should be directed to the Minister for Primary Industries.
- \*621 PLANNING—WOOLI BEACH COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Planning—
  - (1) Is the Minister for Planning aware that the Wooli Beach Coastal Zone Management Plan, as recommended by Clarence Valley Council, is proposing to reintroduce sand mining in coastal national parks?
  - (2) Is it the case that the proposal is contrary to the Coastal Policy, is not permissible under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 and not consistent with the current plan of management for Yuraygir Nationa I Park?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) The draft Wooli Beach Coastal Zone Management Plan, prepared by Clarence Valley Council, includes a proposal to extract sand from Yuraygir National Park for beach nourishment.
- (2) Yes.
- \*622 PLANNING—LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS AND SEA LEVEL RISE POLICIES—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Planning—

(1)

- (a) Regarding sea level rise, is the Government satisfied that all Local Government Areas (LGAs) have sought and adopted information that is 'widely accepted by competent scientific opinion' in setting their own local sea level rise projections?
- (b) What action/s has the Minister for Planning taken in case where LGAs have not adopted technically rigorous, scientifically based projections?
- (c) What changes arose from such actions by the Minister?
- (d) Is the Government satisfied that LGAs have properly discharged their 'good faith' obligations under section 733 of the Local Government Act in setting their own local sea level rise projections?
- (e) Have some LGAs utilised and publicly referenced pseudo-scientific fossil fuel industry funded publications in their sea level rise projections?
- (f) Does the Government support LGA reliance on such materials?

- (g) Why should LGAs use Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC) materials as the basis for their sea level rise planning policies?
- (h) What concrete steps will the upcoming Stage Two Coastal Reforms take to rectify the problems created in the Stage One reforms?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) (a) – (h) In developing their coastal zone management plans under the Coastal Protection Act 1979, councils are required to set local sea level rise projections in accordance with the minimum requirements in the NSW Government's Guidelines for Preparing Coastal Zone Management Plans. The guidelines note that 'Councils should consider adopting [sea level rise] projections that are widely accepted by competent scientific opinion'. Councils must develop their plans substantially in accordance with the principles of the guidelines in order to be afforded exemption from liability under section 733 of the Local Government Act 1993.

As the Minister administering the Coastal Protection Act, I consider whether the minimum requirements have been met when a council submits its plan for certification under the Act. Until that point, any queries on the material referenced in council documentation should be directed to the relevant council.

On 13 November 2015 at the NSW Coastal Conference, I launched major reform proposals for coastal management in NSW. The proposals include the establishment of a NSW Coastal Council to provide independent advice to me on matters related to the operation of new coastal management legislation. This may include the commissioning of periodic technical advice or reviews from relevant experts on matters such as sea level rise.

\*623 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—NATIVE GAME BIRD MANAGEMENT PROGRAM—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

(1)

- (a) How many animals have been shot under the Native Game Bird Management Program?
- (b) Please provide a list of the number of birds and the species of those birds for:
  - (i) 2011/2012?
  - (ii) 2012/2013?
  - (iii) 2014/2015?
- (2) How are non-target species impacted by activities allowed under the native game bird management licence, for example shot by accident?

(3)

- (a) Are records kept of non-target species that are shot?
- (b) If so, please provide a list of the number of animals and the species for:
  - (i) 2011/2012?
  - (ii) 2012/2013?
  - (iii) 2014/2015?

Answer-

(1)

(a) A total of 22,278 native game ducks were harvested during 2014/15. Currently, 1056 native game ducks have been harvested for 2015/16. Altogether 23,334 native game ducks have been harvested under the Native Game Bird Management Program since its inception in 2014-15.

(b)

- (i) The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) administered the Game Bird Management Program for 2011/12 and they should be contacted for these records.
- (ii) The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) administered the Game Bird Management Program for 2012/13 and they should be contacted for these records.

- (iii) Mountain Duck, 101 Wood Duck, 6638 Black Duck, 8709 Blue-winged Shoveler, 8 Chestnut Teal, 175 Grey Teal, 5715 Hardhead, 437 Pink-eared Duck, 109 Water Whistling Duck, 9 Grass Whistling Duck, 377
- (2) Non-target species if present may be disturbed by gunfire in the vicinity of the crop being protected. No instances of non-target species being shot have been detected to date.
- (3) Licensed hunters participating in the program must provide records of non-target species that are taken as part of a requirement to provide a harvest return each time they attend a property. No instances of non-target species being shot have been detected to date.
- \*624 PLANNING—DENIS WINSTON DRIVE, DOONSIDE—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Planning—

(1)

- (a) What consideration has been given to rezoning the vacant State Owned Lands on Denis Winston Drive, Doonside to an E2 zone?
- (b) Does the land qualify for E2 zoning?
- (c) Does the site in question hold critically endangered Cumberland Plain Woodland flora and fauna over most of the site?

#### Answer-

I am advised:

- (1)
- (a) A rezoning proposal was received by the Department of Planning and Environment on 16 October 2015 to rezone the Doonside lands to an E2 Environmental Conservation Zone and is being considered for a Gateway determination.
- (b) See answer to (a).
- (c) A flora assessment has been submitted with the rezoning proposal and will be considered as part of the assessment of the proposal. I have observed the site and noted the existence of a significant remanent of Cumberland Plain Woodland.
- \*625 ATTORNEY GENERAL—ELLIS DEFENCE—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Attorney General—
  - (1) What information is collected by the Department of Justice on the use of the Ellis Defence?
  - (2) In how many cases per year is it estimated that the Ellis Defence is used in matters in New South Wales?

## Answer-

I am advised by the Department of Justice that statistics on the use of the 'Ellis Defence' are unavailable. Given that a majority of civil claims for compensation settle out of court, looking simply at decisions by the courts would not provide an accurate picture of the use of the 'Ellis Defence'.

- \*626 PREMIER—PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—
  - (1) What has been the outcome of the Public Service Commission roundtable on bullying?
  - (2) What capacity is there to reinstate a senior staff person who lost their job as a result of being a whistleblower where this has been vindicated by Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC)?
  - (3) Have amendments been considered to the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994 that would allow for reinstatement of senior staff whistleblowers to be granted either by the Minister or the NSW Industrial Relations Commission?

(4)

(a) What are the existing policies and targets for female participation at the State Executive level

and then also at Senior Executive bands 3, 2 and 1?

- (b) How is the Government tracking against those targets?
- (5) What provision will any amendments make to provide for those who might have lost entitlements including continuation of service?

Answer—

1. The Public Service Commission roundtable led to the development of an action plan which has recently been provided to sector agencies for comment. The action plan will be released in 2016.

2. and 3. The Government will introduce legislation in 2016 to provide for the reinstatement or reemployment of former senior executives where their employment was terminated substantially in reprisal for making a public interest disclosure.

4. In September 2015, the NSW Government released the NSW: Making it Happen strategic plan, which includes targets to increase the proportion of women in senior leadership roles in the government sector. Progress against those targets is detailed in the State of the Sector Report 2015.

5. Where a former senior executive is reinstated or re-employed in the circumstances referred to in response 2/3, that individual will be entitled to the restoration of salary and other employment benefits as if they had continued to be employed.

\*627 ENVIRONMENT—DENIS WINSTON DRIVE, DOONSIDE—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

(1)

- (a) Does the vacant State Owned Lands on Denis Winston Drive hold critically endangered Cumberland Plain Woodland flora and fauna on the site?
- (b) What consideration has been given to trees and ground cover being cut down to facilitate development on the site?
- (c) Has the Minister for the Environment visited the site?
- (d) If not, does the Minister intend to visit the site?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

(1)

- (a) The site is mapped as containing the critically endangered Cumberland Plain Woodland ecological community.
- (b) This is a matter for the Minister for Planning.
- (c) & d. The Minister has not visited the site in question.
- \*628 ATTORNEY GENERAL—COURT SECURITY INCIDENTS RECORDED BY NSW SHERIFF'S OFFICE—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Attorney General—
  - (1) How many security incidents in New South Wales courts were recorded by the NSW Sheriff's Office in each of the following financial years:
    - (a) 2010/11?
    - (b) 2011/12?
    - (c) 2012/13?
    - (d) 2013/14?
    - (e) 2014/15?
    - (f) 2015/16 to date?
  - (2) How many New South Wales court security incidents, from 2010 to date, resulted in injury of a person other than an accused person or prisoner in each of the following financial years:
    - (a) 2010/11?
    - (b) 2011/12?

- (c) 2012/13?
- (d) 2013/14?
- (e) 2014/15?
- (f) 2015/16 to date?
- (3) How many New South Wales court security incidents, from 2010 to date, resulted in a person being charged with an offence of violence in each of the following financial years:
  - (a) 2010/11?
  - (b) 2011/12?
  - (c) 2012/13?
  - (d) 2013/14?
  - (e) 2014/15?
  - (f) 2015/16 to date?
- (4) How many New South Wales court security incidents, from 2010 to date, involved an imminent threat to the life of any person in each of the following financial years:
  - (a) 2010/11?
  - (b) 2011/12?
  - (c) 2012/13?
  - (d) 2013/14?
  - (e) 2014/15?
  - (f) 2015/16 to date?
- (5) What weapons or other appointments, for example handcuffs, are officers of the Office of the Sheriff equipped with?

#### Answer-

I am advised by the Department that incidents are not reported by type of incident. Security incidents in NSW are reported to the Sherriff's Operation Centre and actioned as necessary.

I am advised the Court Security Act provides for the secure and orderly operation of courts and confers certain functions and powers on judicial officers and security officers for that purpose.

Subject to the Court Security Act, I am also advised that the judiciary and the New South Wales Police Force may reach agreement amongst themselves on what weapons and other appointments may or may not be taken into a NSW Court.

- \*629 PLANNING—PARRAMATTA HERITAGE—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Planning—
  - (1) Is there a Conservation Management Plan or Built Heritage Strategy for the Parramatta female factory site?
  - (2) Has there been any budget allocated for conservation and if so, what buildings and structures are included?
  - (3) What consideration has been given to Ted Higginbotham's 1992 Conservation Plan for the Cumberland Hospital Heritage Precinct?
  - (4) What are the heights of, purpose of and costs to build the following buildings proposed for the Parramatta Female Factory site:
    - (a) The multi-storey buildings proposed in the Gipps Yard?
    - (b) The multi-storey buildings proposed in the Airing Yard?
    - (c) The multistorey buildings on the Northern curtilage?
  - (5) What is the projected use and income for the following buildings proposed for the Parramatta Female Factory site:
    - (a) The multi-storey buildings proposed in the Gipps Yard?

- (b) The multi-storey buildings proposed in the Airing Yard?
- (c) The multistorey buildings on the Northern curtilage?
- (6) What evidence supports the Government's approach that the Parramatta Female Factory needs to be self-funded?
- (7) Have there been any feasibility studies for projected use and income for a living museum and national resource centre?

(8)

- (a) Are there any other intended uses for the Parramatta Female Factory site?
- (b) If so what is the projected use and estimated income for these uses?

Answer-

I am advised:

(1) UrbanGrowth NSW is preparing the first stage of a consolidated Conservation Management Plan for the Parramatta North Historic Sites—Cumberland Hospital (East Campus) site,

Parramatta Gaol site and Norma Parker Centre/Kamballa site. The Conservation Management Plan is being prepared in consultation with the Heritage Division, the Office of Environment and Heritage and will be endorsed by the Heritage Council of NSW. Its policies and guidelines will guide future conservation, adaptive re-use and new development on these important sites.

- (1) The Parramatta North Urban Transformation program will generate funding which will be invested in conserving the significant heritage buildings. The 47 buildings and structures being conserved are clearly identified in red in the Indicative Layout Plan available on the UrbanGrowth NSW website project page.
- (2) All previous heritage investigations and reports have been examined and their recommendations revisited by UrbanGrowth NSW's heritage consultants.
- (3) The heights are:
  - (a) the Indicative Layout Plan proposes a four storey building (ILP-F7)
  - (b) the Indicative Layout Plan proposes a three storey building (ILP-F6)
  - (c) the Indicative Layout Plan proposes a four and six storey building north of the Parramatta Female Factory Historic Precinct (ILP-F5) The purpose and costs are yet to be determined. UrbanGrowth NSW intends to consult the community and key stakeholders in determining suitable uses for these buildings.
- (4) The projected use and incomes are:
  - (a) The purpose proposed for this building is to house the modern conveniences required to support the active adaptive reuse functions of the heritage buildings.
  - (b) The purpose proposed for this building is to house the modern conveniences required to support the active adaptive reuse functions of the heritage buildings. The scale and design of these buildings is subject to detailed planning and consultation with stakeholders and the community. They will only be built if future consultation determines that they are needed to support adaptive reuse which is sympathetic to the conservation of the heritage precinct.
  - (c) The proposed purpose of this building is housing Incomes are yet to be determined.
- (5) It is government policy that these buildings be managed in a sustainably viable manner that provides for long term maintenance and management of these important buildings.
- (6) UrbanGrowth NSW is investigating all long term management options.
- (7)
- (a) & b Future uses of the significant heritage buildings are yet to be determined. Determination of possible future use will involve future public consultation
- \*630 MENTAL HEALTH—BOWRAVILLE INQUIRY RECOMMENDATIONS—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Medical Research, Assistant Minister for Health, Minister for Women, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault—
  - (1) What is the current status of implementing the following recommendations made in the report of the Standing Committee on Law and Justice into the murders in Bowraville:

- (a) Recommendation 11?
- (b) Recommendation 12?
- (c) Recommendation 13?

# Answer-

The NSW Government has responded to the recommendations of the Legislative Council Standing Committee on Law and Justice into the murders in Bowraville.

Recommendation 11 has been noted. Recommendations 12 and 13 were supported.

The Department of Premier and Cabinet is coordinating the implementation of the recommendations made in this report and these have been allocated to different government departments.

\*631 ATTORNEY GENERAL—VICTIMS COMPENSATION SCHEME—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Attorney General—

- (1) According to the New South Wales Government's response of 17 February 2015 to the urgent complaint made to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women and Girls about the Victims Support Scheme and the Victims Rights and Support Act 2013 (p 25), only 11 per cent of domestic violence and sexual assault victims apply for recognition payments, only three per cent apply for financial assistance for economic loss, and only three per cent of sexual assault victims and nine per cent of domestic violence victims apply for immediate needs payments.
  - (a) Is there such a difference between applications for payments in comparison to applications for counselling for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault?
  - (b) How does this compare to the victims of other types of violence, and the rates of access to counselling and payments?
  - (c) How does it compare to applications for counselling and compensation under the old scheme?

## Answer-

I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No 4 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

I am advised that the figures provided in the question do not appear in the report cited in the question.

- \*632 FINANCE, SERVICES AND PROPERTY—PUBLIC WORKS—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Finance, Services and Property—
  - (1) What assessment has been undertaken of the implications for the built heritage of New South Wales of the proposed closure of the specialist team in Public Works which employs stonemasons and others with the rare and highly specialised (and non-marketbased) traditional skills required for the conservation of Sydney's great heritage of public buildings?
  - (2) What work has your office undertaken to ensure there is a sufficient stock of the yellow block sandstone and that there are the skills required to work it to maintain heritage public buildings in New South Wales?

Answer—

- (1) On 5 November 2015, the Government announced that Heritage Services, including the highly specialised stonemasons unit, will remain within the agency with further market analysis to be conducted in 2016.
- (2) The Government also announced the Minister's Stoneworks Program will continue long-term, and Government will retain ownership of Heritage Services' stockpile of yellow block sandstone.
- \*633 CORRECTIONS—NSW CORRECTIVE SERVICES—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Corrections, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Veterans Affairs—

- (1) What is the average length of time that an inmate spends in custody?
- (2) What is the expected length of time that an inmate spends in custody?
- (3) What proportion of this time in question (1) and question (2) is spent on remand?
- (4) What proportion of the inmate population spends enough time in sentenced, as opposed to remand, custody to complete literacy programs that would bring them up to School Certificate standard?

(5)

- (a) Has this information already been assembled prior to January 2015?
- (b) If so, for what purpose was it used?
- (6) Is School Certificate standard still considered by Corrective Services to be sufficient for survival in contemporary Australian society

Answer-

The Member is referred to the answer to Question 432 published in the Legislative Council Questions and Answers Paper No. 25 on 16 September 2015.

- \*634 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES—BOWRAVILLE INQUIRY RECOMMENDATIONS—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Social Housing—
  - (1) What is the current status of implementing the following recommendations made in the report of the Standing Committee on Law and Justice into the murders in Bowraville:
    - (a) Recommendation 13?
    - (b) Recommendation 14?

Answer-

- (1)
- (a) I refer the Honourable Member to my response to Question on Notice LC 444.
- (b) The Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) is funding the Nambucca Valley Youth Services Centre (NVYSC) to deliver a Road Map project, which focuses on a mentoring and education program for young Aboriginal men and women from the Bowraville Community. FACS has made an initial payment to the NVYSC to commence work on the project. The NVYSC has met with the families involved in the inquiry in Bowraville to discuss the scope and implementation of the project.
- \*635 JUSTICE AND POLICE—POLICE INTEGRITY COMMISSION COMPLAINTS—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Racing—
  - (1) How many complaints were received by the Police Integrity Commission in each of the following financial years:
    - (a) 2012-13?
    - (b) 2013-14?
    - (c) 2014-15?
    - (d) 2015-16 to date?
  - (2) How many complaints were investigated to completion by the Police Integrity Commission in each of the following financial years:
    - (a) 2012-13?
    - (b) 2013-14?
    - (c) 2014-15?
    - (d) 2015-16 to date?
  - (3) How many complaints were referred by the Police Integrity Commission to the NSW Police Professional Standards Command in each of the following financial years:

- (a) 2012-13?
- (b) 2013-14?
- (c) 2014-15?
- (d) 2015-16 to date?
- (4) How many complaints were referred by the Police Integrity Commission to the NSW Ombudsman in each of the following financial years:
  - (a) 2012-13?
  - (b) 2013-14?
  - (c) 2014-15?
  - (d) 2015-16 to date?
- (5) How many complaints are currently being investigated or are otherwise outstanding with the Police Integrity Commission?
- (6) What is the average time taken by the Police Integrity Commission to investigate and make a finding following a complaint they investigated in each of the following financial years:
  - (a) 2012-13?
  - (b) 2013-14?
  - (c) 2014-15?
  - (d) 2015-16 to date?

Answer-

Please refer to Question on Notice 0196.

## **22 OCTOBER 2015**

(Paper No. 32)

\*636 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—MYXOMATOSIS VACCINE—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

(1)

- (a) Is the Myxomatosis vaccine available for pet rabbits in New South Wales?
- (b) If not, why not?

Answer-

(1)

- (a) No vaccines for myxomatosis are currently registered for use in Australia, but other preventative measures can be taken. These include protecting pet rabbits from mosquitoes and fleas which spread the disease.
- (b) The myxomatosis vaccines that have been available overseas are live attenuated vaccines (also known as 'modified live' vaccines). The virus in these types of vaccines may spread from vaccinated rabbits into the wild rabbit population which could allow wild rabbits to increase their immunity to myxomatosis. If this happened, the potential increase in the number of wild rabbits in Australia could increase the existing environmental and economic impacts of rabbits.
- \*637 PLANNING—WOOLI BEACH COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PLAN—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Planning—
  - (1)
- (a) Is it the case that the Wooli Beach Coastal Zone Management Plan, as recommended by Clarence Valley Council, is proposing to reintroduce sand mining in coastal national parks?
- (b) Is the Wooli Beach Coastal Zone Management Plan consistent with the Coastal Policy and the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974?

#### Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1)
  - (a) The draft Wooli Beach Coastal Zone Management Plan, prepared by Clarence Valley Council, includes a proposal to extract sand from Yuraygir National Park for beach nourishment.
  - (b) No.
- \*638 JUSTICE AND POLICE—APPREHENDED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ORDERS AGAINST POLICE—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Racing—
  - (1) How many sworn police officers, by gender and rank, were respondents in the last five financial years to:
    - (a) An interim Apprehended Domestic Violence Order (ADVO)?
    - (b) A final ADVO?
  - (2) How many sworn police officers, by gender and rank, in the last five financial years were in breach of:
    - (a) An interim ADVO?
    - (b) A final ADVO?
  - (3) How many sworn police officers, by gender and rank, were removed from office under Section 181D of the Police Act 1990 in the last five financial years for breaching:
    - (a) An interim ADVO?
    - (b) A final ADVO?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that its records indicate the following:

(1)

- (a) On average 30 officers per financial year from 2010-11 to 2014-15, (approximately 13% were female officers).
- (b) 14 officers per financial year, (approximately 6% were female officers). Ranks ranged from Probationary Constable to Inspector.

- (a) Two female Senior Constables.
- (b) Three male Senior Constables.
- (3) Officers leaving the NSW Police Force prior to finalisation of the S181D process would not be captured in these statistics.
- \*639 SKILLS—GRANVILLE TAFE SITE SALE—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills, and Minister for Small Business—

(1)

- (a) Does the Government intend to partially sell off land at Granville TAFE campus?
- (b) If so, what are the buildings slated for sale?

(2)

- (a) Does the building or buildings slated for sale have heritage status?
- (b) If so, what action will the Government take to ensure that the building retains this heritage status before, during and after the sale process?

(3)

(a) What formal review process has taken place to identify the site as being surplus to requirements?

<sup>(2)</sup> 

- (b) In this review, what public, not-for-profit, community uses for the site were explored as an alternative to sale?
- (c) If none were explored, will the Minister for Skills commit to doing so before any sale proceeds?

Answer—

(1)

(a) & b. TAFE NSW is developing a Strategic Asset Management Plan to ensure training is matched with the changing needs of students and employers. TAFE NSW regularly assesses facility requirements in line with course delivery.

(2)

(a) & b. If any heritage buildings are to be sold, TAFE NSW will act in accordance with the principles and guidelines of the State Agency Heritage Guide under section 170A of the Heritage Act 1977 (NSW).

(3)

- (a) TAFE NSW continually assesses its requirements to ensure the most efficient and effective use of its training facilities and assets, including adjusting course offerings in response to changes in demand for skills.
- (b) & c. The disposal of any TAFE NSW facilities will meet the requirements of the NSW Government Property Principles and Framework (M2012-20) under the direction of Government Property NSW. This includes providing an opportunity for other government agencies to acquire the property before it is put to the wider market.
- \*640 EDUCATION—ESL NEW ARRIVALS STUDENTS—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Education—
  - (1) How many English as a Second Language (ESL) New Arrivals students, humanitarian, nonhumanitarian and total, were enrolled in New South Wales public schools Kindergarden to Year 12 in the following years:
    - (a) 2012?
    - (b) 2013?
    - (c) 2014?
  - (2) What amount of funding was provided to assist ESL New Arrivals with low English language proficiency to develop English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EALD) in the following years:
    - (a) 2012?
    - (b) 2013?
    - (c) 2014?
  - (3) How many ESL New Arrivals students, humanitarian, non-humanitarian and total, were enrolled in NSW Department of Education's secondary Intensive English Centre in the following years:
    - (a) 2012?
    - (b) 2013?
    - (c) 2014?

Answer—

On 21 October 2015 the Department released details of each school's 2016 funding, including the new English language proficiency loading under the Resource Allocation Model.

In 2015, for the first time, every identified student in all four EALD phases (beginning, emerging, developing and consolidating) will receive funding. This is made possible by the additional funding flowing from the National Education Reform Agreement. In 2016 this will support 156,000 students in 1,368 schools.

A school's allocation is based on student need as identified through the EALD learning progression tool. This instrument, developed by the Australian Curriculum and Reporting Authority, is used by schools to

assess each student's level of English language proficiency and report on the school's overall need for English as an additional language support in the EALD Annual Survey.

- \*641 EDUCATION—INTENSIVE ENGLISH CENTRES FUNDING PROVISION—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Education—
  - (1) What amount of funding was provided to cover the costs of the NSW Department of Education's secondary Intensive English Centre provision in the years:
    - (a) 2012?
    - (b) 2013?
    - (c) 2014?

Answer—

- (1) Resources to support students in IECs are provided annually through the Department's staffing operation and Resource Allocation Model. Additional staffing allocations are also provided to support students in the IECs through the Department's New Arrivals Program (NAP). The NAP provides resources in response to enrolments and includes both EAL/D teaching support and bilingual learning support for students
- \*642 DISABILITY SERVICES—NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME—Ms Cotsis asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism—
  - (1) When will the funding framework for specialist disability housing under the National Disability Insurance Scheme be finalised?
  - (2) How are people with disability, their families, carers and disability service providers consulted in relation to the development of the framework for specialist disability housing under the National Disability Insurance Scheme?
  - (3) How will supported accommodation for people with disability be funded in New South Wales during the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2018?

Answer-

- (1) At its meeting on 13 November 2015, the Disability Reform Council (DRC) endorsed a pricing framework to guide the approach to specialist disability accommodation in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) for participants who are assessed as requiring this kind of accommodation support. Ministers agreed that the NDIA will develop benchmark prices by early 2016.
- (2) Ongoing work on national housing policy, including the implementation of the NDIS housing pricing framework, will continue to be undertaken in consultation with all relevant stakeholders by the Commonwealth.
- (3) Under the Heads of Agreement on the NDIS, NSW will contribute all existing funding for specialist and other disability services to the NDIS
- \*643 DISABILITY SERVICES—NSW CARERS STRATEGY 2014-2019—Ms Cotsis asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism—
  - (1) What funding has the Government attached to its NSW Carers Strategy 2014-2019 in order to maximise outcomes for carers?
  - (2) What arrangements has the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability and Minister for Multiculturalism put in place for a review of the NSW Carers (Recognition) Act 2010 in accordance with section 15 of that Act?
  - (3) What funding has the Government allocated to provide targeted information, resources and training opportunities to prepare carers to engage with Ready Together and the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)?
  - (4) What funding has the Government put in place for individual support and advocacy for carers under the NSW Carers Strategy 2014-2019?

- (5) Under the NSW Carers Strategy 2014-2019, what funding has the Government put in place for the development and delivery of carer awareness training for service providers and staff to support inclusion of carers?
- (6) Will the Government implement formalised carer assessment as part of person centred planning and assessment processes used under Ready Together?
- (7) What arrangements has the Government put in place to ensure service provision and quality are not disrupted by staffing changes related to the devolution of Ageing, Disability and Home Care (ADHC)?
- (8) Is the Government committed to allocating significant funding beyond 2018 to address service gaps for people with disability and carers not covered by the NDIS?
- (9) Given the needs of ageing parent carers, will the Government continue the Older Parent Carer Support Coordination (OPC) Program after the full roll out of the NDIS?
- (10) Given there are still many 'hidden carers' who are eligible but not receiving support under the OPC program, will the Government increase funds in order to employ more support coordinators?

Answer-

- (1) The NSW Carers Strategy 2014-19 includes projects that use existing funding or identify opportunities to make practical improvements on a cost neutral basis. Through the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) over \$4.9 million was allocated in 2014-15 to organisations and projects that respond to a broad range of carer needs across NSW. This will be continued in 2015-16.
- (2) Arrangements for a review of the Carers (Recognition) Act 2010 are currently under consideration.
- (3) Ready Together prepares people with disability, their carers and the disability sector, for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). My Choice Matters, the NSW Consumer Development Fund, was established to prepare people with disability and their families to participate confidently in a disability system based on self-directed supports.
- (4) Refer to answer to question 1.
- (5) Refer to answer to question 1.
- (6) Person centred planning is an inclusive process which respects the relationships people with disability have with their families, carers and significant others.
- (7) The NSW Government will work closely with people with disability, their families and carers, and the Commonwealth Government to ensure a smooth transition to the NDIS.
- (8) The Heads of Agreement between NSW and Commonwealth Governments on the NDIS outline that from 2018/19 NSW will contribute its existing available funding for specialist and other disability services and supports to the NDIA.
- (9) 10. The COAG Disability Reform Council has endorsed a policy framework for Information, Linkages and Capacity Building in the NDIS and work is currently underway nationally to develop an approach to implementing this framework. The NSW Government will continue to fund this program under current arrangements until NDIS implementation. The NSW Government is continuing to work with the Commonwealth to ensure the needs of carers will be met under the NDIS.
- \*644 DISABILITY SERVICES—NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME—Ms Cotsis asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism—
  - (1) What activities has the Government undertaken to provide information to the public in relation to the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme?
  - (2) What activities has the Government undertaken to consult people with disability, their families, carers and disability service providers regarding the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme?
  - (3) What actions is the Government taking to ensure that people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds are fully-informed of the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme?

Answer-

Extensive consultation has been undertaken with mainstream and community partners, culturally and linguistically diverse communities, disability peak groups, and the disability sector.

The NSW Government's consultation programs, such as Living Life My Way and My Choice Matters have been the foundation of this consultation and engagement on the NDIS.

Information in a range of community languages is available publically at www.ndis.nsw.gov.au

- \*645 DISABILITY SERVICES—SOCIAL HOUSING WAITING LIST—Ms Cotsis asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism—
  - (1) How many people with disability are currently waiting on Department of Family and Community Services' Social Housing Waiting List?
  - (2) How many people aged 65 years and older are currently waiting on Department of Family and Community Services' Social Housing Waiting List?

Answer-

This question should be referred to my colleague, the Hon. Brad Hazzard MP, Minister for Family and Community Services, Minister for Social Housing.

- \*646 HEALTH—DEVELOPMENT OF ZONE EIGHT OF THE SOUTHERN CAMPUS OF THE ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL—Revd Mr Nile asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Health—
  - (1) Are there any plans for private development of Zone 8 of the Southern Campus at the Royal North Shore Hospital?
  - (2) Has the Royal North Shore Hospital Medical Staff Council recommended further transparent discussions regarding the necessary infrastructure and services required for the area?
  - (3) What action is the Government taking to ensure the Royal North Shore Hospital's capability progresses to meet projected demands for health services?
  - (4) Will the Government stop the current Expressions of Interest for private development immediately, and respond to the concerns of the Royal North Shore Hospital Medical Staff Council?

Answer-

I am advised:

(1-4)

The recently completed Royal North Shore Hospital Master Plan has considered the future service delivery requirements of the site. The Master Plan allows for the expansion of all clinical services including emergency and critical care as well as state-wide referrals such as spinal and burns care, by more than 100 per cent in the future. It also sets aside zone 8 for non-clinical support services in the southern part of the campus, about eight per cent of the total campus.

The Government released an Expression of Interest in September 2014 seeking private sector proposals on the development of land within zone 8, including the provision of services consistent with the Master Plan. This included options for the lease and sale of land in zone 8. No decision has been made on the future of zone 8 at this stage.

- \*647 RACING—ALCOHOL USE DURING PREGNANCY—Revd Mr Nile asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Racing—
  - (1) Is Foetal Alcohol Syndrome one of a group of lifelong but preventable conditions that may result from alcohol use in pregnancy?

- (2) As the Liquor Act 2007 does not mention "pregnancy" once, will the Government amend the Act to include warning labels on alcoholic products, which warn women not to drink while pregnant?
- (3) Will the Government enforce alcohol labelling in response Foetal Alcohol Syndrome?

Answer—

Matters relating to Foetal Alcohol Syndrome should be directed to the Minister for Health.

At this stage, the NSW Government is not proposing changes to amend the Liquor Act in this way as the Act does not regulate warning labels on food products.

\*648 HEALTH—COMPLIANCE PROCESS FOR NEW SOUTH WALES NURSING HOME—Revd Mr Nile asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Health—

(1)

- (a) Is NSW Health's compliance process complaints-driven?
- (b) Why is that there is no process for making complaints?
- (2) Have there been three complaints against New South Wales nursing homes investigated in the last eleven years?
- (3) What is the complaints process for New South Wales nursing homes?
- (4) Does New South Wales have extraordinarily good nursing homes which operate without incident?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) - (4)

Aged care facilities are regulated by the Commonwealth Government. NSW law in this area is restricted to the requirement for a registered nurse under the Public Health Act. Investigation and enforcement of the requirement occurs where complaints are made to the Ministry of Health.

There have been three complaints received since 2005. Each was investigated.

Aged care facilities are regulated on a national basis through the Australian Aged Care Quality Agency. Complaints about aged care facilities, including facilities in NSW, can be made through the Aged Care Complaints Scheme which is operated by the Commonwealth Department of Social Services. Complaints can be made online via the website or a dedicated complaints telephone line

All residential aged care facilities are assessed against the Commonwealth Accreditation Standards that are detailed in the Commonwealth Quality of Care Principles 2014. These assessments are subject to annual reporting by the Commonwealth.

- \*649 TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE—SECURITY FUNDING FOR SYDNEY TRAINS—Revd Mr Nile asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure—
  - (1) Has Sydney Trains, with 178 stations, conducting 284 million customer journeys each year received funding promised for security?
  - (2) Will Sydney Trains current operational review affect passenger security?
  - (3) Is the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure committed to retaining the number of hours that train stations are staffed?

Answer-

I am advised:

Refer to my response to question LC 0473.

\*650 MEDICAL RESEARCH, MENTAL HEALTH, PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT, WOMEN—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?

#### (6)

- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?

(9)

- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?
- (c) What are the details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts for the entities in Question 9(a)?
- (d) What are the details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant as above?

(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

(11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
- (c) Who paid for these trips?
- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
  - (a) Taxi hire?
  - (b) Limousine hire?
  - (c) Private hire care?
  - (d) Hire car rental?

(13)

- (a) Have the Minister used Uber in the past month?
- (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?

(14)

- (a) Have the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?

(15)

- (a) Have the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?
- (17) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business in the past month?

(18)

- (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
- (b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?
- (19)
  - (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
  - (b) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

(20)

- (a) Have any Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms in the past month?
- (b) If so, please advise in table form:
  - (i) The names of the firms utilised?
  - (ii) The total amount paid to each firm engaged?
  - (iii) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
  - (iv) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
  - (v) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company?
  - (vi) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company?
  - (vii) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company?
- (21) How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of the Minister's portfolio agencies in the past month?
- (22) What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations

advisers to be employed and their total cost in the past month?

(23) What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(24)

- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
- (b) If so, who paid for it?
- (c) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

(25)

- (a) How much have the Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs in the past month?
- (b) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
- (26) Have Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in the past month:
  - (a) Social media
    - (i) What was the cost of these services?
  - (b) Photography

(i) What was the cost of these services?

(c) Acting training

(i) What was the cost of these services?

(d) Ergonomics

(i) What was the cost of these services?

(27)

- (a) How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) Of these redundancies, how many were:
  - (i) Voluntary?
  - (ii) Forced?
- (c) What was the total cost of all redundancies?

(28)

- (a) How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What were the reason's for each dismissal?
- (29) How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(30)

- (a) How many tickets to sporting events were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(31)

- (a) How many tickets to theatre or art galleries were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(32)

- (a) How much did Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the past month?
- (b) How much of these bills were alcohol?

(33)

- (a) Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What was the sum total of any such fraud?

(c) What was the result of any investigations?

(34)

- (a) How large is the Department's vehicle fleet in the past month?
- (b) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
- (c) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
- (d) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
- (35) How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions in the past month?

(36)

- (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
- (b) What is their remuneration band?
- (c) For each SES employee, how many have:
  - (i) 0 staff reporting to them?
  - (ii) less than 2 staff reporting to them?
  - (iii) less than 5 staff?
- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
  - (a) workplace bullying?
  - (b) stress leave?
  - (c) sick leave?

(38)

- (a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for staff training in the past month?
- (b) If so, what is:
  - (i) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (ii) the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (iii) the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

(39)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on iTunes?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?
- (40)
- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on Android?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- (41) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any safety issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (42) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any waste issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (43) How many highlighters were purchased by the Minister's office in the past month?
- (44) How much was spent on stationery by the Minister's in the past month?

(45)

- (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
- (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
- (c) How many of these were more than \$50?

(d) How many of these were more than \$100?

Answer-

Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No 3 during Budget Estimates. I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 3 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*651 PREMIER, WESTERN SYDNEY—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Premier, and Minister for Western Sydney—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?

(6)

- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?

(9)

- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?
- (c) What are the details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts for the entities in Question 9(a)?

(d) What are the details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant as above?

(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

(11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
- (c) Who paid for these trips?
- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
  - (a) Taxi hire?
  - (b) Limousine hire?
  - (c) Private hire care?
  - (d) Hire car rental?

(13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
- (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?

(14)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?

(15)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?
- (17) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business in the past month?

(18)

- (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
- (b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

(19)

- (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
- (b) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

(20)

- (a) Have any Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms in the past month?
- (b) If so, please advise in table form:
  - (i) The names of the firms utilised?
  - (ii) The total amount paid to each firm engaged?
  - (iii) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
  - (iv) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
  - (v) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company?
  - (vi) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company?
  - (vii) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company?
- (21) How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of the Minister's portfolio

agencies in the past month?

- (22) What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost in the past month?
- (23) What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(24)

- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
- (b) If so, who paid for it?
- (c) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

(25)

- (a) How much have the Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs in the past month?
- (b) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
- (26) Have Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in the past month:

(a)

- (i) Social media?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(b)

- (i) Photography?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(c)

- (i) Acting training?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(d)

- (i) Ergonomics?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(27)

- (a) How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) Of these redundancies, how many were:
  - (i) Voluntary?
  - (ii) Forced?
- (c) What was the total cost of all redundancies?

(28)

- (a) How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What were the reason's for each dismissal?
- (29) How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(30)

- (a) How many tickets to sporting events were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(31)

- (a) How many tickets to theatre or art galleries were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(32)

(a) How much did Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities spend on

restaurant bills during the past month?

(b) How much of these bills were alcohol?

(33)

- (a) Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What was the sum total of any such fraud?
- (c) What was the result of any investigations?

(34)

- (a) How large is the Department's vehicle fleet in the past month?
- (b) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
- (c) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
- (d) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
- (35) How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions in the past month?

(36)

- (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
- (b) What is their remuneration band?
- (c) For each SES employee, how many have:
  - (i) 0 staff reporting to them?
  - (ii) less than 2 staff reporting to them?
  - (iii) less than 5 staff?
- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
  - (a) Workplace bullying?
  - (b) Stress leave?
  - (c) Sick leave?

(38)

- (a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for staff training in the past month?
- (b) If so, what is:
  - (i) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (ii) the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (iii) the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

(39)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on iTunes?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?

(40)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on Android?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- (41) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any safety issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (42) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any waste issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (43) How many highlighters were purchased by the Minister's office in the past month?

(44) How much was spent on stationery by the Minister's in the past month?

(45)

- (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
- (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
- (c) How many of these were more than \$50?
- (d) How many of these were more than \$100?

Answer—

Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No 1 during Budget Estimates. I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 1 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*652 ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS, EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Early Childhood Education, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, and Assistant Minister for Education—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?
- (4)
- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?

(6)

- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?

(9)

- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?
- (c) What are the details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts for the entities in Question 9(a)?
- (d) What are the details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant as above?

(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

(11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
- (c) Who paid for these trips?
- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
  - (a) Taxi hire?
  - (b) Limousine hire?
  - (c) Private hire care?
  - (d) Hire car rental?

(13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
- (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?

(14)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?
- (15)
  - (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
  - (b) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?
- (17) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business in the past month?

(18)

- (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
- (b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

(19)

- (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
- (b) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

(20)

- (a) Have any Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms in the past month?
- (b) If so, please advise in table form:

- (i) The names of the firms utilised?
- (ii) The total amount paid to each firm engaged?
- (iii) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
- (iv) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
- (v) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company?
- (vi) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company?
- (vii) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company?
- (21) How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of the Minister's portfolio agencies in the past month?
- (22) What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost in the past month?
- (23) What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(24)

- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
- (b) If so, who paid for it?
- (c) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

(25)

- (a) How much have the Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs in the past month?
- (b) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
- (26) Have Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in the past month:

(a)

- (i) Social media?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?
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- (i) Photography?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(c)

- (i) Acting training?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(d)

- (i) Ergonomics?
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(27)

- (a) How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
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  - (i) Voluntary?
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- (29) How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

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(b) Please list each event

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- (b) Please list each event

(32)

- (a) How much did Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the past month?
- (b) How much of these bills were alcohol?

(33)

- (a) Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What was the sum total of any such fraud?
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- (a) How large is the Department's vehicle fleet in the past month?
- (b) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
- (c) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
- (d) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
- (35) How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions in the past month?

(36)

- (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
- (b) What is their remuneration band?
- (c) For each SES employee, how many have:
  - (i) 0 staff reporting to them?
  - (ii) less than 2 staff reporting to them?
  - (iii) less than 5 staff?
- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
  - (a) Workplace bullying?
  - (b) Stress leave?
  - (c) Sick leave?

(38)

- (a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for staff training in the past month?
- (b) If so, what is:
  - (i) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (ii) the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (iii) the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

(39)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on iTunes?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?

(40)

(a) Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?

- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on Android?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- (41) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any safety issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (42) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any waste issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (43) How many highlighters were purchased by the Minister's office in the past month?
- (44) How much was spent on stationery by the Minister's in the past month?

(45)

- (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
- (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
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# Answer—

Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No 3 during Budget Estimates. I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 3 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*653 ARTS, JUSTICE AND POLICE—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Racing—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?
- (6)
- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?

(c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?
- (9)
- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?
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- (d) What are the details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant as above?

(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

## (11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
- (c) Who paid for these trips?
- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
  - (a) Taxi hire?
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(13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
- (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?

(14)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?

(15)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
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- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?
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(18)

- (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
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- (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
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- (20)
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  - (b) If so, please advise in table form:
    - (i) The names of the firms utilised?
    - (ii) The total amount paid to each firm engaged?
    - (iii) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
    - (iv) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
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- (23) What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(24)

- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
- (b) If so, who paid for it?
- (c) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?
- (25)
  - (a) How much have the Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs in the past month?
  - (b) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
- (26) Have Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in the past month:

(a)

- (i) Social media?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(b)

- (i) Photography?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?
- (c)
- (i) Acting training?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(d)

- (i) Ergonomics?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(27)

- (a) How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
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  - (i) Voluntary?
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- (29) How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

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(32)

- (a) How much did Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the past month?
- (b) How much of these bills were alcohol?

(33)

- (a) Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What was the sum total of any such fraud?
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- (a) How large is the Department's vehicle fleet in the past month?
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- (c) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
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- (35) How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions in the past month?

(36)

- (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
- (b) What is their remuneration band?
- (c) For each SES employee, how many have:
  - (i) 0 staff reporting to them?
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- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
  - (a) Workplace bullying?
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(38)

- (a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for staff training in the past month?
- (b) If so, what is:
  - (i) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (ii) the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?

(iii) the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

(39)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on iTunes?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?

(40)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on Android?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- (41) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any safety issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (42) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any waste issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (43) How many highlighters were purchased by the Minister's office in the past month?
- (44) How much was spent on stationery by the Minister's in the past month?

(45)

- (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
- (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
- (c) How many of these were more than \$50?
- (d) How many of these were more than \$100?
- Answer-

I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 4 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*654 RACING—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Racing—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?

(6)

- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?

(9)

- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?
- (c) What are the details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts for the entities in Question 9(a)?
- (d) What are the details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant as above?

(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

(11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
- (c) Who paid for these trips?
- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
  - (a) Taxi hire?
  - (b) Limousine hire?
  - (c) Private hire care?
  - (d) Hire car rental?

(13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
- (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?

(14)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?

(15)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?
- (17) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business in the past month?

- (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
- (b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

(19)

- (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
- (b) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

(20)

- (a) Have any Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms in the past month?
- (b) If so, please advise in table form:
  - (i) The names of the firms utilised?
  - (ii) The total amount paid to each firm engaged?
  - (iii) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
  - (iv) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
  - (v) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company?
  - (vi) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company?
  - (vii) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company?
- (21) How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of the Minister's portfolio agencies in the past month?
- (22) What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost in the past month?
- (23) What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(24)

- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
- (b) If so, who paid for it?
- (c) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

(25)

- (a) How much have the Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs in the past month?
- (b) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
- (26) Have Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in the past month:

(a)

- (i) Social media?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?
- (b)
- (i) Photography?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?
- (c)
- (i) Acting training?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?
- (d)
- (i) Ergonomics?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(27)

- (a) How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) Of these redundancies, how many were:

- (i) Voluntary?
- (ii) Forced?
- (c) What was the total cost of all redundancies?

(28)

- (a) How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
- (29) How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(30)

- (a) How many tickets to sporting events were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(31)

- (a) How many tickets to theatre or art galleries were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(32)

- (a) How much did Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the past month?
- (b) How much of these bills were alcohol?

(33)

- (a) Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What was the sum total of any such fraud?
- (c) What was the result of any investigations?

(34)

- (a) How large is the Department's vehicle fleet in the past month?
- (b) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
- (c) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
- (d) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
- (35) How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions in the past month?

(36)

- (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
- (b) What is their remuneration band?
- (c) For each SES employee, how many have:
  - (i) 0 staff reporting to them?
  - (ii) less than 2 staff reporting to them?
  - (iii) less than 5 staff?
- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
  - (a) Workplace bullying?
  - (b) Stress leave?
  - (c) Sick leave?

(38)

- (a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for staff training in the past month?
- (b) If so, what is:

- (i) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
- (ii) the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
- (iii) the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

(39)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on iTunes?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?

(40)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on Android?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- (41) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any safety issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (42) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any waste issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (43) How many highlighters were purchased by the Minister's office in the past month?
- (44) How much was spent on stationery by the Minister's in the past month?

(45)

- (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
- (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
- (c) How many of these were more than \$50?
- (d) How many of these were more than \$100?

# Answer—

Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No 4 during Budget Estimates. I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 4 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*655 INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, TREASURER—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Treasurer, and Minister for Industrial Relations—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?
- (3)
- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?
- (4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?

(6)

- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
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(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?

(9)

- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?
- (c) What are the details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts for the entities in Question 9(a)?
- (d) What are the details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant as above?

(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

(11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
- (c) Who paid for these trips?
- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
  - (a) Taxi hire?
  - (b) Limousine hire?
  - (c) Private hire care?
  - (d) Hire car rental?

(13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
- (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?

(14)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?

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- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?
- (17) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business in the past month?

(18)

- (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
- (b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

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- (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
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- (b) If so, please advise in table form:
  - (i) The names of the firms utilised?
  - (ii) The total amount paid to each firm engaged?
  - (iii) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
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  - (vi) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company?
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- (21) How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of the Minister's portfolio agencies in the past month?
- (22) What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost in the past month?
- (23) What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(24)

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- (b) If so, who paid for it?
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- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(b)

- (i) Photography?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?
- (c)
- (i) Acting training?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?
- (d)

- (i) Ergonomics?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(27)

- (a) How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
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- (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
- (b) What is their remuneration band?
- (c) For each SES employee, how many have:
  - (i) 0 staff reporting to them?
  - (ii) less than 2 staff reporting to them?
  - (iii) less than 5 staff?
- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
  - (a) Workplace bullying?

- (b) Stress leave?
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(38)

- (a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for staff training in the past month?
- (b) If so, what is:
  - (i) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
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- (43) How many highlighters were purchased by the Minister's office in the past month?
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  - (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
  - (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
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Answer-

Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No 1 during Budget Estimates. I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 1 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*656 EDUCATION—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Education—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?

(c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?

(6)

- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?

(9)

- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
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(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

(11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
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(13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
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- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
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#### (18)

- (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
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- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
- (b) If so, who paid for it?
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(25)

- (a) How much have the Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs in the past month?
- (b) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
- (26) Have Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in the past month:

(a)

- (i) Social media?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(b)

- (i) Photography?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(c)

- (i) Acting training?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(d)

- (i) Ergonomics?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

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(30)

- (a) How many tickets to sporting events were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(31)

- (a) How many tickets to theatre or art galleries were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(32)

- (a) How much did Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the past month?
- (b) How much of these bills were alcohol?
- (33)
  - (a) Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
  - (b) What was the sum total of any such fraud?
  - (c) What was the result of any investigations?

(34)

- (a) How large is the Department's vehicle fleet in the past month?
- (b) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
- (c) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
- (d) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
- (35) How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions in the past month?

(36)

- (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
- (b) What is their remuneration band?
- (c) For each SES employee, how many have:

- (i) 0 staff reporting to them?
- (ii) less than 2 staff reporting to them?
- (iii) less than 5 staff?
- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
  - (a) Workplace bullying?
  - (b) Stress leave?
  - (c) Sick leave?

(38)

- (a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for staff training in the past month?
- (b) If so, what is:
  - (i) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (ii) the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (iii) the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

(39)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on iTunes?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?

(40)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on Android?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- (41) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any safety issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (42) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any waste issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (43) How many highlighters were purchased by the Minister's office in the past month?
- (44) How much was spent on stationery by the Minister's in the past month?
- (45)
  - (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
  - (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
  - (c) How many of these were more than \$50?
  - (d) How many of these were more than \$100?

#### Answer—

Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No. 3 during Budget Estimates. I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 3 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*657 ROADS, MARITIME AND FREIGHT—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?

(c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?

(6)

- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?
- (9)
- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?
- (c) What are the details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts for the entities in Question 9(a)?
- (d) What are the details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant as above?

(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

(11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
- (c) Who paid for these trips?
- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
  - (a) Taxi hire?

- (b) Limousine hire?
- (c) Private hire care?
- (d) Hire car rental?

(13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
- (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?

(14)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?

(15)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?
- (17) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business in the past month?

(18)

- (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
- (b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

(19)

- (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
- (b) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

(20)

- (a) Have any Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms in the past month?
- (b) If so, please advise in table form:
  - (i) The names of the firms utilised?
  - (ii) The total amount paid to each firm engaged?
  - (iii) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
  - (iv) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
  - (v) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company?
  - (vi) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company?
  - (vii) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company?
- (21) How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of the Minister's portfolio agencies in the past month?
- (22) What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost in the past month?
- (23) What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(24)

- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
- (b) If so, who paid for it?
- (c) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

(25)

- (a) How much have the Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs in the past month?
- (b) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?

(26) Have Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in the past month:

(a)

- (i) Social media?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(b)

- (i) Photography?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(c)

- (i) Acting training?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(d)

- (i) Ergonomics?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(27)

- (a) How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) Of these redundancies, how many were:
  - (i) Voluntary?
  - (ii) Forced?
- (c) What was the total cost of all redundancies?

(28)

- (a) How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What were the reason's for each dismissal?
- (29) How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(30)

- (a) How many tickets to sporting events were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(31)

- (a) How many tickets to theatre or art galleries were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(32)

- (a) How much did Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the past month?
- (b) How much of these bills were alcohol?

(33)

- (a) Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What was the sum total of any such fraud?
- (c) What was the result of any investigations?

(34)

- (a) How large is the Department's vehicle fleet in the past month?
- (b) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
- (c) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
- (d) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
- (35) How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions in the past

month?

(36)

- (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
- (b) What is their remuneration band?
- (c) For each SES employee, how many have:
  - (i) 0 staff reporting to them?
  - (ii) less than 2 staff reporting to them?
  - (iii) less than 5 staff?
- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
  - (a) Workplace bullying?
  - (b) Stress leave?
  - (c) Sick leave?

(38)

- (a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for staff training in the past month?
- (b) If so, what is:
  - (i) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (ii) the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (iii) the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

(39)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on iTunes?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?

(40)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on Android?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- (41) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any safety issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (42) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any waste issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (43) How many highlighters were purchased by the Minister's office in the past month?
- (44) How much was spent on stationery by the Minister's in the past month?
- (45)
  - (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
  - (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
  - (c) How many of these were more than \$50?
  - (d) How many of these were more than \$100?

Answer-

I am advised:

Please refer to my previous answer to LC 525.

\*658 INDUSTRY, RESOURCES AND ENERGY—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?

(6)

- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?

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- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
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- (d) What are the details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant as above?

(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

(11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
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- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
  - (a) Taxi hire?
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  - (d) Hire car rental?
- (13)
  - (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
  - (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?
- (14)
  - (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
  - (b) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?
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- (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
- (b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?
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  - (a) Workplace bullying?
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(38)

- (a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for staff training in the past month?
- (b) If so, what is:
  - (i) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
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- (44) How much was spent on stationery by the Minister's in the past month?

(45)

- (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
- (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
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Answer—

Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No 5 during Budget Estimates. I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 5 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*659 HEALTH—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Health—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?
- (6)
- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?

(9)

- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?
- (c) What are the details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts for the entities in Question 9(a)?
- (d) What are the details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant as

above?

(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

(11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
- (c) Who paid for these trips?
- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
  - (a) Taxi hire?
  - (b) Limousine hire?
  - (c) Private hire care?
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(13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
- (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?

(14)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?

(15)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?
- (17) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business in the past month?
- (18)
  - (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
  - (b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

(19)

- (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
- (b) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

(20)

- (a) Have any Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms in the past month?
- (b) If so, please advise in table form:
  - (i) The names of the firms utilised?
  - (ii) The total amount paid to each firm engaged?
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  - (vii) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company?
- (21) How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of the Minister's portfolio agencies in the past month?

- (22) What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost in the past month?
- (23) What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(24)

- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
- (b) If so, who paid for it?
- (c) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

(25)

- (a) How much have the Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs in the past month?
- (b) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
- (26) Have Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in the past month:

(a)

- (i) Social media?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(b)

- (i) Photography?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(c)

- (i) Acting training?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(d)

- (i) Ergonomics?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(27)

- (a) How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) Of these redundancies, how many were:
  - (i) Voluntary?
  - (ii) Forced?
- (c) What was the total cost of all redundancies?

(28)

- (a) How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
- (29) How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(30)

- (a) How many tickets to sporting events were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(31)

- (a) How many tickets to theatre or art galleries were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(32)

(a) How much did Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the past month?

(b) How much of these bills were alcohol?

(33)

- (a) Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What was the sum total of any such fraud?
- (c) What was the result of any investigations?

(34)

- (a) How large is the Department's vehicle fleet in the past month?
- (b) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
- (c) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
- (d) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
- (35) How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions in the past month?

(36)

- (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
- (b) What is their remuneration band?
- (c) For each SES employee, how many have:
  - (i) 0 staff reporting to them?
  - (ii) less than 2 staff reporting to them?
  - (iii) less than 5 staff?
- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
  - (a) Workplace bullying?
  - (b) Stress leave?
  - (c) Sick leave?

(38)

- (a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for staff training in the past month?
- (b) If so, what is:
  - (i) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (ii) the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (iii) the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

(39)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on iTunes?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?

(40)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on Android?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- (41) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any safety issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (42) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any waste issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (43) How many highlighters were purchased by the Minister's office in the past month?
- (44) How much was spent on stationery by the Minister's in the past month?

### (45)

- (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
- (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
- (c) How many of these were more than \$50?
- (d) How many of these were more than \$100?

# Answer-

I am advised that: Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No 1 during Budget Estimates. I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 1 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*660 TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

### (2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

(a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?(b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?

(6)

- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?

(9)

- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?
- (c) What are the details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts for the entities in Question 9(a)?
- (d) What are the details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant as above?

(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

(11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
- (c) Who paid for these trips?
- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
  - (a) Taxi hire?
  - (b) Limousine hire?
  - (c) Private hire care?
  - (d) Hire car rental?

(13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
- (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?

(14)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?

(15)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?
- (17) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business in the past month?
- (18)
  - (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
  - (b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

(19)

- (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
- (b) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?
- (20)
- (a) Have any Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms in the past month?
- (b) If so, please advise in table form:
  - (i) The names of the firms utilised?
  - (ii) The total amount paid to each firm engaged?
  - (iii) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company?

- (iv) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
- (v) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company?
- (vi) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company?
- (vii) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company?
- (21) How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of the Minister's portfolio agencies in the past month?
- (22) What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost in the past month?
- (23) What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(24)

- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
- (b) If so, who paid for it?
- (c) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

(25)

- (a) How much have the Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs in the past month?
- (b) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
- (26) Have Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in the past month:

(a)

- (i) Social media?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(b)

- (i) Photography?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?
- (c)
- (i) Acting training?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(d)

- (i) Ergonomics?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(27)

- (a) How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) Of these redundancies, how many were:
  - (i) Voluntary?
  - (ii) Forced?
- (c) What was the total cost of all redundancies?

(28)

- (a) How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What were the reason's for each dismissal?
- (29) How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(30)

- (a) How many tickets to sporting events were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(31)

- (a) How many tickets to theatre or art galleries were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(32)

- (a) How much did Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the past month?
- (b) How much of these bills were alcohol?

(33)

- (a) Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What was the sum total of any such fraud?
- (c) What was the result of any investigations?

(34)

- (a) How large is the Department's vehicle fleet in the past month?
- (b) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
- (c) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
- (d) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
- (35) How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions in the past month?

(36)

- (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
- (b) What is their remuneration band?
- (c) For each SES employee, how many have:
  - (i) 0 staff reporting to them?
  - (ii) less than 2 staff reporting to them?
  - (iii) less than 5 staff?
- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
  - (a) Workplace bullying?
  - (b) Stress leave?
  - (c) Sick leave?

(38)

- (a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for staff training in the past month?
- (b) If so, what is:
  - (i) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (ii) the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (iii) the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

(39)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on iTunes?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?

(40)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on Android?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?

- (41) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any safety issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (42) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any waste issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (43) How many highlighters were purchased by the Minister's office in the past month?
- (44) How much was spent on stationery by the Minister's in the past month?

(45)

- (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
- (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
- (c) How many of these were more than \$50?
- (d) How many of these were more than \$100?

Answer—

I am advised:

Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No. 2 during Budget Estimates. I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 2 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*661 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, SOCIAL HOUSING—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Social Housing—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?
- (6)
- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?

(c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?

(9)

- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?
- (c) What are the details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts for the entities in Question 9(a)?
- (d) What are the details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant as above?

(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

# (11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
- (c) Who paid for these trips?
- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
  - (a) Taxi hire?
  - (b) Limousine hire?
  - (c) Private hire care?
  - (d) Hire car rental?

(13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
- (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?

(14)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?

(15)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?
- (17) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business in the past month?

(18)

- (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
- (b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

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- (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
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- (21) How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of the Minister's portfolio agencies in the past month?
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- (23) What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(24)

- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
- (b) If so, who paid for it?
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- (i) Photography?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?
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- (i) Acting training?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

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- (i) Ergonomics?
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(27)

- (a) How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
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- (b) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
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- (35) How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions in the past month?

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- (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
- (b) What is their remuneration band?
- (c) For each SES employee, how many have:
  - (i) 0 staff reporting to them?
  - (ii) less than 2 staff reporting to them?
  - (iii) less than 5 staff?
- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
  - (a) Workplace bullying?
  - (b) Stress leave?
  - (c) Sick leave?

(38)

- (a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for staff training in the past month?
- (b) If so, what is:
  - (i) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (ii) the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?

(iii) the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

(39)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on iTunes?
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(40)

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- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on Android?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- (41) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any safety issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
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- (43) How many highlighters were purchased by the Minister's office in the past month?
- (44) How much was spent on stationery by the Minister's in the past month?

(45)

- (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
- (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
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Answer-

Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No. 2 during Budget Estimates. I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 2 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*662 PLANNING—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Planning—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?
- (6)
- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?

(9)

- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?
- (c) What are the details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts for the entities in Question 9(a)?
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(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

(11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
- (c) Who paid for these trips?
- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
  - (a) Taxi hire?
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  - (c) Private hire care?
  - (d) Hire car rental?

(13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
- (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?

(14)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?

(15)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?

(17) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business in the past month?

(18)

- (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
- (b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

(19)

- (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
- (b) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?
- (20)
- (a) Have any Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms in the past month?
- (b) If so, please advise in table form:
  - (i) The names of the firms utilised?
  - (ii) The total amount paid to each firm engaged?
  - (iii) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
  - (iv) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
  - (v) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company?
  - (vi) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company?
  - (vii) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company?
- (21) How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of the Minister's portfolio agencies in the past month?
- (22) What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost in the past month?
- (23) What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(24)

- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
- (b) If so, who paid for it?
- (c) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

(25)

- (a) How much have the Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs in the past month?
- (b) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
- (26) Have Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in the past month:

(a)

- (i) Social media?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(b)

- (i) Photography?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(c)

- (i) Acting training?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(d)

- (i) Ergonomics?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(27)

(a) How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within the Minister's

portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

- (b) Of these redundancies, how many were:
  - (i) Voluntary?
  - (ii) Forced?
- (c) What was the total cost of all redundancies?

(28)

- (a) How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What were the reason's for each dismissal?
- (29) How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(30)

- (a) How many tickets to sporting events were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(31)

- (a) How many tickets to theatre or art galleries were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(32)

- (a) How much did Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the past month?
- (b) How much of these bills were alcohol?

(33)

- (a) Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What was the sum total of any such fraud?
- (c) What was the result of any investigations?

(34)

- (a) How large is the Department's vehicle fleet in the past month?
- (b) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
- (c) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
- (d) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
- (35) How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions in the past month?

(36)

- (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
- (b) What is their remuneration band?
- (c) For each SES employee, how many have:
  - (i) 0 staff reporting to them?
  - (ii) less than 2 staff reporting to them?
  - (iii) less than 5 staff?
- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
  - (a) Workplace bullying?
  - (b) Stress leave?
  - (c) Sick leave?

(38)

(a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for

staff training in the past month?

- (b) If so, what is:
  - (i) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (ii) the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (iii) the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

(39)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on iTunes?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?

(40)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on Android?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- (41) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any safety issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (42) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any waste issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (43) How many highlighters were purchased by the Minister's office in the past month?
- (44) How much was spent on stationery by the Minister's in the past month?

(45)

- (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
- (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
- (c) How many of these were more than \$50?
- (d) How many of these were more than \$100?

Answer-

I am advised:

Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No 4 during Budget Estimates. I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 4 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*663 FINANCE, SERVICES AND PROPERTY—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Finance, Services and Property—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

(a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?(b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?

(6)

- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?

(9)

- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?
- (c) What are the details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts for the entities in Question 9(a)?
- (d) What are the details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant as above?

(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

(11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
- (c) Who paid for these trips?
- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
  - (a) Taxi hire?
  - (b) Limousine hire?
  - (c) Private hire care?
  - (d) Hire car rental?

(13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
- (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?

(14)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?

(15)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?
- (17) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business in the past month?

(18)

- (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
- (b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

(19)

- (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
- (b) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

(20)

- (a) Have any Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms in the past month?
- (b) If so, please advise in table form:
  - (i) The names of the firms utilised?
  - (ii) The total amount paid to each firm engaged?
  - (iii) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
  - (iv) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
  - (v) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company?
  - (vi) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company?
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- (21) How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of the Minister's portfolio agencies in the past month?
- (22) What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost in the past month?
- (23) What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(24)

- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
- (b) If so, who paid for it?
- (c) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

(25)

- (a) How much have the Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs in the past month?
- (b) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
- (26) Have Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in the past month:

(a)

- (i) Social media?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(b)

(i) Photography?

(ii) What was the cost of these services?

(c)

- (i) Acting training?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(d)

- (i) Ergonomics?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(27)

- (a) How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) Of these redundancies, how many were:
  - (i) Voluntary?
  - (ii) Forced?
- (c) What was the total cost of all redundancies?

(28)

- (a) How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What were the reason's for each dismissal?
- (29) How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(30)

- (a) How many tickets to sporting events were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(31)

- (a) How many tickets to theatre or art galleries were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(32)

- (a) How much did Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the past month?
- (b) How much of these bills were alcohol?

(33)

- (a) Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What was the sum total of any such fraud?
- (c) What was the result of any investigations?

(34)

- (a) How large is the Department's vehicle fleet in the past month?
- (b) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
- (c) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
- (d) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
- (35) How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions in the past month?
- (36)
  - (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
  - (b) What is their remuneration band?
  - (c) For each SES employee, how many have:
    - (i) 0 staff reporting to them?

- (ii) less than 2 staff reporting to them?
- (iii) less than 5 staff?
- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
  - (a) Workplace bullying?
  - (b) Stress leave?
  - (c) Sick leave?

(38)

- (a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for staff training in the past month?
- (b) If so, what is:
  - (i) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (ii) the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (iii) the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

(39)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on iTunes?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?

(40)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on Android?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- (41) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any safety issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (42) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any waste issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (43) How many highlighters were purchased by the Minister's office in the past month?
- (44) How much was spent on stationery by the Minister's in the past month?
- (45)
  - (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
  - (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
  - (c) How many of these were more than \$50?
  - (d) How many of these were more than \$100?

## Answer—

Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No 1 during Budget Estimates. I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 1 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*664 ATTORNEY GENERAL—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Attorney General—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on

appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?

(6)

- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
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(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?
- (9)
- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
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- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
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(11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
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- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
  - (a) Taxi hire?
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- (c) Private hire care?
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(13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
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(14)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
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- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?
- (17) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business in the past month?

(18)

- (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
- (b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

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- (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
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- (a) Have any Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms in the past month?
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- (23) What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(24)

- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
- (b) If so, who paid for it?
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- (a) How much have the Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs in the past month?
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following services or advice in the past month:

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- (i) Acting training?
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- (a) How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
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- (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
- (b) What is their remuneration band?
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  - (i) 0 staff reporting to them?
  - (ii) less than 2 staff reporting to them?
  - (iii) less than 5 staff?
- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
  - (a) Workplace bullying?
  - (b) Stress leave?
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(38)

- (a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for staff training in the past month?
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  - (i) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
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- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on Android?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- (41) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any safety issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (42) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any waste issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (43) How many highlighters were purchased by the Minister's office in the past month?
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  - (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
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Answer-

Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No 4 during Budget Estimates.

I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No 4 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16

Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*665 AGEING, DISABILITY SERVICES, MULTICULTURALISM—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?

(6)

- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?

(9)

- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?
- (c) What are the details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts for the entities in Question 9(a)?
- (d) What are the details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant as above?

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- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

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- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
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- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
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## (13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
- (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?
- (14)
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  - (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
  - (b) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?
- (17) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business in the past month?
- (18)
- (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
- (b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

(19)

- (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
- (b) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?
- (20)
- (a) Have any Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms in the past month?
- (b) If so, please advise in table form:
  - (i) The names of the firms utilised?
  - (ii) The total amount paid to each firm engaged?
  - (iii) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
  - (iv) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
  - (v) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company?
  - (vi) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company?
  - (vii) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company?
- (21) How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of the Minister's portfolio agencies in the past month?
- (22) What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost in the past month?
- (23) What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (24)

- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
- (b) If so, who paid for it?
- (c) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

(25)

- (a) How much have the Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs in the past month?
- (b) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
- (26) Have Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in the past month:

(a)

- (i) Social media?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(b)

- (i) Photography?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?
- (c)
- (i) Acting training?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(d)

- (i) Ergonomics?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(27)

- (a) How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) Of these redundancies, how many were:
  - (i) Voluntary?
  - (ii) Forced?
- (c) What was the total cost of all redundancies?

(28)

- (a) How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
- (29) How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(30)

- (a) How many tickets to sporting events were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(31)

- (a) How many tickets to theatre or art galleries were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(32)

- (a) How much did Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the past month?
- (b) How much of these bills were alcohol?

(33)

- (a) Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What was the sum total of any such fraud?

(c) What was the result of any investigations?

(34)

- (a) How large is the Department's vehicle fleet in the past month?
- (b) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
- (c) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
- (d) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
- (35) How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions in the past month?

(36)

- (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
- (b) What is their remuneration band?
- (c) For each SES employee, how many have:
  - (i) 0 staff reporting to them?
  - (ii) less than 2 staff reporting to them?
  - (iii) less than 5 staff?
- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
  - (a) Workplace bullying?
  - (b) Stress leave?
  - (c) Sick leave?

(38)

- (a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for staff training in the past month?
- (b) If so, what is:
  - (i) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (ii) the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
  - (iii) the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

(39)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on iTunes?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?
- (40)
- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on Android?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- (41) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any safety issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (42) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any waste issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (43) How many highlighters were purchased by the Minister's office in the past month?
- (44) How much was spent on stationery by the Minister's in the past month?

(45)

- (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
- (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
- (c) How many of these were more than \$50?

(d) How many of these were more than \$100?

Answer-

Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No. 2 during Budget Estimates. I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 2 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*666 SPORT, TRADE, TOURISM AND MAJOR EVENTS—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Trade, Tourism and Major Events, and Minister for Sport—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?
- (6)
- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?

(9)

- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?

- (c) What are the details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts for the entities in Question 9(a)?
- (d) What are the details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant as above?

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- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
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- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
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- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?
- (17) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business in the past month?
- (18)
  - (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
  - (b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

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- (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
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- (a) Have any Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms in the past month?
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- (21) How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of the Minister's portfolio agencies in the past month?
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- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
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- (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
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Answer-

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\*667 INNOVATION AND BETTER REGULATION—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

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- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
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- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
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## Answer—

Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No 6 during Budget Estimates.

I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 6 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*668 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT, SKILLS, SMALL BUSINESS—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills, and Minister for Small Business—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?

(6)

(a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online

news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?

- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?

(9)

- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?
- (c) What are the details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts for the entities in Question 9(a)?
- (d) What are the details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant as above?

(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

(11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
- (c) Who paid for these trips?
- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
  - (a) Taxi hire?
  - (b) Limousine hire?
  - (c) Private hire care?
  - (d) Hire car rental?

(13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
- (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?
- (14)
  - (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
  - (b) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?

(15)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?
- (17) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business in the past month?
- (18)
- (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid

for with public money in the last month?

(b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

(19)

- (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
- (b) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

(20)

- (a) Have any Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms in the past month?
- (b) If so, please advise in table form:
  - (i) The names of the firms utilised?
  - (ii) The total amount paid to each firm engaged?
  - (iii) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
  - (iv) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
  - (v) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company?
  - (vi) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company?
  - (vii) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company?
- (21) How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of the Minister's portfolio agencies in the past month?
- (22) What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost in the past month?
- (23) What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(24)

- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
- (b) If so, who paid for it?
- (c) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

(25)

- (a) How much have the Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs in the past month?
- (b) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
- (26) Have Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in the past month:
  - (a)
- (i) Social media?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?
- (b)
- (i) Photography?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(c)

- (i) Acting training?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(d)

- (i) Ergonomics?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(27)

- (a) How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) Of these redundancies, how many were:
  - (i) Voluntary?
  - (ii) Forced?

(c) What was the total cost of all redundancies?

(28)

- (a) How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?
- (29) How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(30)

- (a) How many tickets to sporting events were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(31)

- (a) How many tickets to theatre or art galleries were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(32)

- (a) How much did Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the past month?
- (b) How much of these bills were alcohol?

(33)

- (a) Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What was the sum total of any such fraud?
- (c) What was the result of any investigations?

(34)

- (a) How large is the Department's vehicle fleet in the past month?
- (b) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
- (c) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
- (d) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
- (35) How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions in the past month?

(36)

- (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
- (b) What is their remuneration band?
- (c) For each SES employee, how many have:
  - (i) 0 staff reporting to them?
  - (ii) less than 2 staff reporting to them?
  - (iii) less than 5 staff?
- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
  - (a) Workplace bullying?
  - (b) Stress leave?
  - (c) Sick leave?

(38)

- (a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for staff training in the past month?
- (b) If so, what is:
  - (i) the size of the contract for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?

- (ii) the term of the contracts for the provision of actors for staff training in the Minister's departments?
- (iii) the tender numbers for each of the contracts?

(39)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio have an iTunes account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on iTunes?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?

(40)

- (a) Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
- (b) What was the total expenditure in the past month on Android?
- (c) What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?
- (41) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any safety issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (42) In the past month, has the Minister been advised of any waste issues concerning programs operated by their departments or agencies?
- (43) How many highlighters were purchased by the Minister's office in the past month?
- (44) How much was spent on stationery by the Minister's in the past month?

(45)

- (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
- (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
- (c) How many of these were more than \$50?
- (d) How many of these were more than \$100?

Answer-

Information related to Minister Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department I Agency Administration, Department I Agency Travel and Department I Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No.6 during Budget Estimates. I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No.6 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*669 LOCAL GOVERNMENT—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Local Government—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

(a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?

(b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?

(6)

- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?

(9)

- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?
- (c) What are the details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts for the entities in Question 9(a)?
- (d) What are the details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant as above?

(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

(11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
- (c) Who paid for these trips?
- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
  - (a) Taxi hire?
  - (b) Limousine hire?
  - (c) Private hire care?
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(13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
- (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?
- (14)
  - (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
  - (b) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?

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(a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?

- (b) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?
- (17) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business in the past month?
- (18)
  - (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
  - (b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

(19)

- (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
- (b) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?
- (20)
- (a) Have any Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms in the past month?
- (b) If so, please advise in table form:
  - (i) The names of the firms utilised?
  - (ii) The total amount paid to each firm engaged?
  - (iii) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
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- (23) What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(24)

- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
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- (i) Acting training?
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(27)

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- (a) Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What was the sum total of any such fraud?
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(34)

- (a) How large is the Department's vehicle fleet in the past month?
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- (35) How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions in the past month?
- (36)
  - (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
  - (b) What is their remuneration band?
  - (c) For each SES employee, how many have:
    - (i) 0 staff reporting to them?
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- (37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:
  - (a) Workplace bullying?
  - (b) Stress leave?
  - (c) Sick leave?

(38)

- (a) Have any of the departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio area employed actors for staff training in the past month?
- (b) If so, what is:
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- (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
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#### Answer-

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# \*670 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
- (c) What was the individual cost of each data charge over \$1000 for the last month?

(3)

- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

(5)

- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
- (b) Which Foxtel package does the Minister's office receive?

(6)

- (a) What was the total cost of all subscriptions by the Minister and the Minister's staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in the last month?
- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
- (c) Who is the subscriber for each of these?

(7)

- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
- (c) Who were they gifted to?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
- (b) What was the cost of this for the last month?

(9)

- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?
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(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

(11)

- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
- (c) Who paid for these trips?
- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
  - (a) Taxi hire?
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(13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
- (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?

(14)

(a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from

work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?

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- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
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- (a) How much have the Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs in the past month?
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(a)

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- (ii) What was the cost of these services?
- (b)
- (i) Photography?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(c)

- (i) Acting training?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(d)

- (i) Ergonomics?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(27)

- (a) How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
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  - (i) Voluntary?
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- (b) Please list each event

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- (a) How many tickets to theatre or art galleries were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event

(32)

- (a) How much did Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the past month?
- (b) How much of these bills were alcohol?

(33)

- (a) Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) What was the sum total of any such fraud?
- (c) What was the result of any investigations?

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- (b) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
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- (d) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
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(36)

- (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
- (b) What is their remuneration band?
- (c) For each SES employee, how many have:
  - (i) 0 staff reporting to them?
  - (ii) less than 2 staff reporting to them?

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(37) How many sick days, leave days or days attributable to workers compensation were lost for each department/agency within the Minister's portfolio responsibility in the past month for:

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- (43) How many highlighters were purchased by the Minister's office in the past month?
- (44) How much was spent on stationery by the Minister's in the past month?

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- (a) How many cab charges were used by the Ministers office between 9am and 5pm on a weekday in the past month?
- (b) How many of these were less than \$10?
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#### Answer—

Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No 5 during Budget Estimates. I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 5 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*671 ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
- (b) What was the average salary for staff members in the Minister's office during the last month?
- (c) What is the average salary for a ministerial staffer in the Minister's office based on

appointments in the last month?

(2)

- (a) Did the Minister or the Minister's staff incur data charges on a mobile phone or tablet device greater than \$1000 for last month?
- (b) If so, how many times did this occur in the last month?
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- (a) Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What was the cost of this?

(4)

- (a) Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) If so, what was the cost of these items?

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- (a) How much did the Minister's office spend on Foxtel subscriptions in the last month?
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- (b) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
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- (a) What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by the Minister and the Minister's office in the last month?
- (b) What were the gifts purchased?
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- (a) Does the Minister purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for the Minister's office?
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- (9)
- (a) What are the names of all contractors or consultants employed or paid for by the Minister's office, under any agreement, contract or fee-for -service arrangement for the last month?
- (b) What are the Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) of the individuals in Question 9(a)?
- (c) What are the details of paid or unpaid invoices and amounts for the entities in Question 9(a)?
- (d) What are the details of services and fees provided by each contractor and or consultant as above?

(10)

- (a) Have any of the Minister's overseas trips in the past month been paid for in part or in full by using public money?
- (b) If so, did any of the Minister's relatives or friends accompany the Minister on these trips?

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- (a) Has the Minister undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded in the last month?
- (b) What was the nature of these trips?
- (c) Who paid for these trips?
- (12) What was the total bill for the Minister's office in the last month for:
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- (c) Private hire care?
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(13)

- (a) Has the Minister used Uber in the past month?
- (b) If so, were any of these occasions in an UberX vehicle?

(14)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Uber services travelling to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) Were any of those services in an UberX vehicle?

(15)

- (a) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office sought reimbursement for using Uber services to travel to or from work-related events, meetings or functions in the past month?
- (b) What is the value of those reimbursements?
- (16) Has the Minister used Airbnb in the past month?
- (17) Has the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office used Airbnb as an accommodation solution whilst travelling on official business in the past month?

(18)

- (a) Have any planes or helicopters been chartered by the Minister or the Minister's office and paid for with public money in the last month?
- (b) If so, will the Minister please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

(19)

- (a) What non-standard features are fitted to the Minister's ministerial vehicle in the last month?
- (b) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?

(20)

- (a) Have any Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms in the past month?
- (b) If so, please advise in table form:
  - (i) The names of the firms utilised?
  - (ii) The total amount paid to each firm engaged?
  - (iii) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
  - (iv) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company?
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  - (vii) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company?
- (21) How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of the Minister's portfolio agencies in the past month?
- (22) What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost in the past month?
- (23) What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

(24)

- (a) Has the Minister had media training or speech training in the past month?
- (b) If so, who paid for it?
- (c) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount?

(25)

- (a) How much have the Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio responsibility spent in legal costs in the past month?
- (b) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
- (26) Have Department/agencies under the Minister's portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the

following services or advice in the past month:

(a)

- (i) Social media?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(b)

- (i) Photography?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(c)

- (i) Acting training?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(d)

- (i) Ergonomics?
- (ii) What was the cost of these services?

(27)

- (a) How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
- (b) Of these redundancies, how many were:
  - (i) Voluntary?
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- (b) What were the reason's for each dismissal?
- (29) How much was spent on corporate hospitality by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?

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- (a) How many tickets to sporting events were provided to the Minister's office in the past month?
- (b) Please list each event
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- (32)
  - (a) How much did Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities spend on restaurant bills during the past month?
  - (b) How much of these bills were alcohol?

(33)

- (a) Were instances of internal fraud detected by Departments/agencies within the Minister's portfolio responsibilities in the past month?
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- (a) How large is the Department's vehicle fleet in the past month?
- (b) What is the composition of this fleet in terms of engine size?
- (c) How many of the fleet were involved in an accident during the year 2014-2015?
- (d) What was the total cost of insurance claims and repairs?
- (35) How much did departments/agencies spend on newspaper and journal subscriptions in the past month?

(36)

- (a) How many State Emergency Service (SES) employees are employed within departments/agencies under the Minister's portfolio in the past month?
- (b) What is their remuneration band?
- (c) For each SES employee, how many have:
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Answer-

I am advised as follows:

Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing

Committee (GPSC) No 5 during Budget Estimates. I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 5 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

\*672 CORRECTIONS, EMERGENCY SERVICES, VETERANS AFFAIRS—ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTERIAL OFFICE—Mrs Houssos asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Corrections, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Veterans Affairs—

(1)

- (a) How many staff were employed in your ministerial office in the last month?
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# Answer-

Information related to Ministerial Office Administration, Ministerial and Office Travel, Labour Hire Firms, Media and Public Relations, Consultants, Department/Agency Administration, Department/Agency Travel and Department/Agency IT has been sought by the General Purpose Standing Committee (GPSC) No 6 during Budget Estimates. I refer you to answers provided to the GPSC No. 6 in response to Budget Estimates 2015-16 Supplementary Questions on Notice.

#### **27 OCTOBER 2015**

(Paper No. 33)

- \*673 TREASURER—WALLERAWANG POWER STATION—Mr Searle asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Treasurer, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
  - (1) Given that Wallerawang Power Station has ceased operations, what is the cost to New South Wales for remediating contamination at the site?

Answer-

(1) For information regarding the sale and costs relating to remediation, please consult the NSW Government's Report on State Finances 2014-15.

# **28 OCTOBER 2015**

(Paper No. 34)

- \*674 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—EASTERN GREY KANGAROO MORTALITIES—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) Regarding the "Chief Veterinary Officer Bulletin to Veterinarians: Eastern Grey Kangaroo Mortalities in NSW, ACT and Victoria, July September 2015":
    - (a) What is the location of the mortalities? Please provide a map of the location of the mortalities.
  - (2) With regard to the Chief Veterinary Officer's conclusion that a lack of food resources caused by overpopulation is a cause of Eastern Grey Kangaroo mortalities:
    - (a) What are the densities of kangaroos in those localities?
    - (b) What was the methodology for determining those densities?
    - (c) What methodologies were used to determine levels of ground-cover vegetation biomass for each of the localities?
    - (d) Please provide a copy of the vegetation surveys for each of the localities?
  - (3) With regard to the difference between kangaroos dying from not eating and kangaroos dying from an actual lack of food:
    - (a) what causes of malnourishment and starvation did the Chief Veterinary Officer investigate in each of the localities?
    - (b) If this consideration was given, why were these not canvassed in the bulletin?
    - (c) Please provide the full list of the diseases and pathogens that were considered and ruled out as the cause of the kangaroos' starvation.
    - (d) Did the Chief Veterinary Officer conduct any viral culture to determine the causes of deaths?
    - (e) Did the Chief Veterinary Officer investigate the possibility of encephalomyocarditis virus as the cause of the mortality?
    - (f) Is the Chief Veterinary Officer aware of any post-mortems of Eastern Grey Kangaroos that showed food in their guts?

## (g)

- (i) Are the Grey Kangaroo mortalities restricted to two year old joeys?
- (ii) If so, why would starvation only apply to one age cohort?
- (h)
- (i) With regards to the areas where the Eastern Grey Kangaroo mortalities are taking place, did the Chief Veterinary Officer refer to numbers of kangaroos shot in those areas under commercial and non-commercial shooting in each area in the last two years?
- (ii) If so, on what information was this based?
- (iii) If not, please provide a copy of the information informing the advice provided in the bulletin that mortalities were happening in non-shot populations.

## Answer—

- (1)
  - (a) Map of Eastern Grey Kangaroo Mortalities reports in NSW from July- September 2015 (Please contact the Table Office on 9230 2749 for a copy of the map).

(2)

- (a) This question should be directed to the Minister for the Environment.
- (b) This question should be directed to the Minister for the Environment.
- (c) NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) with assistance from Wildlife Health Australia convened an expert working group to meet by teleconference on 16 September 2015 to review mortalities of juvenile Eastern Grey Kangaroos. This question should be directed to the Minister for the Environment.
- (d) NSW DPI does not conduct vegetation surveys.

(3)

- (a) Examinations conducted on autopsied kangaroos included; external and internal examination, blood biochemistry and haematology, impressions smears and histopathology. Additional tests were conducted on the basis of what was indicated by the post mortem. The results were consistent with prolonged malnourishment.
- (b) The purpose of the bulletin was:
  - to report the conclusions of a multiagency teleconference convened on 16 September on recent mortalities in eastern grey kangaroos in eastern Australia; and
  - assist veterinarians should they have sick or dead Eastern Grey Kangaroo presented.
- (c) When the kangaroos were examined numerous causes of starvation were considered including diseases due to bacteria, protozoa, viruses, toxins and parasites. In the absence of specific signs indicating particular bacterial, viral or toxicological causes they were ruled out as a cause of the kangaroo's starvation. While parasitic burdens were found in some animals, it is recognised that parasites can proliferate in malnourished animals and they were assessed in these cases as a contributing factor on top of the underlying nutritional stress.
- (d) There were no signs consistent with viral infection therefore viral culture was not warranted in the kangaroos examined in NSW.
- (e) No. Encephalomyocardtis virus is an uncommon cause of death in a limited number of captive macropodoid species (although all should be considered susceptible) and has not been reported from free-ranging macropodoids. The clinical signs associated with encephalomyocardtis virus (per-acute to acute death) are very different from those seen in affected eastern grey kangaroos in this mortality event. The gross post mortem findings of minimal body muscle and fat are consistent with emaciation as a cause of death. As the signs were not consistent with encephalomyocarditis virus isolation) were attempted.
- (f) The food contained in the stomach and intestines of these kangaroos at post mortem was of minimal quantity
- (g)
  - (i) The sub-adult age class (18-21 month, average 15kg) is the class of kangaroos predominantly affected in the reported events.

- (ii) The most susceptible individuals in a population are generally most likely to be the most severely impacted – in this case sub-adults. The diagnosis discussed in the Chief Veterinary Officer Bulletin was considered to be multifactorial with starvation being an underlying factor. Cold stress was also identified as a contributing factor and this was noted in the bulletin. Gastro-intestinal parasites were also identified as a contributing factor.
- (h)
  - (i) ii and iii The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) are responsible for managing commercial and non-commercial shooting of kangaroos in NSW. This question should be directed to the Minister for the Environment.
- \*675 ENVIRONMENT—NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—
  - (1) When will the terms of the current National Parks and Wildlife Regional Advisory Committees expire?
  - (2) When did applications close for serving on the next term of the National Parks and Wildlife Regional Advisory Committees?

(3)

- (a) Has there been a delay in appointing new National Parks and Wildlife Regional Advisory Committees?
- (b) If so, what was the reason for this delay?
- (4) When is the Government expected to appoint members of the National Parks Regional Advisory Committees for the next term?

(5)

- (a) Has the National Parks and Wildlife Service been operating without any functioning National Parks and Wildlife Regional Advisory Committee over the last two years?
- (b) If so, which committees and for how long?
- (6) Does the Government intend to continue appointing National Parks and Wildlife Regional Advisory Committees?

Answer-

Appointments to National Parks and Wildlife Regional Advisory Committees are being expedited and are expected to be finalised soon.

# **29 OCTOBER 2015**

(Paper No. 35)

\*676 ENVIRONMENT—ASBESTOS TRIALS—Mr Primrose asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

(1)

- (a) Is the Environment Protection Authority trialling approaches to remove obstacles to the safe disposal of all asbestos materials in the community?
- (b) If so:
  - (i) As a consequence of the trials, what measures will the Government put in place to both reduce the financial burden and other obstacles to the safe disposal of household quantities of asbestos materials?
  - (ii) What have been the major obstacles that the trials have sought to remove?
  - (iii) Where have these trials taken place?

# Answer—

I am advised as follows:

(1)

- Yes. The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has run a trial Householders' Asbestos Disposal Scheme over the last 12-months to explore if there is a relationship between disposal costs and illegal asbestos dumping.
- (b)

(a)

- (i) The trial recently concluded. A comprehensive analysis of the results is underway to further inform the EPA's future actions to prevent asbestos dumping.
- (ii) The trial involved reducing the cost of safe and appropriate asbestos disposal. This was done through waiving the waste levy on asbestos and reducing tip fees as well as an EPA contribution of \$50 per tonne as an incentive towards the safe disposal of asbestos waste. Some projects also assisted residents in finding a licenced asbestos removalist.
- (iii) The trials took place across 23 local government areas:
- Ballina Shire Council
- Blacktown City Council
- Byron Shire Council
- Clarence Valley Council
- Fairfield City Council
- Hawkesbury City Council
- Holroyd City Council
- Hurstville City Council
- Kempsey Shire Council
- Kogarah City Council
- Kyogle Council
- Lismore City Council
- Liverpool City Council
- Parramatta City Council
- Penrith City Council
- Richmond Valley Council
- Rockdale City Council
- Shoalhaven City Council
- Sutherland Shire Council
- The Hills Shire Council
- Tweed Shire Council
- Wagga Wagga City Council
- Willoughby City Council.
- \*677 TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE—COMPLAINTS ON NEWCASTLE TRAIN LINE—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure—
  - (1) How many complaints were received by Transport for NSW relating to train services on the Hunter train line in the following years:
    - (a) 2012?
    - (b) 2013?
    - (c) 2014?
    - (d) 2015 to date?
  - (2) How many complaints were received by Transport for NSW relating to train services on the Central Coast and Newcastle train line in the following years:
    - (a) 2012?
    - (b) 2013?
    - (c) 2014?
    - (d) 2015 to date?

(3) How many complaints have been received by Transport for NSW relating to the rail replacement bus Route 110 services operating between Hamilton and Newcastle since late 2014 to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

Customer complaints and customer satisfaction are publicly available in the Transport for NSW Annual Reports.

Customer satisfaction on the Hunter and Newcastle & Central Coast Lines has increased between 2012 and 2014.

- \*678 FINANCE, SERVICES AND PROPERTY—GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS—Mr Primrose asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Finance, Services and Property—
  - (1) What are the financial probity checks that the Government undertakes prior to awarding contracts or tenders for public works?
  - (2) What is the total number of head contractors that have gone into administration whilst construction of public works were still on foot?

(3)

- (a) What is the total amount of money that sub-contractors have lost as a result of head contractors going into administration whilst construction of public works was still on foot?
- (b) How many of those sub-contractors have subsequently gone into administration as well?
- (4) What is the number of head contractors awarded public works contracts who have directors that have previously held directorships of a company that has gone into administration within the previous 12 months?

Answer—

(1) The NSW Procurement Board Direction C2013–01: Financial Assessments places obligations on agencies to undertake financial assessments prior to and throughout the life of a government procured construction project. This Direction is published on the ProcurePoint website.

The agency undertaking the work has the responsibility to undertake the probity check. The Department of Finance, Services and Innovation's (DFSI) Financial Assessment Services Prequalification Scheme offers a panel of prequalified service providers to assist agencies to engage independent external expertise in carrying out financial assessments on contractors and suppliers. The scheme covers the financial assessments required at the prequalification, tendering and monitoring stages of a procurement process.

The financial probity checks that a Government agency undertakes prior to awarding of a contract or tender for public works depends upon the nature of the work, the financial size and duration of the project, the complexity of the proposed engagement and the past record of the preferred tenderer. Probity checks conducted by an agency can include checks on:

- · Organisational and legal structure
- Corporate and directors' details
- Annual reports
- · Audited financial statements
- Management accounts
- Cash flow projections
- Bank guarantees, overdrafts and other financing facilities
- · Court or other regulatory notices
- · Work on hand and pipeline summary

The financial probity checks undertaken by an agency, using providers from DFSI's Financial Assessment Services Prequalification Scheme, includes checking the Australian Securities and Investments Commission's database to identify directors subject to disqualifications or instances holding directorships of companies which entered insolvency proceedings and the Australian Financial Security Authority's database of bankrupted directors and managers.

DFSI also maintains a Central Repository of Financial Assessment Reports to facilitate more effective and proactive approach to managing risks to Government associated with changes to the financial position of a company contracted to undertake construction work, through sharing of assessment reports across agencies. Agencies can search the Central Repository to determine if a financial assessment report has already been commissioned and request a copy. The firms covered by the Central Repository are published on the Department's ProcurePoint website.

2. - 4. I am advised that DFSI do not maintain a register which records this information.

- \*679 FINANCE, SERVICES AND PROPERTY—STAMP DUTY AND OFF THE PLAN PURCHASING—Mr Primrose asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Finance, Services and Property—
  - (1) When is stamp duty due for premises that are purchased 'off the plan'?
  - (2) Under what circumstances is stamp duty refunded or reduced for people who are older and downsizing?

Answer-

This is the responsibility of the Treasurer.

- \*680 INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, TREASURER—STAMP DUTY AND OFF THE PLAN PURCHASING—Mr Primrose asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Treasurer, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
  - (1) When is stamp duty due for premises that are purchased 'off the plan'?
  - (2) Under what circumstances is stamp duty refunded or reduced for people who are older and downsizing?

Answer-

The Government has recently strengthened protections for buyers who purchase properties off the plan. These protections received bipartisan support in Parliament.

Individuals are welcome to apply for the concessions and exemptions outlined in the the Duties Act 1997 (NSW).

- \*681 INNOVATION AND BETTER REGULATION—STAMP DUTY AND OFF THE PLAN PURCHASING—Mr Primrose asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation—
  - (1) When is stamp duty due for premises that are purchased 'off the plan'?
  - (2) Under what circumstances is stamp duty refunded or reduced for people who are older and downsizing?

Answer—

1-2. I refer to the answer given to Question on Notice 679 lodged by the Hon Dominic Perrottet MP, Minister for Finance, Services and Property.

- \*682 INNOVATION AND BETTER REGULATION—LAND LEASE HOLDER—Mr Primrose asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation—
  - (1) What right of tenure do people who live in manufactured home, folda-homes and caravans with fixed annexes have in relation to land where the home owner is a land lease holder?
  - (2) What are the rights in relation to sale of homes and the transfer of the land lease to a purchaser, by people who live in manufactured home, folda-homes, and caravans with fixed annexes?
  - (3) What rights do people who live in manufactured home, folda-homes, and caravans with fixed annexes have if the land owner refuses to extend land leases when their term expires?
  - (4) Can the land owner ballot existing land lease holders to put specific conditions on the future sale of

land leases, such as age restrictions of purchasers, in that address or plot?

(5) In the case of fire, or other forms of destruction/acts of God, can the land owner require that manufactured home, folda-homes, and caravans with fixed annexes be built on wheels?

(6)

- (a) Can the land owner compulsorily require a current land lease holder move or relocate to another site, either at the address where the current land lease holder or a different property owned by the land owner?
- (b) If the land owner has the right to move or relocate a current land lease owner, who is responsible for meeting the costs of the move of manufactured home, folda-homes, and caravans with fixed annexes and their reconnection to water, sewerage and electricity services?
- (c) Where a land lease holder refuses to move, does the land owner have the right to terminate the land lease or refuse to renew them?

(7)

- (a) Can a land owner unilaterally terminate the supply of electricity, water and sewerage, where the land owner has this infrastructure, to land lease owners?
- (b) What is the responsibility for the land owner to maintain the health and safety of this infrastructure?
- (c) Where this infrastructure is not maintained, what rights do the land lease holders have if the local government area in which the land is situated requires land lease holders to move due to the level of disrepair?

Answer-

- (1) Under the Residential (Land Lease) Communities Act 2013, home owners have a form of statutory security of tenure. Their site agreements (in other words, the land lease) can only be terminated if one of the limited circumstances for doing so under the law exists. This applies whether or not any fixed-term period set out in the site agreement has expired.
- (2) All home owners have a right to sell their homes on site. Commonly, a purchaser will enter into a new site agreement with an operator. This ensures they have an up-to-date agreement in their name. A home owner can assign (in other words, transfer) their site agreement, but only with the written consent of the operator.
- (3) Generally, the same rights they had under their site agreement before the fixed-term expired.
- (4) Whether age restrictions are put in place is a matter for the operator of each land lease community to determine, in consultation with any existing residents.
- (5) A home owner has the right to replace their home with another home so long as they obtain the consent of the operator, which cannot be unreasonably refused. The operator's consent may be given with reasonable conditions. If an operator requires a new home to be built on wheels and the home owner considers this to be an unreasonable condition, the home owner can lodge an application with the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

(6)

(a) No. Relocation can only occur with the home owner's agreement.

(b) N/A.

(c) A land lease owner can only seek termination of a site agreement if one of the limited circumstances for doing so under the law exists.

(7)

- (a) No.
- (b) Each operator must ensure that the common areas are kept in a reasonable state of repair. To the extent that it is within the operator's control, they must ensure the continuity of supply of utilities to residential sites occupied by home owners.
- (c) If a home owner needs to move so the operator can comply with a requirement for repairs or upgrading, they would be entitled to either have the costs of relocating their home covered or to receive compensation from the operator.

- \*683 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—NATIVE DUCK SHOOTING—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) What was the total number licences issued to private landholders in New South Wales to shoot native game birds as per Part 1A of Schedule 3 of the Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002 in the following financial years:
    - (a) 2013/14?
    - (b) 2014/15?
    - (c) 2015/16 to date?
  - (2) What was the total number licences issued to private landholders in New South Wales to shoot ducks as per Part 1A of Schedule 3 of the Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002 in the following financial years:
    - (a) 2013/14?
    - (b) 2014/15?
    - (c) 2015/16 to date?
  - (3) What was the total number licences issued to private landholders in NSW to shoot quail as per Part 1A of Schedule 3 of the Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002 in the following financial years:
    - (a) 2013/14?
    - (b) 2014/15?
    - (c) 2015/16 to date?
  - (4) What was the total number licences issued to private landholders in NSW to shoot pigeons as per Part 1A of Schedule 3 of the Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002 in the following financial years:
    - (a) 2013/14?
    - (b) 2014/15?
    - (c) 2015/16 to date?
  - (5) What was the total number of native ducks as per Part 1A of Schedule 3 of the Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002 killed in the following financial years?
    - (a) 2013/14?
    - (b) 2014/15?
    - (c) 2015/16 to date?
  - (6) What was the total number of the following species of ducks as per Part 1A of Schedule 3 of the Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002 killed in the following financial years?
    - (a) 2013/14?
    - (b) 2014/15?
    - (c) 2015/16 to date?
      - (i) Australian Shelduck or Mountain Duck?
      - (ii) Australian Wood Duck or Maned Duck?
      - (iii) Black Duck or Pacific Black Duck?
      - (iv) Blue-winged Shoveler or Australasian Shoveler?
      - (v) Chestnut Teal?
      - (vi) Grass Whistling Duck or Plumed Whistling Duck?
      - (vii) Grey Teal?
      - (viii) Hardhead Duck or White-eyed Duck?
      - (ix) Pink-eared Duck?
      - (x) Water Whistling Duck, Wandering Whistling Duck or Whistling or Wandering Tree Duck?
  - (7) What was the total number of native quails as per Part 1A of Schedule 3 of the Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002 killed in the following financial years?
    - (a) 2013/14?
    - (b) 2014/15?
    - (c) 2015/16 to date?

- (8) What was the total number of native pigeons as per Part 1A of Schedule 3 of the Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002 killed in the following financial years?
  - (a) 2013/14?
  - (b) 2014/15?
  - (c) 2015/16 to date?

Answer-

- (1)
  - (a) The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) administered the Game Bird Management Program for 2012/13 and they should be contacted for these records.
  - (b) 221
  - (c) 85
- (2)
- (a) The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) administered the Game Bird Management Program for 2012/13 and they should be contacted for these records.
- (b) 221
- (c) 85

(3)

- (a) The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) administered the Game Bird Management Program for 2012/13 and they should be contacted for these records.
- (b) 0
- (c) 0

(4)

- (a) The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) administered the Game Bird Management Program for 2012/13 and they should be contacted for these records.
- (b) 0
- (c) 0

(5)

- (a) The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) administered the Game Bird Management Program for 2012/13 and they should be contacted for these records.
- (b) 22,278
- (c) 1915

(6)

(a) The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) administered the Game Bird Management Program for 2012/13 and they should be contacted for these records.

(b)

- (i) Mountain Duck, 101
- (ii) Wood Duck, 6638
- (iii) Black Duck, 8709
- (iv) Blue-winged Shoveler, 8
- (v) Chestnut Teal, 175
- (vi) Grey Teal, 5715
- (vii) Hardhead, 437
- (viii) Pink-eared Duck, 109
- (ix) Water Whistling Duck, 9
- (x) Grass Whistling Duck, 377

(c)

- (i) Mountain Duck, 4
- (ii) Wood Duck, 488
- (iii) Black Duck, 694
- (iv) Blue-winged Shoveler, 0

- (v) Chestnut Teal, 5
- (vi) Grey Teal, 456
- (vii) Hardhead, 103
- (viii) Pink-eared Duck, 150
- (ix) Water Whistling Duck, 0
- (x) Grass Whistling Duck, 15

(7)

- (a) The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) administered the Game Bird Management Program for 2012/13 and they should be contacted for these records.
- (b) 0
  - (c) 0
- (8)
  - (a) The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) administered the Game Bird Management Program for 2012/13 and they should be contacted for these records.
  - (b) 0
  - (c) 0
- \*684 TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE—UBER AND TAXI LICENCES—Revd Mr Nile asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure—
  - (1) Is it the case that a taxi licence in Sydney averages \$375,000 per licence, taxi licence lease costs are around \$27,500, and that these licences are quite often considered by the licence holder, to be their personal superannuation fund?
  - (2) Did IPART find that 11 per cent of Sydney residents use commercial ridesharing services such as UberX, despite UberX being illegal and not paying similar licensing costs?
  - (3) What have the results of the current taskforce been and what action is being taken to protect holders of taxi licences from illegal operators such as Uber, where they stand to lose a considerable amount of their hard-earned money?

#### Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) In 2015 (up to 31 October 2015), taxi licences averaged \$342,000. Licence lease costs vary according to agreements between licensees and operators.
- (2) According to IPART's Final Report 'Sydney taxi fares to apply and new licences to be released from July 2015' "11% of Sydney residents say they have used a rideshare service in the last six months".
- (3) The Taskforce recently submitted its final report. The NSW Government is considering the recommendations and will respond in due course.
- \*685 DISABILITY SERVICES—DISABILITY HOUSING AND LARGE RESIDENTIAL CENTRE CLOSURES—Ms Barham asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism—
  - (1) Regarding the announcement of 17 October 2015 that the Government is seeking expressions of interest (EOI) from non-government organisations to build and operate disability housing to replace the remaining large residential centres (LRCs) in the Hunter region:
    - (a) How many of the 390 residents of these LRCs have finalised plans for their supports under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and how many residents are yet to complete the planning and assessment process?
    - (b) What consultation and planning was undertaken with residents and their families in determining the locations at which the new disability housing will be constructed, the configuration of the housing, and the other accommodation and support service requirements specified in the tendering requirements?
    - (c) Have residents had access to independent advocacy services in the consultation and planning process regarding future disability housing arrangements?

(d) What safeguards and mechanisms is the Government putting in place to ensure that the nongovernment organisations who develop the new disability housing and provide housing or support services will deliver an appropriate quality and standard of service?

Answer-

- (1)
- (a) As of 31 October 2015, over 280 residents have finalised National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) plans in place, with a further 22 currently in the planning and assessment process. Residents at Tomaree Lodge will be eligible for the NDIS when the scheme rolls out across Port Stephens from 1 July 2016.
- (b) An eight-member team was established on site at the Stockton Centre in December 2013 to undertake consultation on the redevelopment of the large residential centres in the Hunter. Consultation with residents and families has included discussing their preferred location of new accommodation, including locations closer to the family home, the configuration of the new housing, who they would like to live with and the support services required.
- (c) Families and residents have open access to independent advocacy services
- (d) A national safeguarding framework is being developed by the National Disability Insurance Authority for implementation by July 2018. State based frameworks and mechanisms are being retained until then as an interim measure.
- \*686 ENVIRONMENT—EPA AND BELL MINER ASSOCIATED DIEBACK—Ms Barham asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—
  - (1)
- (a) Has the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) referred information to the Bell Miner Associated Dieback (BMAD) Working Group or the Forestry Corporation as indicated in the EPA's response to the submission from North East Forest Alliance in its submission to the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5 inquiry on the Performance of the NSW Environment Protection Authority dated 29th August 2014, which stated that, "In response to these matters, the EPA has included forest health issues, including this dieback as a compliance priority for EPA Crown forestry in 2013-14. The EPA will provide records of these observations to the Bell Miner Associated Dieback Working Group and the Forestry Corporation?
- (b) If so, on what date was the information referred?
- (2)
- (a) Has the EPA has referred information to the Bell Miner Associated Dieback Working Group or the Forestry Corporation as indicated in the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5 inquiry on the Performance of the NSW Environment Protection Authority report which stated that: "Potential exacerbation of bell miner associated dieback: The EPA considered the information tendered by NEFA regarding the presence of bell miners and susceptibility to the associated dieback in one area of forest. In response, the EPA has included forest health issues, including dieback, as a compliance priority for EPA Crown Forestry in 2013-14. The EPA will provide records of these observations to the Bell Miner Associated Dieback Working Group and the Forestry Corporation. It should be noted that NEFA observed that, in their view, this working group is unstaffed and powerless, with no power or ability to deal with such complaints."?
- (b) If so, on what date was the information referred?
- (3) If the information referred to in questions 1 or 2 has not been provided by the EPA to the BMAD Working Group or the Forestry Corporation:
  - (a) Will the Minister ensure that the information is referred?
  - (b) If so, when will it be referred?
  - (c) Has the EPA misled the Parliament?
  - (d) If so, what action will the Minister take?

### Answer-

I am advised as follows:

(1)

- (a) Yes.
- (b) 2 August 2013.
- (2) I refer to my answer to Question 1.
- (3) I refer to my answer to Question 1.
- \*687 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—NSW FARM TRESSPASS POLICY—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

(1)

- (a) What action has the Department of Primary Industries taken in implementing the NSW Farm Trespass Policy?
- (b) Has this involved provision of any video or recording equipment to any properties?
- (c) If so, please provide a list of these properties.
- (2) What actions has the NSW Police Force taken in implementing the Department of Primary Industries' NSW Farm Trespass Policy?
- (3) How much money has the NSW Police Force spent on "compliance and enforcement operations" in implementing the Department of Primary Industries' NSW Farm Trespass Policy?

(4)

- (a) Are any police resources dedicated to working on "compliance and enforcement operations" in implementing the Department of Primary Industries NSW Farm Trespass Policy?
- (b) If so, what are these resources?

Answer-

(1)

- (a) An Action Plan is being developed to facilitate implementation of the policy.
- (b) No
- (c) Not applicable
- (2) This is a matter for the Minister for Police.
- (3) This is a matter for the Minister for Police.
- (4)
- (a) This is a matter for the Minister for Police.
- (b) This is a matter for the Minister for Police.

# 10 NOVEMBER 2015

(Paper No. 36)

\*688 INNOVATION AND BETTER REGULATION—INFINITY CABLES—Mr Primrose asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation—

In relation to the recall relating to Infinity cables, which person or entity has responsibility for meeting the cost of replacing and installing new cabling in affected customers' homes and businesses?

Answer—

All relevant parties in the chain of supply of the Infinity cable share responsibility for meeting the cost of replacing and installing new cabling on behalf of the affected consumers.

It is important to note that the recall announced by the NSW Government only affects businesses whole only sold the cable within NSW. Businesses who sold the cable in multiple states fall under the jurisdiction of the Australian Competition and Consumer commission (ACCC), who is managing the nationwide recall.

If Infinity Cable Co were still trading, they would be wholly responsible for meeting the cost of replacing and installing new cabling. However as they are no longer trading, the responsibility falls to the next levels in the chain of supply.

All persons who sold or installed the cable are responsible for replacing the cable as per the recall guidelines whether they are wholesalers of the cable or electricians who installed the cable, that being full or partial replacement and or the installation of a Residual Current Device for further protection.

If an electrician installs and then removes and replaces the cable this is carried out at their expense. The electrician can then seek costs from the trader who sold them the cable such as a wholesaler. The wholesaler can then seek costs from Infinity Cable Co by registering as a creditor with the Liquidator.

\*689 HEALTH—GOVERNMENT INFORMATION (PUBLIC ACCESS) ACT 2009 APPLICATION—Mr Secord asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Health—

In a response from the Senior External Relations Officer of NSW Health dated 6 November 2015, the Honourable Walt Secord MLC was advised that the processes required to finalise an application made under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 regarding ambulance services in the St George area and property on Rocky Point Road in Kogarah would incur a cost of \$2880 for the purpose of locating, retrieving and photocopying 1919 files. What is the name or heading of each of the files referred to in that correspondence?

Answer-

I am advised that the application is in the final stages of determination by the Ministry of Health.

## 11 NOVEMBER 2015

(Paper No. 37)

- \*690 EDUCATION—CAPACITY IN WOLLOMBI VALLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Education—
  - (1) What is the total capacity of Laguna Public School in the Wollombi Valley?
  - (2) What are the current enrolments for Laguna Public School to year end?
  - (3) What are the projected enrolments for Laguna Public School to year end for 2016?
  - (4)
    - (a) Did the Department of Education and Communities receive any suggestion from the local community to split the responsibility for serving years Kindergarten, 1, 2 and 3 and years 4, 5 and 6 between Wollombi Public and Laguna Public?
    - (b) If so, was this suggestion considered or acted upon?
  - (5) What arrangements are being made to ensure the Wollombi Valley has sufficient capacity in its local public schools?

Answer-

- (1) There is no set enrolment capacity for a school.
- (2) and (3) The enrolment at 18 November 2015 was 69 students. This is not anticipated to change substantially in 2016.

(4)

(a) The Department of Education did receive suggestions through a community survey and through submissions during the community consultation of 2014.

(b) The suggestion was considered.

(5) Student numbers in all schools are constantly reviewed and monitored. Appropriate decisions are made to ensure adequate staffing levels and accommodation requirements are in place.

- \*691 EDUCATION—EXPANSION OF MANLY VALE PUBLIC SCHOOL—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Education—
  - (1) Has the Department of Education and Communities received submissions or suggestions regarding the expansion of Manly Vale Public School that suggested a two-storey construction as an alternative model to expanding the footprint of the school?
  - (2) Given that expanding the footprint of the school would involve the destruction of up to eight hectares of Manly Dam bushland, which is home to several endangered species, has this, or an alternative proposal to expanding the footprint, been considered?
  - (3) Given that Warringah Council have rejected the development application for expanding Manly Vale Public School, what action will the Department now be taking regarding the future for expansion of the school?

Answer—

- (1) Yes. All suggestions received were considered.
- (2) Yes. The Department of Education has considered various options for redeveloping the school.
- (3) The Department of Education is continuing to work with Warringah Council in relation to the redevelopment of the Manly Vale Public School site.
- \*692 EDUCATION—MANLY VALE PUBLIC SCHOOL—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Education—
  - (1) Has the Department received submissions or suggestions regarding the expansion of Manly Vale Public School that suggested a two-storey construction as an alternative model to expanding the footprint of the school?
  - (2) Given that expanding the footprint of the school would involve the destruction of up to eight hectares of Manly Dam bushland, which is home to several endangered species, has this, or an alternative proposal to expanding the footprint, been considered?
  - (3) Given that Warringah Council have rejected the DA for expanding Manly Vale Public School, what action will the Department now be taking regarding the future for expansion of the school?

Answer—

See answer to Question On Notice 0691.

\*693 EDUCATION—PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN RECESS—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Education—

(1)

- (a) How many public schools have been placed into recess since March 2011?
- (b) Please list these schools and for each, the date they were placed into recess.
- (c) Of these, how many have subsequently been reopened?
- (d) Please list these schools and for each, the date they were reopened.

Answer-

(1)

(a) 13.

(b) Woodford Dale Public School December 2011

Byabarra Public School December 2011

Ando Public School January 2012

Mangoplah Public School January 2012

Windeyer Public School April 2012

Mallan Public School December 2012

Grong Grong Public School January 2013

Reids Flat Public School January 2013

Pooncarie Public School January 2013

Milbrulong Public School January 2014

Bylong Upper Public School December 2014

Tulloona Public School April 2015

Murrami Public School January 2015

(c) One.

- (d) Tulloona Public School October 2015
- \*694 EDUCATION—PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL CLOSURE PROCESS—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Education—

(1)

- (a) Since March 2011, how many public schools have been the subject of the Department of Education's community consultation process for closure or alternative educational delivery?
- (b) Please list these schools and the date community consultation began.

(2)

- (a) How many of the schools in Question 1 have maintained the existing educational provision after this process was complete?
- (b) Please list these schools and the date on which that decision to maintain the existing education provision was made.

#### Answer-

(1)

- (a) 17.
  - (b) Blackville Public School approved July 2013 Wollar Public School approved October 2013 Wollombi Public School approved October 2013 Martins Creek Public School approved October 2013 Ellangowan Public School approved October 2013 Bellimbopinni Public School approved February 2014 Crowdy Head Public School approved February 2014 Rouchel Public School approved July 2014 Badgerys Creek Public School approved July 2014 Quandialla Central School approved August 2014 Corinella Public School approved August 2014 Murrami Public School approved August 2014 Errowanbang Public School approved September 2014 Sutton Forest Public School approved September 2014 Euchareena Public School approved May 2015 Wyangala Dam Public School approved May 2015 Numeralla Public School approved July 2015

# (2)

(a) Five.
(b) Blackville Public School
Wollar Public School
Euchareena Public School
Wyangala Dam Public School

Numeralla Public School

- \*695 EDUCATION—SMALL SCHOOL CLOSURES—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Education—
  - (1)
- (a) How many New South Wales public schools have been closed, including gazettal, since March 2011?
- (b) Please list these schools and for each, the date on which the school was closed.

(2)

- (a) How many New South Wales public schools have had their last teacher withdrawn since March 2011?
- (b) Please list these schools and the date the school had its last teacher withdrawn.
- (3) For each of the schools in Question 1 :
  - (a) Has the Government sold the school's assets?
  - (b) Is the Government in the process of selling the school's assets?
  - (c) Is the Government in intending to sell the school's assets?
  - (d) Has the Government leased the property for a non-school purpose within the public sector? Please specify.
  - (e) Has the Government leased the school for a non-school purpose not within the public sector? Please specify.
  - (f) Has the Government taken any other action?

Answer-

1. This can be found in the NSW Government Gazette.

2.30

3. Schools sites not used for educational purposes are disposed of in line with government policy.

- \*696 SKILLS—REINVESTMENT OF PROCEEDS FROM SALE OF CHULLORA TAFE—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills, and Minister for Small Business—
  - (1) Has any decision been made about where any part of the the \$22 million return from the sale of the Chullora TAFE campus will be invested?
  - (2) Will the funds be allocated to:
    - (a) The Engineering Technology Centre at Wetherill Park College, costed in this year's Budget?
    - (b) A new Electrotechnology Centre of Excellence at Granville College?
    - (c) Upgrades for Miller College to enable Electrical Trades and Industrial Electronics to be relocated from Chullora?
    - (d) A Building and Construction Centre of Excellence at Miller College?

Answer-

(1-2)

TAFE NSW is developing a Strategic Asset Management Plan to ensure training is matched with the changing needs of students and employers. TAFE NSW regularly assesses facility requirements in line with course delivery. Where vacant land or underutilised facilities are sold, the proceeds will be re-invested into modernising and improving TAFE facilities and learning platforms.

\*697 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, SOCIAL HOUSING—COMMUNITY HOUSING PROVIDERS—Ms Barham asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Social Housing—

Regarding the vesting of title of Land and Housing Corporation stock in community housing providers, the response to Question no. 4539, published on 18 June 2013, indicated that the Government had transferred title to 1,302 dwellings, and the response to Question no. 4973, published on 15 October 2013, indicated that the Government anticipated it would transfer title to a total of approximately 6,000 dwellings:

- (1) How many dwellings have been transferred further to the 1,302 dwellings previously noted?
- (2) Has the estimate of 6,000 total dwellings to be transferred changed at all or does the Government still anticipate that this will be the total number transferred?
- (3) When does the Government anticipate that the process of transferring these dwellings will be completed?
- (4) As of 30 June 2015, how many additional community housing dwellings have been delivered through leveraging of the transferred dwellings?
- (5) What is the total number of additional community housing dwellings that will be required to be delivered through leveraging of the transferred dwellings?

#### Answer—

Nearly 5,000 dwellings have been transferred, including over 250 dwellings associated with National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) projects. The total number to be transferred is in accordance with COAG commitments and will be undertaken on a staged basis. Leveraging is a desired outcome which is a focus for transfers involving Community Housing.

- \*698 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, SOCIAL HOUSING—ABORIGINAL CHILDREN AND OUT OF HOME CARE—Ms Barham asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Social Housing—
  - (1) Noting that, notwithstanding the Minister for Family and Community services' answer to Question no. 28, published on 23 June 2015, data on the number of Aboriginal children who are unable to be placed in their region and the care needs of those children is not presented in the Community Services Annual Statistical Reports:
    - (a) In 2010-2011, what number of Aboriginal children and young persons requiring out of home care were:
      - (i) unable to be placed within their region?
      - (ii) unable to be placed within their region and in need of intensive residential care?
      - (iii) unable to be placed within their region and in need of residential care?
      - (iv) unable to be placed in their region and placed in foster care?
      - (v) unable to be placed in their region and placed with an Aboriginal agency prior to any approach to another residential care provider?
      - (vi) unable to be placed in their region and placed with a non-Aboriginal provider prior to any approach to an Aboriginal service provider?
    - (b) In 2011-2012, what number of Aboriginal children and young persons requiring out of home care were:
      - (i) unable to be placed within their region?
      - (ii) unable to be placed within their region and in need of intensive residential care?
      - (iii) unable to be placed within their region and in need of residential care?
      - (iv) unable to be placed in their region and placed in foster care?
      - (v) unable to be placed in their region and placed with an Aboriginal agency prior to any approach to another residential care provider?
      - (vi) unable to be placed in their region and placed with a non-Aboriginal provider prior to any approach to an Aboriginal service provider?
    - (c) In 2012-2013, what number of Aboriginal children and young persons requiring out of home care were:

- (i) unable to be placed within their region?
- (ii) unable to be placed within their region and in need of intensive residential care?
- (iii) unable to be placed within their region and in need of residential care?
- (iv) unable to be placed in their region and placed in foster care?
- (v) unable to be placed in their region and placed with an Aboriginal agency prior to any approach to another residential care provider?
- (vi) unable to be placed in their region and placed with a non-Aboriginal provider prior to any approach to an Aboriginal service provider?
- (d) In 2013-2014, what number of Aboriginal children and young persons requiring out of home care were:
  - (i) unable to be placed within their region?
  - (ii) unable to be placed within their region and in need of intensive residential care?
  - (iii) unable to be placed within their region and in need of residential care?
  - (iv) unable to be placed in their region and placed in foster care?
  - (v) unable to be placed in their region and placed with an Aboriginal agency prior to any approach to another residential care provider?
  - (vi) unable to be placed in their region and placed with a non-Aboriginal provider prior to any approach to an Aboriginal service provider?
- (e) In 2014-2015, what number of Aboriginal children and young persons requiring out of home care were:
  - (i) unable to be placed within their region?
  - (ii) unable to be placed within their region and in need of intensive residential care?
  - (iii) unable to be placed within their region and in need of residential care?
  - (iv) unable to be placed in their region and placed in foster care?
  - (v) unable to be placed in their region and placed with an Aboriginal agency prior to any approach to another residential care provider?
  - (vi) unable to be placed in their region and placed with a non-Aboriginal provider prior to any approach to an Aboriginal service provider?

Answer-

This data is not collected in a reportable format. Gathering this information would be a resource intensive process and would not be the best use of departmental resources.

\*699 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, SOCIAL HOUSING—ABORIGINAL NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS—Ms Barham asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Social Housing—

Noting that the FACS Aboriginal Strategy 2013-2015 states that "the department has pledged to lead the NSW Government in working with Aboriginal NGOs":

- (1) What governance arrangements were established in 2013/14 to progress the strategy of enhancing non-government organisations' (NGO), and especially Aboriginal NGOs', capacity to deliver sustainable and effective services to Aboriginal people?
- (2) What strategies and activities has the Government implemented in 2014/15 and 2015/16 to enhance the capacity of Aboriginal NGOs?
- (3) Can the Government provide any data on the enhancement of Aboriginal NGOs and any figures indicating whether there has been growth in the provision of services to Aboriginal people by those NGOs?
- (4) For each year 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15, how many Aboriginal children and young persons in out-of-home care had their placement managed by an Aboriginal NGO?

Answer-

In 2013/14, the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) established an internal working group to oversee the development of the strategy aimed at improving the capacity of Aboriginal and other non government organisations (NGOs). This work has informed the whole of government approach represented by OCHRE, the NSW Government Plan for Aboriginal Affairs.

As part of its funding and NGO engagement process, FACS regularly liaises with peak bodies representing Aboriginal NGOs to ensure culturally sensitive service delivery.

FACS is enhancing the capacity of Aboriginal NGOs through the:

- Capacity Building Policy and Business Development Program
- State-wide out-of-home care Aboriginal Growth Partnership Program.

Funding to Aboriginal organisations has increased annually since 2013/14 reflecting the NSW Government's continuing support to Aboriginal organisations to become the primary providers of services to Aboriginal children, families and communities.

Information relating to out-of-home care placements for Aboriginal children and young people is available on the FACS website in its Annual Statistical reports.

- \*700 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, SOCIAL HOUSING—ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY SERVICES CASEWORKERS—Ms Barham asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Social Housing—
  - (1) How many fulltime equivalent Aboriginal community services caseworkers were employed by Family and Community Services (FACS), in total and within each district, as of the June quarter 2014/15?
  - (2)
    - (a) Does FACS have targets for the employment of Aboriginal community services caseworkers, in total or by district?
    - (b) If so, what are the targets?

Answer—

Diversity data is provided by employees on a voluntary basis. Information relating to workforce diversity is publically available in the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) Annual Report.

FACS has exceeded the Council of Australian Government's Aboriginal employee representation target of 2.6 per cent.

\*701 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, SOCIAL HOUSING—SOCIAL, PUBLIC AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING—Ms Barham asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Social Housing—

When will the Government provide a response to the recommendations in the Final Report of the Select Committee on Social, Public and Affordable Housing, which was tabled on 8 September 2014 and which the Government was due to respond to by 9 September 2014, more than 14 months ago?

Answer—

The Government is not obliged to respond to committee inquiries from the previous Parliament, however a response will be provided as a courtesy for noting.

- \*702 JUSTICE AND POLICE—CRIMINAL ORGANISATIONS DECLARATIONS—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Racing—
  - (1) How many people under the age of 20 were identified as members of declared criminal organisations under the Crimes (Criminal Organisations Control) Act 2012:
    - (a) In 2012?
    - (b) In 2013?

- (c) In 2014?
- (d) In 2015 to date?
- (2) How many Indigenous people under the age of 20 were identified as members of criminal organisations under the Crimes (Criminal Organisations Control) Act 2012:
  - (a) In 2012?
  - (b) In 2013?
  - (c) In 2014?
  - (d) In 2015 to date?
- (3) How many women under the age of 20 were identified as members of criminal organisations under the Crimes (Criminal Organisations Control) Act 2012:
  - (a) In 2012?
  - (b) In 2013?
  - (c) In 2014?
  - (d) In 2015 to date?

Answer-

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

There have been no applications to the Supreme Court for any organisation to be declared a 'criminal organisation' under the Crimes (Criminal Organisations Control) Act 2012.

- \*704 JUSTICE AND POLICE—METLIFE OUTSTANDING CLAIMS—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Racing—
  - (1) How many outstanding claims do police currently have with Metlife?
  - (2) How many of these claims are estimated to relate to psychological injuries?
  - (3) When is it anticipated that these claims will all be finalised?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

As at 10 November 2015, there were 33 claims under assessment by Metlife from former police officers. Of these, 27 were new claims received in 2015.

- \*705 JUSTICE AND POLICE—ROSEANNE BECKETT LEGAL COSTS—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Racing—
  - (1) What is the total cost of all legal expenses, fees and disbursements paid or debt accrued by the Government in connection to the civil claim for damages for malicious prosecution by Roseanne Beckett (nee Catt) since the claim was lodged, including High Court proceedings?
  - (2) Noting that as of 10 April 2015 legal fees of approximately \$1,356,035 and disbursements of \$1,503,177 had been incurred in connection with Ms Beckett's claim for damages, what is the total cost of all legal expenses, fees and disbursements in connection with Ms Beckett's claim from 11 April 2015 to date?

Answer—

A statement regarding this case was given by the Attorney General on 23 November 2015.

Please refer to the Department of Justice website.

\*706 PLANNING—KOGARAH DRAFT LOCAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN CORRESPONDENCE—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Planning—

Can the Minister for Planning advise when a response to a letter dated 4 August 2015 regarding the draft Kogarah Local Environment Plan will be provided to Mr Shoebridge's office?

Answer-

I am advised that the letter referred to in your question has already been sent to your office.

\*707 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—STOCKTON SERVICE STATION—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

Regarding the rear building extension on crown land referred to locally as the Stockton Service Station, can the Minister for Primary Industries and Minister for Lands and Water please advise:

- (1) Was the Department of Primary Industries Lands consulted prior to construction of the rear extension by any party?
- (2) Did the Department of Primary Industries Lands assist with development consent and approval of the rear extension?
- (3) Has the Department of Primary Industries Lands inspected the rear building extension?
- (4) Has the Department of Primary Industries Lands had any written or verbal dialogue with Newcastle City Council representatives regarding the rear building extension?

Answer—

(1) No.

- (2) No.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) Yes.
- \*708 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—STOCKTON SERVICE STATION WATER ACCESS—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

Regarding the constructed stairway providing water access from the rear of what is known locally as the Stockton Service Station:

- (1) Was the Department of Primary Industries Lands consulted prior to construction of the water access (stairs) by any party?
- (2) Did the Department of Primary Industries Lands assist with development consent and approval of the water access (stairs)?
- (3) Has the Department of Primary Industries Lands inspected the water access (stairs)?
- (4) Has the Department of Primary Industries Lands had any written or verbal dialogue with Newcastle City Council representatives regarding the water access (stairs)?
- (5) Will the Department of Primary Industries Lands seek to have the water access (stairs) removed, or at the very least made safe?
- (6) Who is responsible for the removal, or remediation, of the water access (stairs)?
- (7) When will the removal or remediation of the water access (stairs) be completed?

Answer-

- (1) No.
- (2) No.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) Yes
- (5) to (7) The Department of Primary Industries Lands is not responsible for the management of the land that the stairs are located on.

\*709 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—OBSERVATION TOWER GRANT PROGRAM—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

Regarding the Observation Tower Grant Program:

- (1) What was the total expenditure on this program for the following financial periods:
  - (a) 2011-12?
  - (b) 2012-13?
  - (c) 2013-14?
  - (d) 2014-15?
- (2) What is the allocated budget for the program in 2015-16?
- (3) How many grant applications were received, and how many grant applications were approved, for the following financial periods:
  - (a) 2011-12?
  - (b) 2012-13?
  - (c) 2013-14?
  - (d) 2014-15?
  - (e) 1 July 2015 to date?
- (4) How many individual observation towers were funded by the program during the following financial periods:
  - (a) 2011-12?
  - (b) 2012-13?
  - (c) 2013-14?
  - (d) 2014-15?
  - (e) 1 July 2015 to date?
- (5) What is the location of each observation tower funded under this program for the following financial periods:
  - (a) 2011-12?
  - (b) 2012-13?
  - (c) 2013-14?
  - (d) 2014-15?
  - (e) 1 July 2015 to date?
- (6)
- (a) Has any review or study been undertaken regarding the effectiveness of observation towers for the sighting of sharks near beaches?
- (b) If so, what were the findings?
- (7) Who are the members of the Technical Assessment Panel, including their positions and expertise, who review all applications for funding under the program?

Answer-

(1)

- (a) \$30,000
- (b) \$30,000
- (c) \$30,000
- (d) \$28,967 (being the total amount applied for)
- (2) \$30,000

(3)

- (a) 4 received and 4 approved
- (b) 4 received and 4 approved
- (c) 3 received and 3 approved
- (d) 4 received and 4 approved

(e) 7 received and 7 approved to the amount of \$30,000

(4)

- (a) 4 plus bather safety observation equipment
- (b) 2 plus bather safety observation and warning audio equipment
- (c) 1 plus bather safety observation and warning audio equipment
- (d) 2 plus bather safety observation equipment
- (e) 4 plus bather safety observation and evacuation warning equipment

(5)

- (a) Tea Gardens Hawkes Nest Beach Birubi Point Surf Club Beach Lakes Beach Soldiers Beach
- (b) North Steyne Beach Tea Gardens Hawkes Nest beach
- (c) Windang Beach
- (d) Red Head Beach The Entrance North Beach
- (e) Manly Beach One Mile Beach Warilla Beach Lighthouse Beach Ballina

(6)

- (a) NSW DPI has not conducted any such review or study.
- (b) N/A
- (7) NSW Department of Primary Industries Fisheries staff including variously, the Director Fisheries Compliance, the then Shark Meshing (Bather Protection) Program (SMP) Strategy Leader, the Manager Special Operations, the SMP Supervisor, SMP Administrative Officers. Staff have operational and procurement expertise. The documentation used in the grant program was developed by the DPI Legal Services Branch.

## 12 NOVEMBER 2015

(Paper No. 38)

\*711 ENVIRONMENT—AIR QUALITY—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

(1)

- (a) Did the Government produce an impact statement as part of its role in leading the revision of national standards for particle pollution?
- (b) When was this impact statement produced?
- (c) Does the statement canvass three levels of PM10 pollution standards, specifically annual mean standards of 12, 16 and 20  $\mu$ g/m3?

(2)

- (a) Did the New South Wales Environment Protection Authority (EPA) make a cabinet submission to change PM standards, specifically to introduce an annual mean of PM10 standard of 25 μg/m3?
- (b) If so, why did the EPA make a submission for a level significantly higher than any of the three standards in the impact statement?
- (3) Has the Government changed its position on the appropriate levels of PM10 standards since the impact statement was produced?
- (4) Has the Minister for the Environment had any contact with the Minerals Council of Australia regarding the proposed PM10 pollution standards?

Answer-

- (1)
- (a) The National Environment Protection Council (NEPC) released an impact statement and draft variation to the National Environment Protection (Ambient Air Quality) Measure (Ambient Air

Quality NEPM) for airborne particulate matter. NSW has led the review of the Ambient Air Quality NEPM particle standards in consultation with other jurisdictions.

- (b) The impact statement and supporting documents were released for public consultation on 31 July 2014.
- (c) The impact statement identified no standard or a standard of 20  $\mu$ g/m3 as options for annual PM10 standards.
- (2) Cabinet deliberations are confidential.
- (3) The outcomes of the December 2015 Meeting of Environment Ministers will be the subject of a communique.
- (4) Minister's diary is published quarterly in accordance with Premier's Memorandum M2015-05.
- \*712 ENVIRONMENT—MANGROVE MOUNTAIN—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—
  - (1) With regards to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) inspection on 3 August 2015 of the Mangrove Mountain landfill:
    - (a) Was this undertaken independently of the operator or under their guidance?
    - (b) Did the EPA inspection that day inspect the catchment for Hallards Creek?
    - (c) Did the EPA inspection that day inspect the catchment for Ourimbah Creek?
    - (d) If not, why not?
  - (2) Regarding the EPA inspection on 21 August 2015 of the Mangrove Mountain landfill:
    - (a) Did the EPA find any evidence of pumping of sediment?
    - (b) Did the EPA take any water or sediment samples at this time?

(3)

- (a) Are the results of the field sampling of the Hallards and Stringybark creeks publically available?
- (b) If so, where are they?
- (c) If not, will the Government release these results?

#### Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1)
  - (a) During the EPA's inspection of the landfill on 3 August 2015 a representative of the landfill operator was present but did not guide the inspection.
  - (b) Yes. The upper areas of the Hallards Creek catchment were inspected.
  - (c) Yes. Ourimbah Creek was inspected at six locations.

(2)

- (a) The EPA is finalising its investigation into the circumstances surrounding an alleged incident of discoloured water discharge from the landfill.
- (b) Sediment sampling was undertaken adjacent to the landfill on 30 September 2015. There was no surface water in this area at the time of sampling.

(3)

- (a) Yes.
- (b) They were provided to Gosford City Council, Wyong Shire Council and the Mountain Districts Association on 24 November 2015.
- \*713 ENVIRONMENT—DERELICT MINE SITE CONTAMINATION—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

(1)

(a) How many derelict mine sites are considered contaminated under the Contaminated Land

Management Act 1997?

(b) Please provide a list of these mines and what the Environment Protection Authority's (EPA) involvement has been with each site.

(2)

- (a) Is the EPA aware of any mine sites that could be contaminated but are not yet considered contaminated land as per the Contaminated Land Management Act 1997?
- (b) If so, please provide a list of these sites and the reason why they have not been considered contaminated as of yet.

(3)

- (a) Is the EPA aware of any derelict mines where the security deposit paid by a mining company has not covered the cost of full rehabilitation?
- (b) If so, please provide a list of these mines.

Answer-

I am advised as follows:

(1)

- (a) None.
- (b) The NSW Government addresses derelict mine sites under the Derelict Mine Program. The program is managed by the Department of Industry Resources and Energy. As such, this is a matter for the Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy.
- (2) and (3) These questions are a matter for the Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy.
- \*714 ROADS, MARITIME AND FREIGHT—CLARENCE RIVER EROSION MANAGEMENT PLAN—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—

(1)

- (a) Does the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight expect that introducing 'no slow tow' restrictions and riverbank work will drastically minimise wave energy generated and reduce erosion of riverbanks?
- (b) If so, have 'no slow tow' restrictions been introduced in all erosion sensitive areas as identified by the Water Research Laboratory report?
- (2) What rehabilitation work is planned for the riverbanks as party of the Clarence River Erosion Management Plan? Please provide a list of specific planned projects.

Answer-

I am advised:

Transport for NSW's Clarence River Erosion Management Plan was released in September 2015, and is available on the Maritime Management Centre's website.

The plan was developed to improve the management of boating wash and riverbank erosion on the Clarence River between Rogans Bridge and Ulmurra.

It is expected the new no slow towing restrictions will significantly reduce the amount of wave energy being generated in sensitive areas, and that riverbank rehabilitation works will improve resilience to erosion.

Sites identified in the Water Research Laboratory report are being further investigated to inform and prioritise specific rehabilitation works.

- \*715 PLANNING—AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONTRIBUTIONS FUND—Ms Sharpe asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Planning—
  - (1) What is the current balance, as at 12 November 2015, of the affordable housing contributions fund administered by UrbanGrowth NSW Development Corporation?
  - (2) What was the balance of the affordable housing contributions fund administered by UrbanGrowth NSW Development Corporation at end of the following financial years:
    - (a) 2014/15?
    - (b) 2013/14?
    - (c) 2012/13?
    - (d) 2011/12?
  - (3) Can the Minister for Planning provide an itemised list of contributions made by developers (specifying the names of the development companies) to the affordable housing contributions fund administered by UrbanGrowth NSW Development Corporation at the end of the following financial years:
    - (a) 2014/15?
    - (b) 2013/14?
    - (c) 2012/13?
    - (d) 2011/12?

Answer-

I am advised by UrbanGrowth NSW Development Corporation, the following responses to the above questions.

- (1) The current balance (at end of October 2015)of the affordable housing contributions fund is \$32,817,788
- (2) The balances of the affordable housing contribution fund at the end of each financial year is outlined below.
  - (a) 2014/15 \$32,562,045
  - (b) 2013/14 \$37,391,406
  - (c) 2012/13 \$34,255,695 d. 2011/12 \$21,434,301
- (3) An itemised list of contributions made by developers to the affordable housing contributions fund is below.

Year	Address	Contributor	Contribution Amount
2011/12	7-9 Gibbons St, Redfern	Candalepas Associates	\$668,234
2012/13	7-9 Gibbons St, Redfern	Candalepas Associates	\$80,000
2013/14	134-144 Pitt Street, Redfern	Kayment Constructions	\$26,161.38
2014/15	6-8 Central Ave	Turner Hughes	\$9,101.28

- \*716 PLANNING—AFFORDABLE HOUSING—Ms Sharpe asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Planning—
  - (1) Can the Minister for Planning provide an itemised list of investments made by the affordable housing contributions fund into individual affordable housing projects in the following financial years:
    - (a) 2014/15?
    - (b) 2013/14?
    - (c) 2012/13?
    - (d) 2011/12?

- (2) Can the Minister provide an itemised list of the number of affordable housing dwellings constructed with funds from the affordable housing contributions fund in the following financial years:
  - (a) 2014/15?
  - (b) 2013/14?
  - (c) 2012/13?
  - (d) 2011/12?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Department allocates monetary contributions made for these Affordable Housing Programs to City West Housing. City West Housing determine how the funds will be used in individual affordable housing projects.

Since July 2011 more than \$90 million has been collected by the Department and distributed to City West Housing Pty Ltd. Since 1994 City West Housing has delivered nearly 550 affordable rental dwellings with 300 more dwellings scheduled for completion by 2016.

# 17 NOVEMBER 2015

## (Paper No. 39)

- \*717 EDUCATION—SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Education—
  - (1)
- (a) Over the past year, has the Department of Education issued any directives, policy documents or other instructions to public schools regarding the signing of power purchase agreements?
- (b) If so, please outline for each such document:
  - (i) the nature and content?
  - (ii) the date it was circulated?

(2)

- (a) Are individual schools required to seek permission from the Department before entering into a power purchase agreement?
- (b) If so, please outline the process schools would need to undertake?
- (3)
- (a) Can the Minister for Education please confirm if the supply panel contract for solar leasing, as referenced in the Government Resource Efficiency Policy, has been finalised?
- (b) If so, will that contract be made public?
- (4) Can the Minister please outline why no Department of Education building is listed on the Office of Environment and Heritage suitable sites for solar Power Purchase Agreements?
- (5) How many Department of Education buildings currently have solar photovoltaic (PV) installations? Please list them.
- (6) How many Department of Education buildings are currently under investigation for the installation of solar PV systems? Please list them.

Answer—

- (1) to (4) The Department of Education is awaiting advice and guidance from the Office of Environment and Heritage regarding power purchase agreements and solar panel installations in schools.
- (5) The Department holds records of 1,424 schools with solar photovoltaic (PV) installations.
- (6) The program for 2015/16 is currently being finalised.

# 18 NOVEMBER 2015

(Paper No. 40)

- \*718 ENVIRONMENT—NOISE COMPLAINTS—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—
  - (1) How many noise complaints has the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) received regarding rail noise on the track between Waverton and St Leonards stations in:
    - (a) 2013/2014?
    - (b) 2014/2015?
    - (c) 2015/2016 (up to 1 November 2015)?

(2)

- (a) Does Sydney Trains currently hold a licence under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO Act)?
- (b) If so:
  - (i) Are noise restrictions included under this licence?
  - (ii) What are they?
  - (iii) If not, why not?
- (c) When is the licence due for renewal?
- (d) Will the EPA require Sydney Trains to undertake measures to mitigate noise under any new licence?

Answer-

I am advised as follows:

(1)

- (a) 2013/2014: 3
- (b) 2014/2015: 41
- (c) 2015/2016 (up until 1 November 2015): 10

(2)

- (a) Yes
- (b)
  - (i) Yes
  - (ii) The noise limits are outlined in Condition L2 of Sydney Trains' environment protection licence No12208. This can be found on the EPA's public register at www.epa.nsw.gov.au/prpoeoapp/ViewPOEOLicence.aspx? DOCID=62682&SYSUID=1&LICID=12208
  - (iii) Not applicable
- (c) Environment protection licences do not require renewal.
- (d) The EPA imposed a Pollution Reduction Program on Sydney Trains' licence on 13 November 2015. This requires Sydney Trains to undertake investigative works to identify the occurrence and cause of wheel squeal noise in the Waverton and Wollstonecraft area. The EPA will use the findings of these investigations to determine whether additional measures are required to mitigate wheel squeal noise.
- \*719 TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE—PASSENGER TRAIN NOISE—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure—
  - (1) What actions is the Government taking to mitigate passenger train noise, especially on the bends located between Waverton and St Leonards Station?
  - (2)
- (a) Did the Environmental Impact Statement of the North West Rail Link consider additional noise between Waverton and St Leonards Station as a result of extra train movements?
- (b) If not, why not?

(3) Will the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure consider introducing a program similar to the Freight Noise Attenuation Program to mitigate noise from significantly noisy parts of the Sydney Trains network?

(4)

- (a) Is noise considered as part of procurement of new rolling stock?
- (b) If so, how?
- (c) If not, why not?

(5)

- (a) Is lubrication an effective form of noise mitigation?
- (b) If so, how is its effectiveness measured?
- (c) If not, what other measures is the Government investigating to reduce train noise?

Answer-

I am advised:

The NSW Government is conscious of the issues and concerns of the community in regard to noise from trains. All practical measures are taken to reduce noise from trains, the tracks and other structures across the rail network. This includes rail and train wheel profile grinding and the removal of track surface irregularities to reduce noise. Sydney Trains uses over 400 lubricators across the network to reduce wheel/rail friction and wear, which in turn reduces maintenance costs.

\*720 TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE—NOISE MEASURING STATIONS—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure—

(1)

- (a) Are there any noise measuring stations located on the Sydney Trains Network?
- (b) If so:
  - (i) Where?
  - (ii) Where are the results from the measuring stations available?
- (c) If not, why not?

Answer-

I am advised:

Transport for NSW is currently establishing permanent noise monitoring stations at Otford, Jannali, Leura, Emu Plains, Koolewong, Narara and Cardiff. These stations are currently undergoing calibration and acceptance testing.

A permanent noise monitor will be installed Beecroft, before June 2016 in accordance with the Conditions of Approval for the Epping to Third Track project.

Monitoring in response to community complaints is done near the residences with results provided to the residents.

\*721 PLANNING—BIODIVERSITY OFFSETS POLICY FOR MAJOR PROJECTS—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Planning—

(1)

- (a) How many projects have been entered into under the Biodiversity Offsets Policy for Major Projects to date?
- (b) Please provide a detailed list including the project name, the offset obtained and the

environmental area being offset.

Answer—

I am advised that:

The following projects have conditions of approval requiring offsets to be provided under the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Policy for Major Projects Policy:

- Springvale Underground Mine Extension Project
- Warkworth Continuation Project
- Moolarben Stage 2

Details of the offset obtained and the environmental area being offset for each project is available on the Department's website.

- \*722 INDUSTRY, RESOURCES AND ENERGY—LEGAL COST IN CHALLENGE TO AUSTRALIAN ENERGY REGULATOR'S DETERMINATION—Mr Searle asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Planning—
  - (1) How much has been spent to date on legal fees in connection with the challenge to the Australian Energy Regulator's determination by Endeavour Energy, Ausgrid and Essential Energy?
  - (2) How much has been spent to date on all matters in connection with the challenge to the Australian Energy Regulator's determination by Endeavour Energy, Ausgrid and Essential Energy?

### Answer-

This question should be referred to the Treasurer, The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP, for consideration and response.

- \*723 INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, TREASURER—LEGAL COST IN CHALLENGE TO AUSTRALIAN ENERGY REGULATOR'S DETERMINATION—Mr Searle asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Treasurer, and Minister for Industrial Relations—
  - (1) How much has been spent to date on legal fees in connection with the challenge to the Australian Energy Regulator's determination by Endeavour Energy, Ausgrid and Essential Energy?
  - (2) How much has been spent to date on all matters in connection with the challenge to the Australian Energy Regulator's determination by Endeavour Energy, Ausgrid and Essential Energy?

### Answer-

The Government recently provided an update on legal fees and other costs as part of the Budget Estimates process.

\*724 EDUCATION—ULTIMO PUBLIC SCHOOL SITE—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Education—

(1)

- (a) Does the Minister for Education still support the comments made at a P & C meeting by the executive director of NSW Public Schools Murat Dizdar in 2014 that the current Ultimo Public School site "could not accommodate future growth"?
- (b) If so why is the Department of Education pursuing an expression of interest process for the redevelopment of the school that will house only an additional 300 students in the most densely populated areas of Sydney?

Answer-

(1)

(a) and b. The Department of Education uses numerous strategies to address enrolment growth including:

All of these strategies are being considered for implementation to address enrolment demand in the inner city.

\*725 EDUCATION—PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL CAPACITY—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Education—

Given that the Government has previously stated that the reason it did not proceed on a deal to build a new 1000 student school at the Wattle St site in Ultimo was the exorbitant cost of acquiring the site, building the school, remediating the site and relocating the school during the construction process, can the Minister for Education please outline what costings the Government has conducted for various options for meeting public primary school capacity to 2031?

Answer—

All options are being considered to meet the future primary enrolment demand to 2031. No costings are available as the cluster plan for the inner city primary school asset cluster, which includes Ultimo Public School, is still being developed.

\*726 EDUCATION—NEW ULTIMO PUBLIC SCHOOL—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Education—

In August this year, a spokesperson for the Department of Education told the City Hub newspaper that: "In addition to a new Ultimo Public School, the Department is undertaking strategic asset planning for the cluster of seven local schools, which Ultimo Public School is a part of, to increase capacity across the cluster to cater for student numbers out to 2031."

- (1) How has the strategic asset planning referred to progressed since the statement was made?
- (2) How is the Department preparing to meet public primary school capacity for the growing population in the inner city area when its proposed new Ultimo Public School will only house an additional 300 students?

Answer—

The asset cluster plan for the seven schools, which Ultimo Public School is a part of, is progressing and is expected to be completed by the end of 2016.

- \*727 SKILLS—TAFE COURSE FEES AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills, and Minister for Small Business—
  - (1) What were the 2015 student fees for the Diploma of Nursing (Enrolled Division 2) at the following TAFE institutes:
    - (a) North Coast?
    - (b) New England?
    - (c) Hunter?
    - (d) Western?
    - (e) Riverina?
    - (f) Illawarra?
    - (g) South West Sydney?
    - (h) Western Sydney?
    - (i) North Sydney?
    - (j) Sydney?
    - (k) Open Training and Education Network (OTEN)?
  - (2) What are the proposed 2016 student fees for the Diploma of Nursing (Enrolled Division 2) at the following TAFE institutes:
    - (a) North Coast?
    - (b) New England?
    - (c) Hunter?
    - (d) Western?
    - (e) Riverina?
    - (f) Illawarra?
    - (g) South West Sydney?

- (h) Western Sydney?
- (i) North Sydney?
- (j) Sydney?
- (k) OTEN?

Answer-

- (1)
- (a) to k. Fees vary depending on whether a person is eligible for Government-subsidised training under Smart and Skilled. Fees under Smart and Skilled are fixed regardless of the provider to ensure a focus on quality of delivery rather than price. Further information may be found at https://smartandskilled.nsw.gov.au/ and also at the relevant TAFE NSW Institute websites.
- (2)
- (a) to k. The NSW Government has announced that there will be no student fee increases under Smart and Skilled for 2016, with fees for some Foundation Skills decreasing. Therefore, fees for the Diploma of Nursing will be the same in 2016 as they were in 2015. The announced fee freeze will provide confidence and certainty for students wanting to access vocational education and training in 2016 to build their skills and get a job.
- \*728 SKILLS—DIPLOMA OF VISUAL ARTS COURSE FEES—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills, and Minister for Small Business—
  - (1) What were the 2015 student fees for the Diploma of Visual Arts at the following TAFE institutes:
    - (a) North Coast?
    - (b) Hunter?
    - (c) Western?
    - (d) Riverina?
    - (e) Western Sydney?
    - (f) Sydney?
  - (2) What are the proposed 2016 student fees for the Diploma of Visual Arts at the following TAFE institutes:
    - (a) North Coast?
    - (b) Hunter?
    - (c) Western?
    - (d) Riverina?
    - (e) Western Sydney?
    - (f) Sydney?

Answer-

(1)

(a) to f. The Diploma of Visual Arts is not listed on the 2015 NSW Skills list as a subsidised course under Smart and Skilled. The Skills List identifies courses that help people get the skills they need to find a job. It also aligns with the skills needs of businesses in NSW. Fees for the Diploma of Visual Arts vary across TAFE NSW Institutes. Information on fees charged can be found at the relevant TAFE NSW Institute websites.

(2)

(a) to f. The Diploma of Visual Arts is not listed on the 2016 NSW Skills list as a subsidised course under Smart and Skilled. The Skills List identifies courses that help people get the skills they need to find a job. It also aligns with the skills needs of businesses in NSW. Fees vary across TAFE NSW Institutes. Information can be found at the relevant TAFE NSW Institute websites. \*729 SKILLS—TAFE COURSE FEES AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills, and Minister for Small Business—

(1)

- (a) Has the Smart and Skilled program offered increased funding opportunities to TAFE or to any other registered training organisations from July 1 2015?
- (b) If so, how have these organisations been informed of these opportunities?

Answer-

(1)

- (a) Yes.
- (b) Training providers were advised by letters and emails of opportunities to deliver government subsidised training. Training providers have also been informed of these opportunities through webinars.
- \*730 SKILLS—SMART AND SKILLED ENROLMENT—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills, and Minister for Small Business—

What was the total projected student enrolment for 2015 under Smart and Skilled?

Answer—

Information on projected student enrolments is provided on page 6-11 of Budget Paper No. 3 2015-16.

- \*731 PLANNING—COASTAL MANAGEMENT—Ms Barham asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Planning—
  - (1) Will the Minister for Planning amend the State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007 to remove provisions that enable local government to undertake coastal management works, including rockwalls, groynes and other hard barriers from the planning instrument to avoid situations such as the construction of the Belongil rock wall occurring under this State Environmental Planning Policy in the future?
  - (2) Will the Minister review the boundaries of State Environmental Planning Policy No 14—Coastal Wetlands and State Environmental Planning Policy 26—Coastal Forests prior to the introduction to Parliament of the proposed new Coastal Management Act?

### Answer-

I am advised:

- (1) The Government's Stage 2 Coastal Reforms will provide a more integrated and strategic approach to coastal management. Public consultation of a draft Coastal Management Bill and an Explanation of Intended Effect (EIE) for a new Coastal Management State Environmental Planning Policy commenced on 13 November 2015. These instruments propose contemporary management objectives for the coast and contain draft provisions for new coastal protection works. The EIE proposes that 'hard barriers' such as rock walls will require consent by a specially constituted Joint Regional planning Panel (JRPP) where no Coastal Management Program is in place.
- (2) The maps which identify land within coastal wetlands and littoral rainforests boundaries will form part of the proposed new Coastal Management State Environmental Policy (SEPP). The Government will exhibit those maps in early 2016 and consider submissions relating to the boundaries before the maps are finalised and published as part of the new SEPP.
- \*732 PLANNING—AFFORDABLE HOUSING LAND OR CONTRIBUTIONS—Ms Barham asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Planning—
  - (1) Aside from those areas currently identified as having a need for affordable housing in section 9 of State Environmental Planning Policy No 70 Affordable Housing (Revised Schemes), i.e., City of South Sydney, City of Sydney, City of Willoughby, and Leichhardt:

- (a) How many councils have applied to the Government requesting that they identify that there is a need for affordable housing within their local government area for the purposes of section 94F of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 since that provision of the Act commenced in 2000, and which councils have made such applications?
- (b) How many such applications has the Government approved and for which local government areas has the need for affordable housing been identified?
- (c) How many such applications have been refused, and what were the reasons for those refusals?

Answer-

I am advised:

- (1) The City of Canada Bay Council has requested to be included in SEPP 70. The Department of Planning and Environment is currently working with the Council on this matter.
- \*733 PLANNING—AFFORDABLE HOUSING TASKFORCE—Ms Barham asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Planning—
  - (1) Does the Affordable Housing Taskforce, which is referred to at http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/Housing/Affordable-Rental-Housing continue to operate?
    - (a) If so:
      - (i) Who are the current members of the Taskforce?
      - (ii) Has the Taskforce provided any additional reports or recommendations to the Government since its Interim Report of March 2012?
      - (iii) Please provide an update on progress of the six actions identified in the Interim Report.
    - (b) If not:
      - (i) Did the Taskforce provide a Final Report to the Government?
      - (ii) If so, what were its final recommendations?
      - (iii) Were each of the six actions identified in the Interim Report completed?

### Answer—

I am advised:

The Affordable Housing Taskforce is not currently operating, and the Taskforce did not provide a Final Report to the Government. However, the Government is currently considering how to implement the Interim Report recommendations.

The Interim Report included an action to develop local housing strategies with councils to enable a diversity of housing in the right locations. A Plan for Growing Sydney will require each council, to prepare a local housing strategy that considers local affordable housing needs and strategies to provide affordable housing that responds to local demand.

In addition, the Department is currently undertaking a review of all State Environmental Planning Policies including State Environmental Planning Policy (Affordable Rental Housing) 2009.

## **19 NOVEMBER 2015**

(Paper No. 41)

\*734 ENVIRONMENT—CAPE BYRON HEADLAND—Ms Barham asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

In relation to the construction of a roof at Cape Byron Headland within a heritage area and adjoining the heritage-listed Lighthouse Keeper's Cottage:

- (1) What studies were undertaken prior to the work?
- (2) What community consultation was undertaken?
- (3) What legislation or regulation were the works approved under?

- (4) Who was the applicant for the works?
- (5) Were the works undertaken with a Plan of Management or any other advertised and adopted document?

(6)

- (a) Has a commercial lease or licence been established over the new area?
- (b) If so, what financial return is being derived?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) In 2013 the heritage advisor who prepared the Conservation Management Plan for the Cape Byron Lightstation Precinct (2008) participated in a site inspection. In 2014 the Cape Byron Experience Concept Design Report was prepared. In 2015, architectural plans, a Statement of Heritage Impact, and a Review of Environmental Factors were completed.
- (2) Consultation was undertaken with the Bundjalung of Byron Bay (Arakwal) Corporation in February 2015 as part of its role in joint management of the reserve.
- (3) The works were approved under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 and the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.
- (4) The applicant was the Northern Rivers Region, National Parks and Wildlife Service.
- (5) The works were undertaken as a permitted activity pursuant to the Cape Byron Headland Plan of Management (2002). The works are also consistent with the Conservation Management Plan for the Cape Byron Lightstation Precinct (2008). A tender for works with architectural plans and lease/licence of the café was advertised.
- (6)
- (a) Yes, a commercial lease of the building and licence for the outside area have been in place since 2010 and were renewed in 2015.
- (b) Financial returns are commercial in-confidence.
- \*735 ENVIRONMENT—NPWS COMMITTEES AND BOARDS—Ms Barham asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—
  - (1) What National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) Committees and Boards have been established by the Government during this term of Parliament?
  - (2) What appointments have been made to NPWS Committees and Boards in the Northern Region?
  - (3) How many Committees and Boards are currently inactive due to the lack of appointed members?
  - (4) In the case of any Committees and Boards that are partially or entirely vacant:
  - (5)
- (a) Has the Government appointed representatives to those Committees and Boards?
- (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

Appointments to National Parks and Wildlife Regional Advisory Committees are being expedited and are expected to be finalised soon.

\*736 EDUCATION—TAFE ENROLMENTS—Ms Sharpe asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Education—

- (1) How many students were enrolled this year at Cooma campus of TAFE?
- (2) How many students were enrolled this year at Bega campus of TAFE?
- (3) How many students were enrolled this year at Goulburn campus of TAFE?
- (4) How many students were enrolled this year at Nowra campus of TAFE at Bomaderry?
- (5) How many students were enrolled this year at Queanbeyan campus of TAFE?

- (6) How many students were enrolled this year at the Wollongong campus of TAFE?
- (7) How many students were enrolled this year at campuses of the Illawarra Institute of TAFE?

Answer-

This question should be redirected to the Minister for Skills as the Minister responsible for these matters.

- \*737 ENVIRONMENT—CARBON ABATEMENT THROUGH VEGETATION MANAGEMENT—Ms Sharpe asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—
  - (1) What modelling has the Government done to examine the implications for land use emissions increases as a result of the proposed changes to land clearing regulations in New South Wales?
  - (2) How is the Government working with the Federal Government to ensure the new arrangements for land clearing and management of biodiversity is augmenting the Commonwealth's carbon abatement strategy?
  - (3) How will New South Wales new land management regime ensure taxpayers are not paying for reforestation at the same time as allowing increased deforestation and undercutting gains made via the Emissions Reduction Fund?

Answer-

- (1) In its review of NSW biodiversity laws in 2014, the Independent Biodiversity Legislation Review Panel recognised that a state-wide framework for biodiversity conservation on private land should take into account landscape features identified as important for biodiversity adaptation to climate change. The NSW Government has committed to implementing the recommendations made by the panel as an integrated package of reforms.
- (2) The NSW Government, through the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), participates in the Commonwealth Government's Emissions Reduction Fund State Engagement Group. OEH is in regular contact with the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and the Clean Energy Regulator. Aligning NSW's biodiversity management arrangements with the Commonwealth's carbon abatement strategy is being actively discussed and considered.
- (3) To ensure biodiversity is conserved at bioregional or state scales over time, the Independent Biodiversity Legislation Review Panel recommended that the government consider supplementing voluntary and market-driven private land conservation activity with direct government investment in additional positive conservation effort. The government has announced that it will implement the recommendations made by the panel.

The Commonwealth Government administers the Emissions Reduction Fund ensuring that it only purchases emissions reductions that are both real and additional to business as usual.

\*738 ENVIRONMENT—CENTENNIAL COAL COMPANY'S CLARENCE COLLIERY—Ms Sharpe asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

In relation to the collapse of a tailings dam the Centennial Coal Company's Clarence Colliery on 2 July 2015 that caused a large amount of coal fines to be released into the Wollangambe River:

- (1) What steps have been taken to recover the coal fines from the River?
- (2) How many individuals have been engaged to recover coal fines from the River?
- (3) What equipment have these individuals used to recover coal fines from the River?
- (4) How many hours have been spent on the coal fines clean up?
- (5) What weight of coal fines have been recovered so far from the River?
- (6) How long is the clean-up operation expected take?
- (7) How much have the individuals involved in the recovery of coal fines from the River been paid per hour?

Answer-

I am advised as follows:

- (1) On 18 August 2015, after considering the scientific advice of the Office of Environment and Heritage and observing the trialling of methods to remove accumulated deposits of coal fines, the EPA served a legal Clean-Up Notice under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 ordering Clarence Colliery to remove coal fines until the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is satisfied no more can be removed without damage to the environment and ecosystem of the river.
- (2) Many individuals from the company, its contractors and agencies have been involved in the clean up process. The specific clean up crew comprises six to eight members.
- (3) The clean up crew are using both wet and dry suits to enable them to work in the cold water, using handheld scoops to remove the coal fines. Buckets are used to transport the coal fines from the river for deposition into bulka bags on the river bank. A helicopter is used to transport the bulka bags out of the Blue Mountains National Park.
- (4) The clean up commenced on 8 August 2015 with the trialling of removal techniques, and is continuing. The exact number of hours is not known to the EPA.
- (5) By 30 November 2015, 163.2 wet tonnes of coal fines had been removed from 4.3 kilometres of the Wollangambe River.
- (6) In accordance with the Clean Up Notice, the clean up operation will continue until the EPA is satisfied no more coal fines can be removed without damage to the environment and ecosystem of the river.
- (7) The EPA does not know how much individuals in the clean up crew are being paid per hour.
- \*739 ENVIRONMENT—CLARENCE COLLIERY WOLLANGAMBE RIVER—Ms Sharpe asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

In relation to the collapse of a tailings dam the Centennial Coal Company's Clarence Colliery on 2 July 2015 that cause a large amount of coal fines to be released into the Wollangambe River:

- (1) Are discharges from the Clarence Colliery to the receiving waters of the Wollangambe River in the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area regulated under Environment Protection Licence (EPL) 726?
- (2) Does the Government consider the Wollangambe River to be a very sensitive and important natural environment?
- (3) How was the Office of Environment and Heritage report on Clarence Colliery Discharge Investigation of June 2015 funded?
- (4) What plans does the Government have to use EPL licence fees to permit independent consultants to undertake compliance and investigation monitoring of controlled premises, particularly those that impact on sensitive environments?

Answer-

I am advised as follows:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) The EPA commissioned and paid the Office of Environment and Heritage to undertake the independent research and write the report.
- (4) Compliance and regulatory activities are conducted by the EPA as appropriate, contingent on the conditions of the EPL and/or the unique, site specific conditions of the regulatory response in place.
- \*740 ROADS, MARITIME AND FREIGHT—SEVIN HILLS ROADWORK ALLOCATION—Mr Primrose asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
  - (1) How much has been allocated for roadworks in 2015/16 in the seat of Seven Hills?
  - (2) What projects have been funded?
  - (3) What allocation is proposed for Seven Hills over the forward estimates for roadworks?

Answer—

I am advised:

Capital expenditure for road projects is provided by project in the State Electoral Papers. Capital expenditure for 2016-17 road projects will be announced in the 2016-17 NSW Budget. Total asset maintenance expenditure is reported in the NSW Budget papers.

\*741 INNOVATION AND BETTER REGULATION—REGULATIONS ENACTED—Mr Primrose asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation—

(1)

- (a) How many regulations have been enacted in the 56th Parliament?
- (b) What number have been enacted in each portfolio?

(2)

- (a) How many regulations were enacted in the 55th Parliament?
- (b) What number have been enacted in each portfolio?

(3)

- (a) How many regulations have been removed in the 56th Parliament?
- (b) In what portfolios have they been removed?

(4)

- (a) How many regulations were removed in the 55th Parliament?
- (b) In what portfolios have they been removed?

Answer-

All legislation, including Acts enacted or repealed by Parliament or regulations made or repealed by the Government, is listed on the NSW Legislation website (www.legislation.nsw.gov.au), which is maintained by Parliamentary Counsel's Office.

- \*742 LOCAL GOVERNMENT—RATEABLE PROPERTIES—Mr Primrose asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Local Government—
  - (1) What is the total number of rateable properties owned by persons eligible for a pensioner rebate in New South Wales?
  - (2) What is the total number of rateable properties owned by persons eligible for a pensioner rebate in each New South Wales by local government area?

Answer-

Information on the number of rateable properties is available at

www.olg.nsw.gov.au/public/my-local-council/yourcouncil-website

- \*743 PLANNING—NEWCASTLE URBAN RENEWAL BUSINESS CASE—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Planning—
  - (1) When will the Government publish the Newcastle Urban Renewal and Transport Program Stage 2 Final Business Case Urban Renewal and Light Rail Assurance Review Report of September 2014?

(2)

- (a) Was the report prepared by Angus Dawson, Danny Graham and James McIntosh?(b) If not, who prepared the report?
- (3) Is it true that of nine separate criteria, the business case received only two green flags?
- (4) Did the business case receive a red flag for the criteria of funding and value for money?

(5) Did the business case receive yellow flags on six of the nine criteria considered?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to 5. These questions should be directed to the Minister for Transport.
- \*744 ENVIRONMENT—WETLANDS PROTECTION—Ms Barham asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—
  - (1) How many nominations or assessments have been undertaken relating to protection of habitat in the North Coast region under the Ramsar Convention?
  - (2)
- (a) Will the Government nominate the significant North Coast ecological Cobaki Wetlands for Ramsar Convention protection?
- (b) If not, why not?
- (3) What action is the Government taking to protect the Cobaki Wetlands in light of the threat of negative impact from the expansion of the Gold Coast Airport?

Answer-

I am advised as follows:

- (1) The Commonwealth Government is responsible for the Ramsar Convention.
- (2) The Commonwealth Government is responsible for the Ramsar Convention.
- (3) The Commonwealth Government is responsible for regulation of the proposed expansion of the Gold Coast Airport.
- \*745 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—ABORIGINAL LAND AGREEMENTS—Ms Barham asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

(1)

- (a) Have any Aboriginal Land Agreements been entered into since the commencement of section 36AA of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983?
- (b) If so:
  - (i) How many agreements have been entered into?
  - (ii) Which Aboriginal Land Council(s) have entered into agreements?
  - (iii) How many unresolved Aboriginal land claims have been resolved as a result of these agreements?

(2)

- (a) Have any negotiations commenced under section 36AA(2) of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983?
- (b) If so, how many Aboriginal Land Councils has the Minister commenced negotiations with?
- (3) What work has the Government carried out to develop protocols and processes for identifying potential stakeholders and commencing and conducting negotiations for Aboriginal Land Agreements?

Answer—

(1) No

- (2) No
- (3) The NSW Government has commenced development of a negotiation framework and protocols for Aboriginal Land Agreements. An interagency group comprising key government agencies is working with the NSW Aboriginal Land Council to finalise the framework and protocols.

- \*746 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—TWEED RIVER FISHING ACTIVITIES—Ms Barham asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) On what basis has the Government determined that the activities of two ecotourism boat operators in the Tweed River area, which involve large numbers of people carrying out activities both on-board and land-based fishing activities including "yabbie-pumping", constitute recreational charter fishing rather than either commercial fishing or a commercial tourism operation?
  - (2) What action has the Government taken in response to ongoing concerns raised by a number of local and other stakeholders that the land-based fishing activities including "yabbie-pumping" continue to cause significant environmental damage in the Terranora Broadwater area, despite the adoption of the NSW Recreational Charter Fishing Sector Code of Practice for land based charter fishing activities in the Tweed River?
  - (3)
- (a) Has the Government given consideration to the possibility of requiring operators to prevent passengers from disembarking and conducting land-based activities in the Terranora Broadwater area?
- (b) If so, on what basis has the Government decided not to proceed with this action to prevent further environmental damage in the area?

(4)

- (a) Has the Government given consideration to suspending any approval to operate until detailed assessment and monitoring of the impact is undertaken?
- (b) If not, why not?
- (5) What is the basis of the approval for these fishing activities by Tweed River ecotourism operators?
- (6) What analysis of the potential impact was considered in the assessment of these fishing activities by Tweed River ecotourism operators before approval was granted?
- (7) Do these activities operate under a licence or some other approval model?
- (8)
- (a) Do the operators pay any fees to the Government related to these activities or the licensing or approval to carry them out?
- (b) If so, are the funds from these payments allocated to protection of the marine environment and waterways?
- (c) If not, why not?

### Answer-

- (1) The NSW Fisheries Management Act 1994 (the Act) outlines that a boat is a charter fishing boat in NSW if it is used to provide guided recreational fishing activities under an arrangement made with or on behalf of the persons using the boat and the boat is used for recreational fishing activities on a commercial basis in marine and estuarine waters. Charter boat operators providing fishing trips for recreational fishers in NSW need a licence to operate their business. In November 2000, these operations were issued with a NSW charter fishing boat licence to undertake recreational fishing activities on a commercial basis. These business practices cannot be defined as commercial fishing under the Act, as the catch (fish, crabs, ghost nippers/yabbies etc.) from these fishing activities is not permitted to be sold (or bartered, exchanged etc.) by the client or the operator for commercial gain.
- (2) Two charter boat operators have been carrying out land based charter fishing activities (nipper pumping) in the Terranora area on the Tweed River for over 15 years. These platform vessels undertake a variety of nature tours, including one that provides clients with the experience of pulling up a crab trap, fishing with a rod and reel, disembarking the boat for up to half an hour to pump nippers and also experience the sandbank environment. Some recreational fishing stakeholders have raised concern about the perceived impact of these land based activities on the aquatic environment in the Terranora Broadwater area of the Tweed River while other local stakeholders have indicated there are no environmental impacts associated with these land based activities. NSW Department of Primary Industries staff (DPI) have carried out a number of site inspections in the Terranora Broadwater and Inlet over the past 18 months, including two formal inspections by a Conservation Fisheries Officer. Initial observations did not identify any major issues in relation to any environmental damage except for one small sensitive habitat location with extensive seagrass beds. This location, Togos Gutter, was identified during the first of these inspections and the charter boat

operators agreed to avoid that area. In response to ongoing representations from some local stakeholders, DPI developed a Code of Practice for land based charter fishing activities in the Tweed River, which implements a series of additional controls and restrictions on these land based charter activities to achieve further protection for the Tweed River sandbank environment. The two relevant charter operators supported its implementation and are abiding to the additional operational restrictions in the Code. DPI has also commenced dedicated research on nippers in the Terranora area as part of the project "Bait Security Ensuring sustainable and productive NSW invertebrate bait resources". In October 2015, DPI researchers began sampling areas of low, medium and high utilisation as identified through discussions with local stakeholders. Sampling is planned to be done seasonally, with the next sampling to be undertaken at the Terranora Inlet area in January 2016.

(3)

- (a) Yes. NSW DPI staff have held a number of meetings with stakeholders in the local area in response to stakeholder concerns, where all issues and potential management actions were identified and discussed.
- (b) Refer to the answer to Question 2.
- (4) Yes. NSW DPI staff have held a number of meetings with stakeholders in the local area in response to stakeholder concerns, where all issues and potential management actions were identified and discussed. As part of this consideration, in August 2014 DPI also consulted the Marine and Estuarine Recreational Charter Management Advisory Committee on the issue of whether or not NSW charter fishing businesses should be permitted to undertake fishing activities that are not conducted on board the charter vessel, as part of the formal charter fishing trip. The committee supported retention of these activities.
- (5) Since 2000, there has been a cap on the number of charter fishing boats authorised to operate in NSW. This is to assist in the management of the long term sustainability of fisheries resources in NSW. These operators satisfied the requirements for issuance of a NSW Charter Fishing Boat Licence.
- (6) There was no legislative requirement to assess potential impacts at this level of operation.
- (7) Yes, refer to answers to (1) and (2).
- (8)
- (a) Yes. The Act requires the holder of a charter fishing boat licence to pay an annual contribution (a licence fee), which is placed in the Charter Fishing Trust.
- (b) Yes. Pursuant to the Act, funds in the Charter Fishing Trust can be and are used towards the costs of taking measures to enhance, maintain or protect charter fishing, the costs of carrying out research into charter boat fishing, the costs of management and administration of charter fishing boat operations, the costs of ensuring compliance with charter fishing boat regulatory controls, and the costs of consultative arrangements with owners and operators of charter fishing boats. Charter operators may also pay an annual fee for a Recreational Fishing Fee Exemption Certificate, which exempts their clients from the need to hold an individual recreational fishing fee receipt when undertaking recreational fishing activities. Funds from Charter Fishing Recreational Fishing Fee Exemption Certificate payments are placed in the Recreational Fishing Trust and used to fund a variety of projects that benefit recreational fishing, including fish habitat restoration projects and essential fisheries research. The current NSW Bait Security Research Program is also being undertaken using funds from the Recreational Fishing Trust.
- (c) Not applicable.
- \*747 LANDS AND WATER—CROWN LANDS' OFFICE'S UNDERSTANDING OF NEW SOUTH WALES PROPERTY LAW—Ms Barham asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) Has the Minister for Lands and Water seen the article published in December 2013, in the Property Law Review 'an internationally respected refereed law journal published in New South Wales' by John R Corkill OAM, titled 'Ambulatory boundaries in New South Wales Real lines in the sand' 3 (2) PLR 67-84, on the impact of ambulatory boundaries on private property boundaries originally defined by survey?

- (a) Do the Minister and Crown Lands legal officers accept that senior New South Wales courts have ruled that once land falls below mean high water mark, it ceases to be 'real property' under the Real Property Act 1900 and its ownership reverts to the Crown as the Government, as reported in the article?
- (b) If not, why not?
- (3) Do the Minister and the relevant legal officers accept the conclusion that, due to the effect under New South Wales property law of the gradual movement of the ambulatory tidal boundary across private property boundaries originally defined by survey, so-called 'fixed' boundaries are not, in fact, fixed forever?

(4)

- (a) Does the Government have a different view as to the effect of ambulatory boundaries on boundaries originally defined by survey that are overtaken by the Mean High Water Mark?
- (b) If so:
  - (i) What is that view?
  - (ii) On what is it based?
- (5) Do the Minister and the relevant legal officers agree that the foreshore, being land generally between mean high and low water mark, cannot become privately owned through shoreline recession, due to gradual coastal erosion and rising sea levels, and that the foreshore (unless expressly granted) is owned by the Government, as the Crown, as part of the bed of the state's navigable coastal waters under the 'public trust' doctrine?

(6)

- (a) Does the Minister agree that, because private property boundaries defined by original survey cannot extend below mean high water mark, they cannot be used to exclude public access to and along the foreshore?
- (b) If not, why not?

(7)

- (a) Does the Minister agree with the observation in the article that public rights and interests in the coastal lands and waters of New South Wales have historically taken precedence at law, over claims of private property rights?
- (b) If not, why not?

(8)

- (a) Does the Minister agree that private property boundaries defined by original survey, will be supplanted by the ambulatory boundary of mean high water mark, as shoreline recession progresses due to coastal erosion and rising sea levels?
- (b) If not, why not?
- (9) Is it the case that as climate change progresses and both sea levels and coastal erosion increase, more and more private properties whose boundaries were originally defined by survey, will come to be affected by the shoreward retreat of the Mean High Water Mark?
- (10) Is it the case that before long, due to rising sea levels and increased coastal erosion, many residential properties along the New South Wales Coast will become damaged, and or permanently inundated such that they become entirely unsuitable for future occupation?
- (11) What does the Government propose to do to address this foreseeable crisis?

Answer-

(1) No

(2)

- (a) This is a complex legal matter and these issues will all be taken into consideration as part of the Government's coastal management reform program. It is not appropriate for me to be commenting on Court rulings and decisions.
- (b) Refer to answer to 2(a) above.
- (3) to 6. Refer to answer to 2(a) above.
- 7. Refer to answer to (1) above.

8. to 10. Refer to answer to 2(a) above.

11. On 13 November 2015, the NSW Government took a major next step in its coastal management reforms by releasing a draft framework for coastal management for public consultation.

- \*748 FINANCE, SERVICES AND PROPERTY—SUBMISSIONS ON COASTAL PROPERTY BOUNDARIES—Ms Barham asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Finance, Services and Property—
  - (1) Did the Registrar General of Land Titles receive a submission in late February or early March 2014, from a post-graduate researcher at Southern Cross University, Mr John R Corkill OAM, a former member of the NSW Coastal Council, which raised concerns about the view of Government legal officers on the effect, under property law, of the interaction of the ambulatory Mean High Water Mark (MHWM) boundary with boundaries originally defined by survey?
  - (2) Did that submission to Registrar General request a referral of a 'stated case', regarding the effect under property law, of the interaction of the ambulatory MHWM boundary with boundaries originally defined by survey, to the Supreme Court of New South Wales for determination under s 124 (1)(b) of the Real Property Act 190?
  - (3) Did that submission include a rationale for the request, which included the need to clarify the Government's legal officers' understanding of the current operation of property law in New South Wales, as a matter of priority in the Government's Stage Two coastal reforms?

(4)

- (a) Was that request for a 'stated case' under s 124(1)(b) accompanied by a series of questions on the ownership of land lost below MHWM and the Crown's liability for compensation, which were proposed for the courts determination?
- (b) What were those questions?
- (5) Was that request for a 'stated case' under s 124(1)(b) accompanied by a list of documents which might assist the Supreme Court in its deliberations?
- (6)
- (a) Did the Registrar General subsequently receive any correspondence or other representations, from other interested parties on the need for the clarification of the current ambiguity regarding the effect under property law, of the interaction of the ambulatory MHWM boundary with boundaries originally defined by survey?
- (b) If so, from what other interested parties?
- (7) What arguments were made in these parties' submissions in support of the need for urgent clarification of this matter?
- (8)
  - (a) Did these representations express views as to the appropriateness of the Registrar General referring such a 'stated case' to the Supreme Court?
  - (b) What were these views?
- (9) What responses did the Registrar General make to Mr Corkill's submission, to the request for a 'stated case' and to the representations made by other interested organisations?
- (10)
  - (a) Did the Registrar General consult the Minister for Finance and Services on his decision to refuse the request to refer a 'stated case' to the Supreme Court under s 124 of the Real Property Act 1900?
  - (b) If not, why not?
- (11) Who did the Registrar General consult on his decision to refuse the request to refer such a 'stated case' to the Supreme Court under s 124 of the Real Property Act 1900?

(12)

- (a) Does the Minister agree with the decision of the Registrar General to refuse the request for a stated case?
- (b) If not, why not?

(13) What action has the Government taken to address the concerns raised in the submission and ensure that there is an up-to-date 'whole of government' position on, and response to, the range of issues activated by the landward movement of the ambulatory coastal boundary of MHWM, under climate change conditions?

Answer-

- (1) Yes
- (2) Yes, the submission sought referral of a stated case under s.124(1)(a) of the Real Property Act 1900.
- (3) Yes
- (4)
- (a) Yes
- (b) Questions proposed in the submission of 10 February 2014:

1 a) Does gradual shoreline recession constitute a natural process which falls within the ambit of the doctrine of accretion?

1 b) Does the advance of the MHWM, even if caused by a rise in sea level and increased storminess as a consequence of anthropogenic climate change, constitute a natural process which falls within the ambit of the doctrine of accretion?

1 c) How does the doctrine's key condition of change occurring by 'gradual, slow and imperceptible' natural process operate in relation to properties bounded by the tidal waters of the open ocean, given that shoreline recession is the 'net' landward trend that results from repeated episodes of storm-induced erosion and the subsequent incomplete re-deposition of eroded sediments?

1 d) How 'gradual' must the process of shoreline recession be, for the doctrine of accretion to apply?

2 a) Does the boundary of the privately owned land which was originally defined by survey, survive and remain 'fixed' forever when it is crossed by the gradual movement of the MHWM?

2 b) Does the registered proprietor of a land title retain ownership of land which falls below MHWM?

2 c) Is the boundary originally defined by survey supplanted, ie replaced, by the ambulatory boundary of MHWM?

3 a) Does that part of the registered land title which falls below MHWM cease to be 'real property' under the Real Property Act 1900 (NSW)?

3 b) Is that part of the land title which falls below MHWM 'lost' by its former owner to the sea?

3 c) Does that part of the land title which falls below MHWM become part of the bed of the sea?

3 d) Does the ownership of that part of the land title which has fallen below MHWM revert to the Crown i.e. the NSW Government, notwithstanding the provisions of the Real Property Act 1900 (NSW)?

4 a) Is the Crown, i.e. the NSW Government, liable to pay compensation to the former land owner for any part of a land title that is lost below MHWM due to gradual shoreline recession?

4 b) Are local councils liable to pay compensation to the former land owner if the council declines to construct or approve the construction of a seawall, or formally adopts a policy of 'planned retreat' and part of a land title is lost below MHWM due to gradual shoreline recession?

4 c) If so, on what basis would liability for the payment of compensation be founded?

5 a) Does the current statute, the Coastal Protection Act 1979 (NSW) as amended, permit private landowners to construct 'temporary coastal protection works' on any land below MHWM without first applying for and being granted a Certificate under s 55T of the Act?

5 b) If so, where precisely would such works be permissible?

5 c) If so, on what basis would the construction of such works be permissible?

(5) The request included a list of documents that the writer thought might assist the Supreme Court.

- (6) Yes. Correspondence was received from six entities. The entities did not give permission for their details to be released.
- (7) The arguments can be summarised as follows:

Effective coastal management is not possible without a clear understanding of how the process of gradual and imperceptible erosion affects private property rights.

Uncertainty regarding ambulatory boundaries needs to be resolved prior to the Stage 2 Coastal Reforms.

(8)

- (a) Yes
- (b) The representatives supported the view that the ambiguity about coastal boundaries might be resolved by the Registrar General taking a stated case to the Supreme Court under s 124(1)(a) of the Real Property Act 1900.
- (9) The Registrar General advised that taking a stated case was inappropriate. The questions posed fall outside the scope of matters that can be determined by the Supreme Court under s 124 of the Real Property Act 1900. The section enables the Registrar General to seek the Court's guidance in the performance of a particular duty or function imposed by the Real Property Act 1900, generally with regards to whether a specific dealing or plan can be registered. It does not authorise the canvassing of wide ranging legal principles, even though those principles may touch on matters incidental to land.

(1

- 0)
- (a) No.
- (b) The Register General is not required to consult the Minister on operational matters relating to the Real Property Act 1900.
- (1 The Registrar General sought and obtained legal advice.

1)

- (1)
- 2)
- (a) Yes.
- (b) Not applicable.
- The NSW Government is undertaking a detailed investigation of the effects of erosion on coastal
   property boundaries with a view to ensuring that the public have a continued right to access the beaches. Proposals will be released for public comment in the near future.
- \*749 TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE—HANDOVER OF NEWCASTLE TRANSPORT—Dr Faruqi asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure—

(1)

- (a) Will the handover of Newcastle transport, including buses, ferries and light rail, to a private operator be subject to an open tender process?
- (b) If so, when will the process commence?
- (c) If not, what will the process be?
- (2) How many expressions of interest had the Government received for the operation of the Newcastle light rail prior to 5 November 2015?
- (3) Was the Rail, Tram and Bus Union consulted before the Minister for Transport's announcement of the proposed handover of Newcastle transport to a private operator on 5 November 2015?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government is committed to the long overdue revitalisation of Newcastle. Since 2011, over \$1 billion has been committed to Newcastle and the broader Hunter region for vital new infrastructure, including \$650 million in funds from Restart NSW for projects including Newcastle light rail, urban

renewal and the Newcastle Inner City Bypass, and \$350 million for the Hunter Infrastructure Investment Fund for a range of projects across the region. The next step is to build a vibrant transport network throughout the region to improve connectivity, reduce travel times and support Newcastle's tourism sector.

On 5 November, the NSW Government announced it would create Transport for Newcastle and seek a 'world's best' multi-modal transport operator to plan and run Newcastle Light Rail, buses, ferries and interchanges. The new operator will be based in Newcastle and work hand-in-hand with the community to design and run a better transport network. This will be public transport run in Newcastle, for Novocastrians, not run from Sydney like today.

Interested parties are currently participating in a market sounding process to assess the best delivery model.

Consultation with stakeholders will continue throughout the process.

\*750 DISABILITY SERVICES, MULTICULTURALISM—NON-GOVERNMENT DISABILITY SERVICES PROVIDERS—Ms Cotsis asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism—

Under the National Disability Insurance Scheme, who will provide services to a person with disability if no non-government disability service providers are willing to do so?

Answer—

Under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), the National Disability Insurance Agency is responsible for ensuring that participants have access to the supports they need, which includes working with providers to ensure market capacity. The NSW Government has made substantial investments to build the capacity of the non-government disability sector in preparation for the NDIS, including \$25 million allocated over five years for sector growth and development.

- \*751 DISABILITY SERVICES, MULTICULTURALISM—SUPPORT OF CARERS—Ms Cotsis asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism—
  - (1) How will the Government support carers of people with disability once the National Disability Insurance Scheme has been implemented?
  - (2) Will the Government provide funding for carer peer support groups and other community initiatives to support carers once the National Disability Insurance Scheme has been implemented?

Answer-

(1) The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) will play a key role in supporting carers. Under the NDIS, planners from the National Disability Insurance Agency will assess the level of support required by a participant and take into consideration what is reasonable to expect a carer to provide.

The NSW Government will continue to support carers through the NSW Carers Strategy 2014-2019 and the ongoing implementation of the NSW Carers (Recognition) Act 2010.

- (2) The Council of Australian Governments Disability Reform Council has endorsed a policy framework for Information, Linkages and Capacity Building in the NDIS and work is currently underway nationally to develop an approach to implementing this framework. This framework will include carer supports.
- \*752 DISABILITY SERVICES, MULTICULTURALISM—ACCESS TO DISABILITY SERVICES—Ms Cotsis asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism—
  - (1) What measures will guarantee that people with disability in regional, rural and remote areas in New South Wales will be able to access disability services once the National Disability Insurance Scheme has been implemented?

### (2)

- (a) Will the National Disability Insurance Agency's pricing accommodate higher costs associated with delivering disability services to people in regional, rural and remote areas in New South Wales?
- (b) If so, how?

Answer-

- (1) The National Disability Insurance Agency's (NDIA) Rural and Remote Strategy provides a basis from which NSW and the NDIA will target the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in rural and remote communities across NSW. NSW will work with the NDIA to localise the national strategy to ensure that the needs of both people with disability and the organisations providing support in regional, rural and remote areas are met.
- (2) Yes. Information on pricing, including remote and very remote geographical categories, is publically available at www.ndis.gov.au
- \*753 DISABILITY SERVICES, MULTICULTURALISM—TRANSITION OF SERVICES—Ms Cotsis asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism—

(1)

- (a) How will disability services currently delivered by the Government through Ageing, Disability and Home Care be transitioned to the non-government sector?
- (b) Will a competitive tendering process be used?
- (c) How will people with disability, their families and carers be consulted regarding these changes?

Answer-

The plan for the transfer of Department of Family and Community Services supported accommodation and other disability supports is still under development and will be influenced by the consultations taking place with people with disability, families and carers during December 2015 and January 2016.

- \*754 DISABILITY SERVICES, MULTICULTURALISM—NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME HEALTH SERVICES—Ms Cotsis asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism—
  - (1) How will people with disability access health services under the National Disability Insurance Scheme?

(2)

- (a) How will people who currently live in large residential centres access health services once they move into the community?
- (b) What steps will the Government take to ensure that doctors and other health care professionals who currently provide services to people living in large residential centres will be able to continue their relationship with their clients once they have moved into the community?

Answer—

- (1) The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) will not replace the roles of mainstream systems. People with disability can use both disability supports funded under the NDIS and mainstream supports available to everyone in the community, including health services.
- (2) People moving from a large residential centre into a home within the community will continue to have access to health services appropriate to their needs. People with disability will be able to choose the providers, including health professionals, who will support them to realise their goals.
- \*755 DISABILITY SERVICES, MULTICULTURALISM—GROUP ACCOMMODATION—Ms Cotsis asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism—

(1)

(a) How will group accommodation currently provided by Ageing, Disability and Home Care be transitioned to the non-government sector?

- (b) Will non-government organisations receive the freehold title for these properties?
- (c) Will the properties be transferred on a long-term lease basis?
- (d) What safeguards will be used to ensure that properties continue to be used to provide accommodation for people with disability?
- (2) What legal rights provide security of tenure for a person with disability living in a group home?
- (3) How do people living in group homes access healthcare and other services?

### Answer-

The plan for the transfer of Department of Family and Community Services supported accommodation and other disability supports is still under development and will be influenced by the consultations taking place with families and clients during December 2015 and January 2016.

People living in group homes are encouraged to access the same healthcare and other services in the community as other members of the community do. People can be supported to access services by staff, family and carers dependent on their support needs.

- \*756 DISABILITY SERVICES, MULTICULTURALISM—NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME DELIVERY OF TRANSPORT—Ms Cotsis asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism—
  - (1) How will the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme affect the funding and delivery of:
    - (a) Community transport services for people with disability?
    - (b) Access to mainstream public transport services such as trains and buses?
    - (c) The Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme?
    - (d) Other transport programs which are relied upon by people with disability?

Answer-

Funding for community transport services from the Community Care Supports Program will transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

The NDIS will fund a participant's 'reasonable and necessary' transport needs. NDIS participants can use this allocation to purchase community transport services.

People eligible for a NDIS individual funding package will be able to use their transport allocation to purchase "travel training". This training seeks to enhance an individual's capacity and confidence to use public transport independently.

People with disability, irrespective of whether they are eligible for an individual funding package, will continue to benefit from the full range of supports and programs provided by Transport for NSW in relation to accessible public transport.

The Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme is administered by Transport for NSW. Questions regarding this Scheme should be referred to my colleague, the Hon Andrew Constance MP, Minister for Transport and Infrastructure.

\*757 TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE—METRO TRAINS—Ms Cotsis asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure—

(1)

- (a) What steps is the Government taking to ensure that new Metro trains are designed to be easily accessible for people with disability?
- (b) What design features will accommodate the needs of people with disability?
- (c) Are people with disability being consulted regarding these design features?
- (d) Will the new carriages include automatic ramps which people with disability will be able to activate without assistance from staff or other passengers?

Answer-

I am advised:

The NSW Government is committed to building an integrated transport network which is fully accessible to all customers, in compliance with the Disability Action Plan 2012-2017.

Comprehensive and ongoing consultation is being undertaken with a range of community stakeholders to understand the direct and indirect needs of customers. User Acceptance Testing with a number of wheelchair and vision-impaired representatives was undertaken in November 2015 with the life-size train model.

All stations on the new system will be fully accessible with features such as lifts and level access between the train and platform. Platform gaps will be minimal to ensure universal access for customers.

\*758 TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE—XPT TRAINS—Ms Cotsis asked the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure—

(1)

- (a) What steps is the Government taking to ensure that new regional XPT trains are designed to be easily accessible for people with disability?
- (b) What design features will accommodate the needs of people with disability?
- (c) Are people with disability being consulted regarding these design features?
- (d) Will the new carriages include automatic ramps which people with disability will be able to activate without assistance from staff or other passengers?

Answer—

I am advised:

All new rolling stock purchased by Transport for NSW will be fully compliant with the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002. Features will include allocated spaces for wheelchairs, priority seating, passenger information screens, audio announcements and hearing augmentation.

Assisted boarding via a boarding ramp will continue to be required due the variable platform heights on the lines serviced by the trains.

The Accessible Transport Advisory Committee will be consulted during commencement of rolling stock design.

- \*759 DISABILITY SERVICES, MULTICULTURALISM—NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME—Ms Cotsis asked the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism—
  - (1) What will be the legislative framework for protecting the rights of people with disability under the National Disability Insurance Scheme?
  - (2) Which agency or agencies will be responsible for monitoring standards of service provided by disability service providers under the National Disability Insurance Scheme?
  - (3) Who will be responsible for accrediting organisations to provide services under the National Disability Insurance Scheme?
  - (4) What role will the NSW Ombudsman play in relation to people with disability under the National Disability Insurance Scheme?
  - (5) What role will the NSW Public Guardian play in relation to people with disability under the National Disability Insurance Scheme?

Answer—

In 2014, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Disability Reform Council (DRC) endorsed a national work plan for quality and safeguards. This plan incorporated a COAG Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) process to occur in two stages:

• A Public Consultation RIS to obtain stakeholder feedback on the regulatory impacts of proposed

system elements and implementation options.

• A Decision RIS, including a detailed assessment of implementation options to inform decision making by the DRC.

Recommendations on the design of an NDIS quality and safeguarding framework, including roles and responsibilities, will be provided for consideration by DRC Ministers in early 2016

\*760 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—NSW CROWN LAND TRAVELLING STOCK RESERVE—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

Regarding the Central West Local Land Service fence along the NSW Crown Land Travelling Stock Reserve running through Bimbi: What preparations has the Central West Local Land Service taken for fire precautions along the fenced area within Bimbi Village?

Answer—

Control measures as defined in the Bimbi Reserve Grazing Plan are as follows:

Grazing can occur between 1 September 28 February for a maximum of 10 days, dependent upon the seasonal conditions. This will help manage exotic plants and reduce the amount of biomass or fuel hazard load to a moderate/low level of 15-25 mm during the high fire danger periods.

In consultation with the Bimbi Rural Fire Service, Central West Local Land Services will monitor the biomass level during the high fire risk to ensure the fuel hazard load is maintained within the safety parameters set by the NSW Rural Fire Service.

Central West Local Land Services will modify this grazing plan to reflect any differential in grazing approach or during any extreme climatic events to protect the community and the environment. This will ensure that the vegetation structure and ecological quality is not degraded over the duration of the region's management.

\*761 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—CENTRAL TABLELANDS LOCAL LAND SERVICE—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

(1) What preparations has the Central Tablelands Local Land Service taken for this year's fire season?

(2)

- (a) What has been expended on fire preparations this financial year to date?
- (b) What has been expended on fire preparations last financial year?

Answer-

(1) Central Tablelands Local Land Services adheres to statutory obligations by having the following preparations in place during the high-risk fire period November-March:

STAFF

- Staff are encouraged to undertake emergency management training. This includes firearms training and humane destruction of livestock.
- Throughout the year, trial emergency scenarios are implemented to ensure staff are prepared and local control centre operations are effective.
- A staff availability roster is in place for emergency events over the high risk period.
- Staff are contactable 24 hours a day over the high risk period.
- Veterinary staff are available to undertake assessment and destruction of stock as required.
- Land services staff are available to undertake damage assessments and assist with recovery departmental approvals.

COLLABORATION

- Local Land Services assists the Rural Fire Service, State Emergency Service and Department of Primary Industries as per the NSW State Emergency Management Plan. Regular revisions of local and regional emergency management plans are made based on seasonal conditions.
- Staff represent the organisation on local and regional emergency management and bushfire management committees.
- Staff liaise with RSPCA, WIRES and other agencies to ensure that suitable facilities to hold and care for animals are in place if there are property evacuations.

TSR MANAGEMENT

- Staff monitor levels of dry organic matter (grass/vegetation) on travelling stock routes (TSRs) and manage permits to assist to reduce fuel loads.
- Scheduled maintenance of infrastructure, such as gates and tracks, is undertaken to provide access to water resources.
- Customers are educated about firebreak management on TSRs.
- Firebreak approvals and education is in accordance with NSW Rural Fire Service Guidelines. This includes media releases, website information and fact sheets.

(2)

(a) Local Land Services does not have a direct budget line item for fire preparation.

(b) Refer to response 2(a) above.

\*762 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—CENTRAL WEST LOCAL LAND SERVICE—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

(1) What preparations has the Central West Local Land Service taken for this year's fire season?

(2)

- (a) What has been expended on fire preparations this financial year to date?
- (b) What has been expended on fire preparations last financial year?

Answer-

(1) Central West Local Land Services adheres to statutory obligations by having the following preparations in place during the high-risk fire period November-March:

STAFF

- Staff are encouraged to undertake emergency management training. This includes firearms training and humane destruction of livestock.
- Throughout the year, trial emergency scenarios are implemented to ensure staff are prepared and local control centre operations are effective.
- A staff availability roster is in place for emergency events over the high risk period.
- Staff are contactable 24 hours a day over the high risk period.
- Veterinary staff are available to undertake assessment and destruction of stock as required.
- Land services staff are available to undertake damage assessments and assist with recovery departmental approvals.

COLLABORATION

- Local Land Services assists the Rural Fire Service, State Emergency Service and Department of Primary Industries as per the NSW State Emergency Management Plan. Regular revisions of local and regional emergency management plans are made based on seasonal conditions.
- Staff represent the organisation on local and regional emergency management and bushfire management committees.
- Staff liaise with RSPCA, WIRES and other agencies to ensure that suitable facilities to hold and care for animals are in place if there are property evacuations.

TSR MANAGEMENT

- Staff monitor levels of dry organic matter (grass/vegetation) on travelling stock routes (TSRs) and manage permits to assist to reduce fuel loads.
- Scheduled maintenance of infrastructure, such as gates and tracks, is undertaken to provide access to water resources.
- · Customers are educated about firebreak management on TSRs.
- Firebreak approvals and education is in accordance with NSW Rural Fire Service Guidelines. This includes media releases, website information and fact sheets

(2)

(a) Local Land Services does not have a direct budget line item for fire preparation.

(b) Refer to response 2(a) above.

\*763 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—GREATER SYDNEY LOCAL LAND SERVICE—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

(1) What preparations has the Greater Sydney Local Land Service taken for this year's fire season?

(2)

- (a) What has been expended on fire preparations this financial year to date?
- (b) What has been expended on fire preparations last financial year?

Answer-

(1) Greater Sydney Local Land Services adheres to statutory obligations by having the following preparations in place during the high-risk fire period November-March:

STAFF

- Staff are encouraged to undertake emergency management training. This includes firearms training and humane destruction of livestock.
- Throughout the year, trial emergency scenarios are implemented to ensure staff are prepared and local control centre operations are effective.
- A staff availability roster is in place for emergency events over the high risk period.
- Staff are contactable 24 hours a day over the high risk period.
- Veterinary staff are available to undertake assessment and destruction of stock as required.
- Land services staff are available to undertake damage assessments and assist with recovery departmental approvals.

COLLABORATION

- Local Land Services assists the Rural Fire Service, State Emergency Service and Department of Primary Industries as per the NSW State Emergency Management Plan.
- Regular revisions of local and regional emergency management plans are made based on seasonal conditions.
- Staff represent the organisation on local and regional emergency management and bushfire management committees.
- Staff liaise with RSPCA, WIRES and other agencies to ensure that suitable facilities to hold and care for animals are in place if there are property evacuations.

TSR MANAGEMENT

- Staff monitor levels of dry organic matter (grass/vegetation) on travelling stock routes (TSRs) and manage permits to assist to reduce fuel loads.
- Scheduled maintenance of infrastructure, such as gates and tracks, is undertaken to provide access to water resources.
- Customers are educated about firebreak management on TSRs.
- Firebreak approvals and education is in accordance with NSW Rural Fire Service Guidelines. This includes media releases, website information and fact sheets.

(2)

(a) Local Land Services does not have a direct budget line item for fire preparation.

(b) Refer to response 2(a) above.

\*764 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—HUNTER LOCAL LAND SERVICE—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

(1) What preparations has the Hunter Local Land Service taken for this year's fire season?

(2)

- (a) What has been expended on fire preparations this financial year to date?
- (b) What has been expended on fire preparations last financial year?

Answer-

(1) Hunter Local Land Services adheres to statutory obligations by having the following preparations in place during the high-risk fire period November-March:

STAFF

- Staff are encouraged to undertake emergency management training. This includes firearms training and humane destruction of livestock.
- · Throughout the year, trial emergency scenarios are implemented to ensure staff are prepared and

local control centre operations are effective.

- A staff availability roster is in place for emergency events over the high risk period.
- Staff are contactable 24 hours a day over the high risk period.
- Veterinary staff are available to undertake assessment and destruction of stock as required.
- Land services staff are available to undertake damage assessments and assist with recovery departmental approvals.

COLLABORATION

- Local Land Services assists the Rural Fire Service, State Emergency Service and Department of Primary Industries as per the NSW State Emergency Management Plan.
- Regular revisions of local and regional emergency management plans are made based on seasonal conditions.
- Staff represent the organisation on local and regional emergency management and bushfire management committees.
- Staff liaise with RSPCA, WIRES and other agencies to ensure that suitable facilities to hold and care for animals are in place if there are property evacuations.

TSR MANAGEMENT

- Staff monitor levels of dry organic matter (grass/vegetation) on travelling stock routes (TSRs) and manage permits to assist to reduce fuel loads.
- Scheduled maintenance of infrastructure, such as gates and tracks, is undertaken to provide access to water resources.
- Customers are educated about firebreak management on TSRs.
- Firebreak approvals and education is in accordance with NSW Rural Fire Service Guidelines. This includes media releases, website information and fact sheets.

(2)

(a) Local Land Services does not have a direct budget line item for fire preparation.

(b) Refer to response 2(a) above.

- \*765 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—MURRAY LOCAL LAND SERVICES—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) What preparations has the Murray Local Land Service taken for this year's fire season?

(2)

- (a) What has been expended on fire preparations this financial year to date?
- (b) What has been expended on fire preparations last financial year?

Answer—

(1) Murray Local Land Services adheres to statutory obligations by having the following preparations in place during the high-risk fire period November-March:

STAFF

- Staff are encouraged to undertake emergency management training. This includes firearms training and humane destruction of livestock.
- Throughout the year, trial emergency scenarios are implemented to ensure staff are prepared and local control centre operations are effective.
- A staff availability roster is in place for emergency events over the high risk period.
- Staff are contactable 24 hours a day over the high risk period.
- · Veterinary staff are available to undertake assessment and destruction of stock as required.
- Land services staff are available to undertake damage assessments and assist with recovery departmental approvals.

COLLABORATION

- Local Land Services assists the Rural Fire Service, State Emergency Service and Department of Primary Industries as per the NSW State Emergency Management Plan.
- Regular revisions of local and regional emergency management plans are made based on seasonal conditions.
- · Staff represent the organisation on local and regional emergency management and bushfire

management committees.

- Staff liaise with RSPCA, WIRES and other agencies to ensure that suitable facilities to hold and care for animals are in place if there are property evacuations.
  - TSR MANAGEMENT
- Staff monitor levels of dry organic matter (grass/vegetation) on travelling stock routes (TSRs) and manage permits to assist to reduce fuel loads.
- Scheduled maintenance of infrastructure, such as gates and tracks, is undertaken to provide access to water resources.
- Customers are educated about firebreak management on TSRs.
- Firebreak approvals and education is in accordance with NSW Rural Fire Service Guidelines. This includes media releases, website information and fact sheets.

(2)

(a) Local Land Services does not have a direct budget line item for fire preparation.

(b) Refer to response 2(a) above.

- \*766 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—NORTH COAST LOCAL LAND SERVICES—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) What preparations has the North Coast Local Land Service taken for this year's fire season?

(2)

- (a) What has been expended on fire preparations this financial year to date?
- (b) What has been expended on fire preparations last financial year?

Answer-

(1) North Coast Local Land Services adheres to statutory obligations by having the following preparations in place during the high-risk fire period November-March:

STAFF

- Staff are encouraged to undertake emergency management training. This includes firearms training and humane destruction of livestock.
- Throughout the year, trial emergency scenarios are implemented to ensure staff are prepared and local control centre operations are effective.
- A staff availability roster is in place for emergency events over the high risk period.
- Staff are contactable 24 hours a day over the high risk period.
- Veterinary staff are available to undertake assessment and destruction of stock as required.
- Land services staff are available to undertake damage assessments and assist with recovery departmental approvals.

COLLABORATION

- Local Land Services assists the Rural Fire Service, State Emergency Service and Department of Primary Industries as per the NSW State Emergency Management Plan.
- Regular revisions of local and regional emergency management plans are made based on seasonal conditions.
- Staff represent the organisation on local and regional emergency management and bushfire management committees.
- Staff liaise with RSPCA, WIRES and other agencies to ensure that suitable facilities to hold and care for animals are in place if there are property evacuations.

TSR MANAGEMENT

- Staff monitor levels of dry organic matter (grass/vegetation) on travelling stock routes (TSRs) and manage permits to assist to reduce fuel loads.
- Scheduled maintenance of infrastructure, such as gates and tracks, is undertaken to provide access to water resources.
- Customers are educated about firebreak management on TSRs.
- Firebreak approvals and education is in accordance with NSW Rural Fire Service Guidelines. This includes media releases, website information and fact sheets.

- (a) Local Land Services does not have a direct budget line item for fire preparation.
- (b) Refer to response 2(a) above.
- \*767 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—NORTH WEST LOCAL LAND SERVICES—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) What preparations has the North West Local Land Service taken for this year's fire season?

(2)

- (a) What has been expended on fire preparations this financial year to date?
- (b) What has been expended on fire preparations last financial year?

Answer-

(1) North West Local Land Services adheres to statutory obligations by having the following preparations in place during the high-risk fire period November-March:

STAFF

- Staff are encouraged to undertake emergency management training. This includes firearms training and humane destruction of livestock.
- Throughout the year, trial emergency scenarios are implemented to ensure staff are prepared and local control centre operations are effective.
- A staff availability roster is in place for emergency events over the high risk period.
- Staff are contactable 24 hours a day over the high risk period.
- Veterinary staff are available to undertake assessment and destruction of stock as required.
- Land services staff are available to undertake damage assessments and assist with recovery departmental approvals.

COLLABORATION

- Local Land Services assists the Rural Fire Service, State Emergency Service and Department of Primary Industry as per the NSW State Emergency Management Plan.
- Regular revisions of local and regional emergency management plans are made based on seasonal conditions.
- Staff represent the organisation on local and regional emergency management and bushfire management committees.
- Staff liaise with RSPCA, WIRES and other agencies to ensure that suitable facilities to hold and care for animals are in place if there are property evacuations.

TSR MANAGEMENT

- Staff monitor levels of dry organic matter (grass/vegetation) on travelling stock routes (TSRs) and manage permits to assist to reduce fuel loads.
- Scheduled maintenance of infrastructure, such as gates and tracks, is undertaken to provide access to water resources.
- Customers are educated about firebreak management on TSRs.
- Firebreak approvals and education is in accordance with NSW Rural Fire Service Guidelines. This includes media releases, website information and fact sheets.

(2)

(a) Local Land Services does not have a direct budget line item for fire preparation.

(b) As above.

# \*768 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—NORTHERN TABLELANDS LOCAL LAND SERVICES—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

(1) What preparations has the Northern Tablelands Local Land Service taken for this year's fire season?

(2)

- (a) What has been expended on fire preparations this financial year to date?
- (b) What has been expended on fire preparations last financial year?

Answer—

(1) Northern Tablelands Local Land Services adheres to statutory obligations by having the following preparations in place during the high-risk fire period November-March:

STAFF

- Staff are encouraged to undertake emergency management training. This includes firearms training and humane destruction of livestock.
- Throughout the year, trial emergency scenarios are implemented to ensure staff are prepared and local control centre operations are effective.
- A staff availability roster is in place for emergency events over the high risk period.
- Staff are contactable 24 hours a day over the high risk period.
- Veterinary staff are available to undertake assessment and destruction of stock as required.
- Land services staff are available to undertake damage assessments and assist with recovery departmental approvals.

COLLABORATION

- Local Land Services assists the Rural Fire Service, State Emergency Service and Department of Primary Industries as per the NSW State Emergency Management Plan.
- Regular revisions of local and regional emergency management plans are made based on seasonal conditions.
- Staff represent the organisation on local and regional emergency management and bushfire management committees.
- Staff liaise with RSPCA, WIRES and other agencies to ensure that suitable facilities to hold and care for animals are in place if there are property evacuations.

TSR MANAGEMENT

- Staff monitor levels of dry organic matter (grass/vegetation) on travelling stock routes (TSRs) and manage permits to assist to reduce fuel loads.
- Scheduled maintenance of infrastructure, such as gates and tracks, is undertaken to provide access to water resources.
- Customers are educated about firebreak management on TSRs.
- Firebreak approvals and education is in accordance with NSW Rural Fire Service Guidelines. This includes media releases, website information and fact sheets.

(2)

(a) Local Land Services does not have a direct budget line item for fire preparation.

(b) Refer to response 2(a) above.

- \*769 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—RIVERINA LOCAL LAND SERVICES—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) What preparations has the Riverina Local Land Service taken for this year's fire season?

(2)

- (a) What has been expended on fire preparations this financial year to date?
- (b) What has been expended on fire preparations last financial year?

Answer-

(1) Riverina Local Land Services adheres to statutory obligations by having the following preparations in place during the high-risk fire period November-March:

STAFF

- Staff are encouraged to undertake emergency management training. This includes firearms training and humane destruction of livestock.
- Throughout the year, trial emergency scenarios are implemented to ensure staff are prepared and local control centre operations are effective.
- A staff availability roster is in place for emergency events over the high risk period.
- Staff are contactable 24 hours a day over the high risk period.
- · Veterinary staff are available to undertake assessment and destruction of stock as required.
- Land services staff are available to undertake damage assessments and assist with recovery departmental approvals.

## COLLABORATION

- Local Land Services assists the Rural Fire Service, State Emergency Service and Department of Primary Industries as per the NSW State Emergency Management Plan.
- Regular revisions of local and regional emergency management plans are made based on seasonal conditions.
- Staff represent the organisation on local and regional emergency management and bushfire management committees.
- Staff liaise with RSPCA, WIRES and other agencies to ensure that suitable facilities to hold and care for animals are in place if there are property evacuations.

TSR MANAGEMENT

- Staff monitor levels of dry organic matter (grass/vegetation) on travelling stock routes (TSRs) and manage permits to assist to reduce fuel loads.
- Scheduled maintenance of infrastructure, such as gates and tracks, is undertaken to provide access to water resources.
- Customers are educated about firebreak management on TSRs.
- Firebreak approvals and education is in accordance with NSW Rural Fire Service Guidelines. This includes media releases, website information and fact sheets.

(2)

- (a) Local Land Services does not have a direct budget line item for fire preparation.
- (b) Refer to response 2(a) above.
- \*770 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—SOUTH EAST LOCAL LAND SERVICES—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) What preparations has the South East Local Land Service taken for this year's fire season?

(2)

- (a) What has been expended on fire preparations this financial year to date?
- (b) What has been expended on fire preparations last financial year?

Answer-

(1) South East Local Land Services adheres to statutory obligations by having the following preparations in place during the high-risk fire period November-March:

STAFF

- Staff are encouraged to undertake emergency management training. This includes firearms training and humane destruction of livestock.
- Throughout the year, trial emergency scenarios are implemented to ensure staff are prepared and local control centre operations are effective.
- A staff availability roster is in place for emergency events over the high risk period.
- Staff are contactable 24 hours a day over the high risk period.
- Veterinary staff are available to undertake assessment and destruction of stock as required.
- Land services staff are available to undertake damage assessments and assist with recovery departmental approvals.

COLLABORATION

- Local Land Services assists the Rural Fire Service, State Emergency Service and Department of Primary Industry as per the NSW State Emergency Management Plan.
- Regular revisions of local and regional emergency management plans are made based on seasonal conditions.
- Staff represent the organisation on local and regional emergency management and bushfire management committees.
- Staff liaise with RSPCA, WIRES and other agencies to ensure that suitable facilities to hold and care for animals are in place if there are property evacuations.

TSR MANAGEMENT

- Staff monitor levels of dry organic matter (grass/vegetation) on travelling stock routes (TSRs) and manage permits to assist to reduce fuel loads.
- · Scheduled maintenance of infrastructure, such as gates and tracks, is undertaken to provide

access to water resources.

- Customers are educated about firebreak management on TSRs.
- Firebreak approvals and education is in accordance with NSW Rural Fire Service Guidelines. This includes media releases, website information and fact sheets.

(2)

(a) Local Land Services does not have a direct budget line item for fire preparation.

(b) As above.

- \*771 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—WESTERN LOCAL LAND SERVICES—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) What preparations has the Western Local Land Service taken for this year's fire season?

(2)

- (a) What has been expended on fire preparations this financial year to date?
- (b) What has been expended on fire preparations last financial year?

Answer-

(1) Western Local Land Services adheres to statutory obligations by having the following preparations in place during the high-risk fire period November-March:

STAFF

- Staff are encouraged to undertake emergency management training. This includes firearms training and humane destruction of livestock.
- Throughout the year, trial emergency scenarios are implemented to ensure staff are prepared and local control centre operations are effective.
- A staff availability roster is in place for emergency events over the high risk period.
- Staff are contactable 24 hours a day over the high risk period.
- Veterinary staff are available to undertake assessment and destruction of stock as required.
- Land services staff are available to undertake damage assessments and assist with recovery departmental approvals/

COLLABORATION

- Local Land Services assists the Rural Fire Service, State Emergency Service and Department of Primary Industries as per the NSW State Emergency Management Plan.
- Regular revisions of local and regional emergency management plans are made based on seasonal conditions.
- Staff represent the organisation on local and regional emergency management and bushfire management committees.
- Staff liaise with RSPCA, WIRES and other agencies to ensure that suitable facilities to hold and care for animals are in place if there are property evacuations.

TSR MANAGEMENT

- Staff monitor levels of dry organic matter (grass/vegetation) on travelling stock routes (TSRs) and manage permits to assist to reduce fuel loads.
- Scheduled maintenance of infrastructure, such as gates and tracks, is undertaken to provide access to water resources.
- Customers are educated about firebreak management on TSRs.
- Firebreak approvals and education is in accordance with NSW Rural Fire Service Guidelines. This includes media releases, website information and fact sheets.

(2)

(a) Local Land Services does not have a direct budget line item for fire preparation.

- (b) Refer to response 2(a) above.
- \*772 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—KING EDWARD PARK—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

Regarding King Edward Park, do Annie Street Commercial or Stronach Property enjoy exclusive rights

over	the	site	or	anv	parts	of	the	site?
0,01	une	Site	O1	uny	puito	O1	une	Site:

Answer— No

\*773 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—SECURITY FENCE AT KING EDWARD PARK—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

Regarding the security fence at King Edward Park:

- (1) Who erected the security fence around the site?
- (2) When was the fence erected?
- (3) What is the reason for the fence?
- (4) How much did it cost to erect the fence?
- (5) Is the fence legally located?
- (6) If the security fence is to be removed, who will be responsible for its removal and when will it be removed?

Answer-

- (1) The temporary security fence around King Edward Headland Reserve was erected by ATF Services.
- (2) The fence was originally erected in late 2008.
- (3) The fence remains due to public safety risks following demolition of the former bowling club buildings as demolition debris remains on the site.
- (4) Installation costs were absorbed into the annual rental of about \$5,000.
- (5) Yes.

The Department of Primary Industries Lands will remove the fencing when the site is made safe for public use.

\*774 LANDS AND WATER—YABBY TRAPS—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

How many people in each region have been penalised by Department of Primary Industries Fisheries officers for yabby trap offences, for each of the past four financial years? Please list by region.

Region	2011 - 2012	2012 - 2013	2013 - 2014	2014 - 2015	Grand Total
Far North Coast	0	2	0	0	2
North Coast	0	0	0	0	0
Shoalhaven/Illaw arra	0	0	0	0	0
Sydney/Central Coast	0	0	0	0	0
North West	7	11	0	5	23
South Coast	0	1	0	0	1
South West	30	20	9	1	60
Grand Total	37	34	9	6	86

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Answer—
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\*775 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—BOWFISHING FOR CARP—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

Regarding the coming bowfishing for Carp in specific inland waterways trial:

(1) What measures has Department of Primary Industries Fisheries put in place to ensure native fish are not killed or harmed during the bowfishing trial?

(2)

(a) Will an evaluation of the bowfishing trial be conducted?

(b) If so, which aquatic animal researchers will be engaged for the evaluation?

Answer-

(1) Bowfishers participating in the trial have been issued with Section 37 exemption permits under the Fisheries Management Act 1994. Each Section 37 permit contains specific conditions stating that only carp are to be harvested. Each Section 37 permit also contains a condition restricting bowfishing to the daytime as many non-target native fish species are more active at night. Each permitted bowfisher participating in the trial is also provided with education and advisory material which includes an identification guide for carp as well as non-target native fish and mammal species that may be encountered while bowfishing.

(2)

(a) Yes - the bowfishing for carp in inland waters trial will be evaluated by monitoring information provided by bowfishers throughout the trial on catch (including any non-target catch), safety issues and any interactions with neighbours and other waterway users. A survey at the completion of the trial will also be used to evaluate the program. The survey will include both bowfishers who participated in the program as well as members of the public who were exposed to the trial.

The survey and the overall trial evaluation report will aim to provide the Department with information on:

The demographic of individuals participating in the trial. The potential economic contribution of the activity, particularly in rural and regional areas of NSW.

Any environmental issues, safety issues or negative interactions with other waterway users.

General compliance of permitted bowfishers with the regulations for the trial.

- (b) A competitive tender process for a suitable contractor to evaluate the trial will be run in March 2017.
- \*776 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE BUSH FIRE RISK MITIGATION AND RESILIENCE GRANTS PROGRAM—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

Regarding the NSW Rural Fire Service Bush Fire Risk Mitigation and Resilience Grants Program:

(1) What were the locations and amount expended for each upgraded fire tower operated by Forestry Corporation from funding in this program since 1 July 2014? Please list.

Answer-

Since July 2014, Forestry Corporation of NSW has invested more than \$1.3 million to upgrade 30 fire towers in State forests across NSW. The program was jointly funded by Forestry Corporation and the NSW Rural Fire Service Bush Fire Risk Mitigation and Resilience Grants Program.

The regional location of the towers and approximate expenditure for each tower is as follows:

North Coast of New South Wales:

- Gibberagee (Whiporie) Fire Tower \$20,877
- Mt Pikapene Fire Tower \$20,880
- Tooloom Fire Tower \$20,498

Mid North Coast of NSW:

- Blue Knob Fire Tower \$75,245
- Breakneck Fire Tower \$20,528
- Mt Cairncross Fire Tower \$75,245
- Mt Comboyne Fire Tower \$25,472
- Grundy Fire Tower \$64,561
- Yeerowin Fire Tower \$37,458

Central Coast of NSW:

• Warrawolong Fire Tower \$115,800 Southern Coast of NSW:

- Budawang Fire Tower \$17,850
- Mt Cronin Fire Tower \$88,540
- Plumwood Fire Tower \$88,350
- Timbillica Fire Tower \$87,427
- Wandella (Peak Alone) Fire Tower \$64,850
- Wolumia Fire Tower \$22,172
- Bombala Trig Fire Tower \$20,450
- B-Ridge Fire Tower \$21,474
- Goldfields Fire Tower \$19,594
- Ellsmore Fire Tower \$17,418

South West of NSW:

- Kendall Fire Tower \$17,643
- Kangaroo Mountain Fire Tower \$60,391
- Munderoo Fire Tower \$60,007
- Tumorrama Fire Tower \$98,991
- Burngoogee Fire Tower \$53,052

Central West of NSW:

- Sunny Corner Fire Tower \$19,934
- Baradine Fire Tower \$52,814
- Burraga Fire Tower \$18,292
- Pennsylvania Fire Tower \$13,310
- Shooters Hill Fire Tower \$19,536
- \*777 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—WATER STORAGE CAPACITIES—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

What is the cause of the reduction in water storage capacities of the Stephens Creek and Umberumberka reservoirs over time?

Answer—

A natural accumulation of sediment can reduce water storage capacity.

Stephens Creek Reservoir was completed in 1892 and in 1909 the wall was raised, increasing the storage capacity to 24,700 megalitres (ML). A survey in 1990 showed a capacity of 20,000 ML and today it is approximately 19,700 ML.

Similarly Umberumberka Reservoir was built in 1914 with an original capacity of 13,200 ML. Surveys in the 1990s indicate a capacity of about 7,900 ML.

Mechanically de-silting large storages like Stephens Creek and Umberumberka is not cost-effective, unless additional benefits or business opportunities can be found. The large cost compared to the small temporary benefit currently makes the proposition economically unattractive.

- \*778 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—MENINDEE LAKES WATER STORAGE SYSTEM—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) What was the reason for larger than average daily reductions in the total storage of the Menindee Lakes water storage system between the following dates:
    - (a) 15 February to 16 February 2014?
    - (b) 18 February to 21 February 2014?
    - (c) 25 February to 27 February 2014?
    - (d) 5 March to 7 March 2014?
    - (e) 21 March to 23 March 2014?

## Answer-

There was no discernible "larger than average daily reduction in the total storage of the Menindee Lakes" in the period 15 February 2014 to 23 March 2014.

Total storage of Menindee system fell from 490.3 gigalitres (GL) on 15 February 2014 to 393.4 GL on 23 March 2014. On average this is a drop of about 2.7 GL per day.

From the 15 to 16 February 2014 there was a 6.5 GL reduction reflecting the last of the delivery to the Murray before the Lakes reached 480 GL and the water became a NSW-only resource. This was in accordance with the long-standing Murray Darling Basin Agreement.

From the 18 to 21 February 2014 the Menindee system fell from 480.2 GL to 469.8 GL, an average of 3.4 GL per day.

From the 25 to 27 February 2014 the Menindee system fell from 456.2 GL to 448.4 GL, an average of 3.9 GL per day.

From the 5 to 7 March 2014 the Menindee system fell from 438.0 GL to 431.8 GL (7 Mar), an average of 3.1 GL per day.

From the 21 March to 23 March 2014 the Menindee system fell from 399.1 GL to 393.4 GL, an average of 2.9 GL per day.

Over this February to March 2014 period, releases for domestic, stock and irrigation needs varied from 0.3 GL/day to 1.0 GL/day and averaged around 0.7 GL/day.

Similarly evaporation losses varied from 0 to 2.7 GL/day and averaged around 1.5 GL/day over this period.

There was no extraordinary reduction in total storage over this period.

It should be noted that, given the large open expanse of these shallow depressions comprising the Menindee Lakes system, and their exposure to the daily vagaries of rainfall, evaporation and wind, the water level readings can be misleading on any one day. Therefore calculations are more representative over longer periods.

# \*779 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—WATER CARTAGE—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

Regarding water cartage for domestic purposes to Menindee and other communities who would otherwise receive water from storages associated with the Darling River:

- (1) How many residences are currently receiving this water cartage?
- (2) How much has the Government expended on water cartage to Menindee and other communities who would otherwise receive water from storages associated with the Darling River:
  - (a) The 2015-16 financial year to date?
  - (b) In 2014-15?
  - (c) In 2013-14?
- (3) What is the cost per hour for the transport of water for the purpose of water cartage for domestic purposes?
- (4) What is the average cost of water cartage and the average volume of water cartage per residence?
- (5) What is the total volume of water currently being carted for domestic purposes each week?
- (6) Does Department of Primary Industries Water or Water NSW request that residents install water meters on their properties to measure their usage of water from residential rainwater tanks in these areas?

Answer-

(1) Approximately 100 people.

(2)

- (a) \$98,000.
- (b) \$200,000.
- (c) Nil.
- (3) \$155/hour.
- (4) The cost of water cartage varies widely depending on the transport distance. The current range for cartage to residents who would otherwise receive water from storages associated with the Darling

River is \$22/kilolitre to \$198/kilolitre. The volume of water carted per residence depends on the size of the residence's rainwater tank. Deliveries vary from 10 to 16 kilolitres.

- (5) An average of 70 kilolitres is being carted for domestic purposes per week.
- (6) No.
- \*780 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—BROKEN HILL AND MENINDEE LAKES WATER ISSUES—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

What amount has the Government expended on external consultants regarding water storage and associated water issues that included Broken Hill or the Menindee Lakes each year for the past four financial years?

Answer—

Consultant fees expended by the NSW Government on the Broken Hill short and long term water supply projects and the Menindee Lakes Water Savings Initiative are as follows:

2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015
\$0	\$0	\$0	\$590,687.64

\*781 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—ASBESTOS DUMPING—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

Regarding the Minister's answer to Question no. 0603 published on 14 October 2015:

- (1) Can the Minister for Primary Industries and Minister for Lands and Water please provide further detail about the 25 instances of asbestos dumping in the North West Local Land Service region, including:
  - (a) When did each instance occur?
  - (b) What was the location of each instance?
  - (c) What investigations were conducted after each incident?
  - (d) What was the cost to clean up each incident?
  - (e) What was the total amount of asbestos dumped from these 25 incidents?

Answer-

(1)

- (a) The response to Question 603 inadvertently included 10 incidences that occurred prior to the commencement of Local Land Services (LLS). The total number of incidences since LLS commenced is actually 22, of which 15 were in the North West LLS region. The incidences occurred on the following dates:
- (b) The locations of incidences were:
  - One incidence at 8 Mile reserve Killarney Gap Rd NE of Narrabri.
  - Three incidences at Manilla to Tamworth TSR (Old Quarry).
  - One incidence at Manilla to Tamworth TSR 9 Mile Old Gullys.
  - Two incidences at Curlewis Reserve in front of locked tip gates.
  - One incidence at Carroll Reserve in dry dam.
  - One incidence at Ponderosa Reserve.
  - One incidence at Moonbi Reserve.
  - Two incidences at 4 Mile reserve Gunnedah.
  - One incidence at Smalls Reserve Gunnedah.
  - · One incidence at Quirindi Tamworth Boramble TSR.
  - One incidence at Millie Creek Reserve near Barraba landfill.

TOTAL = 15 incidences across 11 sites.

c. Local Land Services record all incidents and report them to the local council nearest to the dumping site. There has been a long-standing, informal agreement between these local councils and the former

Livestock Health and Pest Authority (LHPA), that these councils would engage a specialist contractor to collect the asbestos twice a year. LLS staff are not trained in asbestos removal.

d. LLS have not paid for the clean up costs in North West region. Refer also to (c) above.

e. The total amount of asbestos dumped from these incidences is estimated at 1440 kgs.

		-				
	Asbestos Dumping North West Local Land Services Region					•
•	Date of detection	Incident Location	Action Taken	Cost of cleanup	Clean up	Estimated volume (Approx weight in Kilograms - KG)
1	6th October 2014	8 Mile Reserve Killarney Gap Rd N E of Narrabri	Reported to Council	Covered by Council	Nil (still in situ)	500
2	January 2014 to December 2014	Manilla to Tamworth TSR (Old Quarry)	Reported to Council	Covered by Council	Removed by Tamworth Regional Council	20
3	January 2014 to December 2014	Manilla to Tamworth TSR 9 Mile old gullys	Removed after assessment	Covered by Council	Removed with PPE	20
4	January 2014 to December 2014	Curlewis Reserve	Removed after assessment	Covered by Council	Removed with PPE	20
5	January 2014 to December 2014	Carroll Reserve in dry dam	Removed after assessment	Covered by Council	Removed with PPE	20
6	January 2014 to December 2014	Ponderosa Reserve	Reported to Council	Covered by Council	Removed by Tamworth Regional Council	500
7	January 2014 to December 2014	Moonbi Reserve	Removed by local recreation users	Covered by Council	Local users (unknown)	20
8	January 2014 to December 2014	4 Mile Reserv e Gunned ah	Removed after assessment	Covered by Council	Removed with PPE	20
9	January 2015 to November 2015	4 Mile Reserv e Gunned ah	Removed after assessment	Covered by Council	Removed with PPE	20
10	January 2015 to November 2015	Smalls Reserve Gunnedah	Removed by Council contractor	Covered by Council	Ongoing	200
11	January 2015 to November 2015	Curlewis Reserve	Removed after assessment	Covered by Council	Removed with PPE	20
12	January 2015 to November 2015	Quirindi Tamworth Boramble TSR	Removed after assessment	Covered by Council	Removed with PPE	20

13	January 2015 to November 2015	Manilla to Tamworth TSR (Old Quarry)	Reported to Council	Covered by Council	Removed by Tamworth Regional Council	20
14	January 2015 to November 2015	Manilla to Tamworth TSR (Old Quarry)	Reported to Council	Covered by Council	Removed by Tamworth Regional Council	20
15	January 2015 to November 2015	Millie Creek Reserve near Barraba Landfill	Reported to Council	Covered by Council	Removed by Tamworth Regional Council	20
					Total	1440

# \*782 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—CHEMICALS IN PUBLIC PLACES—Mr Veitch asked the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

Regarding the Minister's answer to questions 0595, 0596, and 0597 published 14 October 2015, on relating to the use of chemicals in public places:

(1)

- (a) Does the Forestry Corporation of NSW have a chemical use register?
- (b) If so, where is it held?

(2)

- (a) Does Sydney Water have a chemical use register?
- (b) If so, where is it held?

(3)

- (a) Does Hunter Water have a chemical use register?
- (b) If so, where is it held?

### Answer-

- (1) Forestry Corporation of NSW has a number of chemical stores and keeps inventory records of usage from those stores as well as individual chemical usage records with operational plans.
- (2) Sydney Water uses a variety of chemicals on different sites across its area of operations. Each site keeps a record of the chemicals used on site in line with safety and legislative requirements.
- (3) Any quantities of chemicals held or stored by Hunter Water above manifest quantities are reported to the regulator (typically WorkCover), as required, and the regulator maintains a comprehensive list.

### 23 FEBRUARY 2016

(Paper No. 42)

- 783 TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE—BUS TERMINATIONS—Dr Faruqi to ask the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure—
  - (1) Why was Martin Place chosen as an appropriate site to terminate certain buses travelling into the city (e.g. the 423, 426, 428) as part of the October 2015 bus overhaul, which previously terminated at Circular Quay?
  - (2) Why is it not possible for these buses to travel onwards to Circular Quay?
  - (3) What alternatives to a Martin Place termination point were considered by the government?
- 784 TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE—TREES—Dr Faruqi to ask the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure—
  - (1) How many trees will be cut down to facilitate the diversion of traffic on Anzac Parade while the

CBD & South East Light Rail tunnel is built?

- (2) How long will traffic be diverted for?
- (3) What alternatives to diverting traffic into the parkland were considered?
- 785 ROADS, MARITIME AND FREIGHT—TIBBY COTTER BRIDGE—Dr Faruqi to ask the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
  - (1) What loading capacity is the Tibby Cotter Bridge designed and built for?
  - (2) How many people crossed the Tibby Cotter Bridge in the following months? Please provide figures for both cyclists and pedestrians.
    - (a) November 2015
    - (b) December 2015
    - (c) January 2016
  - (3) What was the final cost of building the Tibby Cotter Bridge?
- 786 ENVIRONMENT—HOUSEHOLDERS' ASBESTOS DISPOSAL SCHEME—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—
  - (1) Has the Environment Protection Authority's (EPA) Householders' Asbestos Disposal Scheme been successful to date?
  - (2) What tracking measures have been used to assess the effectiveness of the Householders' Asbestos Disposal Scheme?

(a) What have been the results of any assessment?

- (3) Why was the trial of the Householders' Asbestos Disposal Scheme only extended to six local councils?
- (4) Was the trial extended to the Wagga Wagga, Kogarah, Hurstville, Rockdale, Sutherland and Willoughby local government areas because of promising results in these areas?
- (5) Given Hawkesbury Council participated in the 12 month trial, why has there been a significant increase in contaminated illegal landfill being placed on residents' properties in that area in the past 12 months?
- (6) Why did Kogarah, Hurstville, Rockdale, Sutherland and Willoughby local government areas restrict the number of asbestos removal contractors to only five particular providers, given there are over 500 in Sydney?
- (7) What measures are in place to ensure that home renovators are able to employ skilled, licensed and reputable asbestos removal contractors of the highest standard?
- (8) Is the minister aware of reports of contractors using names different to those under which they are registered and choosing not to list their business and licence details on WorkCover's register?
- (9) Is there a register of how many homes contain asbestos and what condition they are in?(a) If not, why not?
- (10) Is comprehensive insurance mandatory for asbestos removalists in NSW, as required under the Victorian scheme?
- 787 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—WOOD SUPPLY AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH EAST FIBRE EXPORTS—Mr Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) On what date was the Forestry Corporation advised that South East Fibre Exports (SEFE) was to be sold to the owners of the Eden woodchip mill by Allied Natural Wood Exports Pty Ltd?
  - (2) Did either party to the pending Wood Supply Agreement seek to have any modifications made to the agreement?
  - (3) Were any changes made to the Wood Supply Agreement?
  - (4) Was approval of the Government or the Forestry Corporation required for the transfer of the Wood

Supply Agreement to reflect the new ownership of SEFE?

- (a) If so, by whom and on what date was that approval granted?
- 788 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—AUSTRALIAN HONEY—Mr Veitch to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) What efforts has the Department of Primary Industries taken to address the concerns raised in media statements (such as the Sydney Morning Herald, 20 January 2016) regarding potential low level toxins in Australian honey linked to cancer and organ damage?
  - (2) Has the Department conducted research on honey sourced from the noxious weed Paterson's Curse for toxicity levels? If so, when was the research conducted and is it publicly available?
  - (3) Has the Department met with industry representatives to discuss the media statements?
  - (4) What is the accuracy of the media statements contained in the 20 January 2016 Sydney Morning Herald article?
- 789 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—RAW MILK IN NEW SOUTH WALES—Mr Veitch to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) With regard to the sale of raw milk in New South Wales for cosmetic purposes and human consumption, please list for each of the past four financial years:
    - (a) the number of premises inspected for the sale of raw milk?
    - (b) the number of premises found to be selling raw milk?
    - (c) the amount of raw milk seized at each premises where it was found? and,
    - (d) the number of prosecutions for selling raw milk?
  - (2) What was the total expenditure by the NSW Food Authority in each of the past four financial years on community awareness regarding the potential risks of raw milk consumption?
- 790 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—HORSE DISEASE—Mr Veitch to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) Have there been any cases of the contagious horse disease known as "strangles" in the past two years in New South Wales?
    - (a) If so, where did the outbreaks occur and how many horses and foals have been affected?
  - (2) Does the Department of Primary Industries conduct regular awareness campaigns regarding vaccination for "strangles"?
    - (a) If so, how does the Department engage the horse-owning community in the awareness campaign?
  - (3) Has the Department conducted a review of the community awareness and education campaign for "strangles" in the past four years?
    - (a) If so, when was the review conducted?
- 791 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—MINISTER MEETING REQUESTS—Mr Veitch to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) What are the procedures and timeframes in the Minister's office for responding to meeting requests to the Minister?
  - (2) What is the average response time to meeting requests to the Minister?
  - (3) Have any meeting requests gone unanswered by the Minister? If so, how many?
  - (4) Are there any meeting requests the Minister has taken longer than 28 days to respond to? If so, how many?
- 792 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—MINISTER CORRESPONDENCE—Mr Veitch to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—

- (1) What are the procedures and timeframes in the Minister's office for responding to correspondence to the Minister?
- (2) What is the average response time for correspondence written to the Minister?
- (3) Are there any current items of correspondence outstanding for more than 28 days? If so, how many?
- 793 EDUCATION—RURAL AND REMOTE EDUCATION ADVISORY GROUP MEETINGS—Mr Veitch to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Education—
  - (1) How many meetings of the Rural and Remote Education Advisory Group were held in:
    - (a) 2014?
    - (b) 2015?
- 794 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—LAKE MACQUARIE SHARKS—Mr Veitch to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) What research or population studies have been carried out on the number of sharks in Lake Macquarie?
- 795 ROADS, MARITIME AND FREIGHT—FREIGHT TRAINS—Mr Mookhey to ask the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council—
  - (1) Are there any penalties levelled on freight trains if they breakdown on the Sydney Trains network?
  - (2) What are the penalties for freight train operators whose trains cause delays to other trains on the Sydney Trains Network?
  - (3) If so what was the total amount of penalties issued in;
    - (a) 2015?
    - (b) 2014?
    - (c) 2013?
    - (d) 2012?
    - (e) 2011?
  - (4) How many times did freight trains cause delays on the Sydney Trains Network in:
    - (a) 2015?
    - (b) 2014?
    - (c) 2013?
    - (d) 2012?
    - (e) 2011?
  - (5) Has the Government received any advice regarding the introduction of penalties for delays caused by freight trains?
- 796 LANDS AND WATER, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—GLYPHOSATE—Mr Primrose to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water—
  - (1) Do local councils in New South Wales still use the weed killer glyphosate in sensitive areas like playgrounds?
  - (2) Does the Minister support the continued use of glyphosate?
  - (3) What advice has the Minister's Department given to local councils regarding the use of glyphosate?
  - (4) What funding has the Government provided to local councils to develop alternative weed killing options?
- 797 LOCAL GOVERNMENT—GLYPHOSATE—Mr Primrose to ask the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Local Government—
  - (1) Do local councils in New South Wales still use the weed killer glyphosate in sensitive areas like

playgrounds?

- (2) Does the Minister support the continued use of glyphosate?
- (3) What advice has the Office of Local Government given to local councils regarding the use of glyphosate?
- (4) What funding has the Government provided to local councils to develop alternative weed killing options?
- 798 HEALTH—HOUSING FOR HEALTH—Ms Barham to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Health—
  - (1) In relation to the Housing for Health program:
    - (a) What was the total amount of funding allocated in
      - (i) 2014/15?
      - (ii) 2015/16?
    - (b) What was the breakdown of Commonwealth and State Government funding in(i) 2014/15?
      - (ii) 2015/16?
    - (c) What projects were funded by the program in
      - (i) 2014/15?
      - (ii) 2015/16?
  - (2) Where were the 2014/15 Housing for Health projects located?
  - (3) Where are the 2015/16 Housing for Health projects located?
- 799 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES—ABORIGINAL HOUSING OFFICE DWELLINGS—Ms Barham to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Social Housing—
  - (1) In relation to new Aboriginal housing supply under the Aboriginal Housing Office in 2014/15:
    - (a) What was the breakdown of Commonwealth and State Government funding allocated to the Aboriginal Housing Office for new supply?
    - (b) What was the average building cost per square meter of dwellings constructed?
    - (c) What was the average cost of dwellings constructed?
    - (d) What was the average cost of dwellings bought?
    - (e) In which locations were these dwellings completed and/or acquired?
    - (f) In which locations did construction commence on dwellings?
    - (g) Were there variations in average cost of dwellings constructed by region? If so, please provide a breakdown of average cost by region.
  - (2) In relation to new Aboriginal housing supply under the Aboriginal Housing Office in 2015/16:
    - (a) What was the breakdown of Commonwealth and State Government funding allocated to the Aboriginal Housing Office for new supply?
    - (b) How many dwellings have been completed and/or acquired?
    - (c) How many dwellings commenced construction?
    - (d) What has been the average cost of dwellings constructed?
    - (e) Where are these dwellings located?
    - (f) Were there variations in average cost by region of dwellings constructed? If so, please provide a breakdown.
  - (3) Is the Aboriginal Housing Office on track to deliver 382 new dwellings in 2015/16 as forecast in last year's budget?
    - (a) If not, why not?
  - (4) The Aboriginal Housing Office's Build and Grow Expenditure Summary shows significant underspends in 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13. Could the Minister please provide:

- (a) an explanation for why the program was underspent in
  - (i) 2010/11?
  - (ii) 2011/12?
  - (iii) 2012/13?
- (b) an explanation of what happened to the unspent funds in
  - (i) 2010/11?
  - (ii) 2011/12?
  - (iii) 2012/13?
- (5) The Build and Grow summary also states that the 'program was underspent in these years due to a slow uptake of the program by providers'. Could the Minister please provide further detail on why there was a slow uptake of the program by providers?
- 800 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES—PUBLIC HOUSING MAINTENANCE REQUESTS—Ms Barham to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Social Housing—
  - (1) How many maintenance requests were lodged by public housing tenants in 2014/15 concerning mould caused by structural problems in the dwelling?
    - (a) How many of these maintenance requests were addressed by Housing NSW/Land and Housing Corporation in 2014/15?
  - (2) How many public housing tenants had to be moved from their homes because of mould in 2014/15?
  - (3) Is the Minister aware of the World Health Organisation's report 'Environmental burden of disease associated with inadequate housing' published in 2011, which documents the link between mould problems and asthma in childhood?
  - (4) Is the Minister aware of research published in Environmental Health Perspectives titled 'Respiratory and Allergic Health Effects of Dampness, Mould, and Dampness-Related Agents: A Review of the Epidemiologic Evidence' that concludes "there is sufficient evidence of an association between indoor dampness-related factors and a wide range of respiratory or allergic health effects, including asthma development, asthma exacerbation, current asthma, ever asthma, dyspnoea, wheeze, cough, respiratory infections, bronchitis, allergic rhinitis, eczema, and upper respiratory tract symptoms"?
  - (5) What is Housing NSW's/Land and Housing Corporation's policy for dealing with mould in public housing that occurs because of a structural fault?
- 801 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES—MILLERS POINT FORCED RELOCATIONS—Ms Barham to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Social Housing—
  - (1) How many public housing tenants resided at Millers Point when the announcement to sell their homes was made in March 2014?
    - (a) How many of these tenants have been moved from Millers Point since then?
    - (b) How many of these tenants have requested to stay at Millers Point?
  - (2) What counselling services have been offered to tenants who are being made to move?
    - (a) Are the counsellors made available to these tenants employee assistance counsellors within Family and Community Services?
    - (b) Are tenants able to select their own counsellor and have the cost covered by Family and Community Services?
  - (3) What monitoring of Millers Point public housing tenants is Family and Community Services undertaking following their relocation to another dwelling?
    - (a) If monitoring is undertaken, what does this involve?
    - (b) What support is available to tenants after they move?
    - (c) For how long will this support be available?
  - (4) How many public housing tenants who have been moved from Millers Point have had to move

again?

(a) What were the reasons for the subsequent moves?

- (5) How many public housing tenants who have requested to move to new homes alongside fellow Millers Point tenants have had those requests fulfilled?
- (6) What experience and/or training have the Family and Community Services relocation teams had to enable them to deal with vulnerable tenants?
- (7) How many hospitalisations of Millers Point public housing tenants have occurred since the March 2014 announcement?
- (8) How many Millers Point public housing tenants have passed away since the March 2014 announcement?
- (9) How many Millers Point public housing tenants have suicided or attempted suicide since the March 2014 announcement?
- (10) Will Family and Community Services undertake an evaluation of the relocation process?
- (11) Does Family and Community Services have a protocol or policy for the relocation of public housing tenants and does it address issues relating to their health and wellbeing?
- (12) Has Land and Housing Corporation completed a strategy to deliver housing that meets client need, audited property disposal procedures and finalised a long-term strategy of managing public housing estates to reduce disadvantage, as recommended by the Auditor General in 2013?
- 802 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES—MILLERS POINT PROPERTY OFFERS—Ms Barham to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Social Housing—
  - (1) In relation to the 28 properties in Millers Point that have been offered to Millers Point public housing tenants:
    - (a) How many of the properties are being refurbished?
    - (b) What is the budget for the refurbishments?
  - (2) The Social Impact Assessment for the sale found that some of the Millers Point properties were unsafe for older people. Land and Housing Corporation engaged occupational therapy consultants to assess four typical properties at Millers Point, who found that they were unsuitable for an older person because of stairs or they had bathrooms that posed a falls risk. Were the 28 properties made available to Millers Point tenants assessed by occupational therapists for their suitability for older people and people with a disability?
    - (a) If not, why not?
  - (3) Will the refurbishments make the properties wheelchair accessible?
    - (a) If not, why not?
  - (4) How many of the 28 properties offered do not have stairs?
    - (a) Of the properties that do not have stairs, how many of these properties have two or more bedrooms?
  - (5) How many Land and Housing Corporation properties in Millers Point were vacant at the time of the March 2014 announcement?
    - (a) For how long had each property been vacant?
  - (6) How many Land and Housing Corporation properties in Millers Point are vacant now?(a) For how long has each property been vacant?
  - (7) How many public housing tenants still reside at Millers Point?
  - (8) Will more properties be offered to the remaining public housing tenants who still reside in Millers Point?

803 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, SOCIAL HOUSING—NEW SOUTH WALES CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL ACTION REGARDING PRIVACY BREACH—Ms Barham to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for Family and Community Services, and Minister for Social Housing—

In relation to the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal decision in APV and APW v Department of Family and Community Services which found that the Department breached the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 by collecting the applicants' personal information through a search of a Roads and Maritime Services database:

- (1) Does the Minister consider that the conduct of the case by Family and Community Services (FACS) and the Crown Solicitor's Office (CSO) was consistent with the Model Litigant Guidelines set out in FACS' "Policy Directive for Management of Legal Matters"?
  - (a) If not, what action will the Minister take to ensure any future action is consistent with the guidelines?
- (2) How many FACS and CSO staff were involved in the conduct of the case?
- (3) What costs were incurred by FACS internally and for external advisors such as the CSO in the conduct of the case?
- (4) Who made the decision to defend the case given that a document tabled by FACS for the NCAT hearing indicated that the then Chief Executive of Housing NSW took the view the acts of the individual who collected the information "would seem to require disciplinary action", the Department found that there was no fraud by the leasehold owners against FACS, and the matter involved 99-year leasehold owners rather than a social housing tenant?
- (5) What controls has the Minister put in place to prevent these sorts of unlawful, unauthorised and unnecessary searches from occurring in future?
- 804 ENVIRONMENT—CLARENCE COAL FINES SPILL INTO THE WOLLANGAMBE RIVER—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

Given the Wollangambe River lies within a World Heritage Area, why didn't the Environment Protection Authority require the managers of the Clarence Mine to commit more resources to the clean-up of coal fines in addition to the six to eight persons cleaning the river by hand during the last six months?

- 805 ENVIRONMENT—CLARENCE COAL FINES SPILL INTO THE WOLLANGAMBE RIVER—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—
  - (1) Has the Environment Protection Authority commenced legal proceedings regarding the spill of coal fines into the Wollangambe River within the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area from Clarence Mine?
  - (2) If not, when does the statute of limitations for prosecution in relation to this incident come into effect?
- 806 ENVIRONMENT—CLARENCE COAL FINES SPILL INTO THE WOLLANGAMBE RIVER—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—
  - (1) Did the Clarence Mine have a Pollution Incident Response Management Plan in place during July 2015 that identified and minimised the risks of a coal fines spill into the World Heritage Area and that ensured planned response actions would immediately be implemented by trained staff?
  - (2) Why did clean up actions not commence until 8 August 2015 given that the coal fines spill occurred at the Clarence Mine on 2 July 2015?

807 ENVIRONMENT—CLARENCE COAL FINES SPILL INTO THE WOLLANGAMBE RIVER—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

When the Clarence Mine Pollution Incident Response Management Plan was revised in August 2015, did the Environment Protection Authority ensure that Clarence Mine had an updated Pollution Incident Response Management Plan for coal fines spills that would identify and minimise the risks of such spills and ensure that a planned response could be immediately implemented by trained staff?

808 ENVIRONMENT—CLARENCE COAL FINES SPILL INTO THE WOLLANGAMBE RIVER—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

Can the Environment Protection Authority outline a timetable for the establishment of a Pollution Reduction Program for Clarence Mine under Environment Protection Licence 726 to remove salinity, nickel and temperature pollution, as well as zinc and pH pollution from the Wollangambe River?

809 ENVIRONMENT—CLARENCE COAL FINES SPILL INTO THE WOLLANGAMBE RIVER—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

What steps will the Environment Protection Authority take to remove all mine water pollution discharged from the Clarence Mine to the Wollangambe River, given that these discharges flow into the river and the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area?

810 ENVIRONMENT—CLARENCE COAL FINES SPILL INTO THE WOLLANGAMBE RIVER—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

What action will the Environment Protection Authority take to ensure that tailings dams are properly engineered structures, so as to address the current spate of tailing dam collapses at New South Wales coal mines?

811 ENVIRONMENT—CLARENCE COAL FINES SPILL INTO THE WOLLANGAMBE RIVER—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

What action will the Environment Protection Authority take to ensure that the development consent for the Airly Mine extension requires a properly engineered tailing dam to contain the thirty-eight hectare waste heap that is proposed to sit on a hillside above the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area?

812 ENVIRONMENT—GREY HEADED FLYING FOX—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

What action is the Government taking to conserve the grey headed flying fox?

813 ENVIRONMENT—CROWN LAND—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Multiculturalism representing the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, and Assistant Minister for Planning—

According to the Report on State Finances 2014-15 by Treasury, New South Wales has identified at least five high risk sites for contamination on Crown Land. Where are these sites?

814 TREASURER—CROWN LAND—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Treasurer, and Minister for Industrial Relations—

According to the Report on State Finances 2014-15 released by Treasury, New South Wales identified at least five high risk sites for contamination on Crown Land. Where are these sites?

- 815 SKILLS—TAFE ENROLMENTS—Ms Sharpe to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, and Minister for Lands and Water representing the Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills, and Minister for Small Business—
  - (1) How many students were enrolled this year at the Cooma campus of TAFE?
  - (2) How many students were enrolled this year at the Bega campus of TAFE?
  - (3) How many students were enrolled this year at the Goulburn campus of TAFE?
  - (4) How many students were enrolled this year at the Nowra campus of TAFE?
  - (5) How many students were enrolled this year at the Queanbeyan campus of TAFE?
  - (6) How many students were enrolled this year at the Wollongong campus of TAFE?
  - (7) How many students were enrolled this year at campuses of the Illawarra institute of TAFE?

David Blunt Clerk of the Parliaments

Authorised by the Parliament of New South Wales