



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

**QUESTIONS  
AND  
ANSWERS**

No. 110

TUESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2009

(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

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<b>Publication of Questions</b>	<b>Answer to be lodged by</b>
Q & A No. 102 (Including Question Nos 3146 to 3153)	07 July 2009
Q & A No. 103 (Including Question Nos 3154 to 3186)	08 July 2009
Q & A No. 104 (Including Question Nos 3187 to 3195)	09 July 2009
Q & A No. 105 (Including Question Nos 3196 to 3213)	21 July 2009
Q & A No. 106 (Including Question Nos 3214 to 3239)	22 July 2009
Q & A No. 107 (Including Question Nos 3240 to 3267)	23 July 2009
Q & A No. 108 (Including Question Nos 3268 to 3301)	28 July 2009
Q & A No. 109 (Including Question Nos 3302 to 3404)	06 October 2009
Q & A No. 110 (Including Question Nos 3405 to 3433)	06 October 2009

**2 JUNE 2009**

(Paper No. 102)

\*3146 EMERGENCY SERVICES—SYDNEY EMERGENCY WARNING SYSTEM—Mrs Pavey asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State representing the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Small Business—

(1)

- (a) When will the review of the Sydney Emergency Warning System, announced on the 31st of March 2009, be completed?
- (b) Who was involved in the review process?
- (c)
  - (i) Will the results be publicly available?
  - (ii) If not, why not?

Answer—

Responsibility for the Sydney Emergency Warning System rests with the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

\*3147 EMERGENCY SERVICES—BUSH FIRE PRONE LAND—Mrs Pavey asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State representing the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Small Business—

(1)

- (a) How much of New South Wales (in hectares) is classed as bush fire prone land?
- (b) Of the total amount, what percentage of the bushfire prone land belongs to:
  - (i) the Department of Lands?
  - (ii) National Parks and Wildlife?
  - (iii) Local Government?
  - (iv) private land?

Answer—

(1)

- (a) 26,764,277 hectares or 33 per cent.
- (b) The NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) does not hold some of the information requested. However, based on the data that the RFS holds, of the 26,764,277 hectares of bush fire prone land:
  - 1% is Crown Land tenure.
  - 23% is National Park tenure
  - 8% is State Forest tenure
  - 68% is 'other' which would include private, federal, other State and local government land.
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  - 23% is National Park tenure
  - 8% is State Forest tenure
  - 68% is 'other' which would include private, federal, other State and local government land.

\*3148 HOUSING—WATER AND SOLAR REBATES—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In relation to water and solar rebates for Housing NSW properties:

- (1) Mr. Jimmy Shaw, a tenant of Housing NSW in Ryde, has gained permission to install solar panels on the roof of the premises he rents, at his own expense and will retain ownership of the photovoltaic (PV) panels. Housing NSW has agreed to this arrangement. However neither Mr. Shaw nor Housing NSW is entitled to any rebate. Can the current rebate rules be changed to give Housing NSW as landlord, or social housing tenants, access to the available rebates?

- (2) Housing NSW is installing rainwater tanks and solar hot water systems and photovoltaics on new housing at the time of construction. How is Housing NSW extending these features to existing housing?

Answer—

- (1) Rebates for solar photovoltaic panels are administered by the Australian Government. Housing NSW is committed to investigating opportunities and funding sources to install solar photovoltaic systems on social housing properties.
- (2) Housing NSW plans to replace 12,000 electric storage hot water heaters with environmentally friendly hot water heating systems. Housing NSW has secured \$13.3M from the NSW Climate Change Fund to assist implement this retrofit program for existing housing. Housing NSW does not currently have a retrofit program for rainwater tanks.

\*3149 ILLAWARRA—PACIFIC BRANDS—Mr Pearce asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

I refer to reports that Pacific Brands listed the former King Gee factory site at Bellambi for sale with Colliers International in early May 2009 with expressions of interest closing Thursday 4 June 2009:

- (1) What steps have been taken to ensure that, wherever possible, the successful purchaser employs individuals retrenched by Pacific Brands staff in their future operation on the 4(a) light industrial zoned site?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) As with all commercial sales, it remains the prerogative of the purchaser of the former King Gee factory site located at 16 Bellambi Lane, Bellambi to use this site as they see fit. Depending on their chosen use of this site it also remains their prerogative to employ individuals that suit their business needs.

\*3150 TREASURER—PAYROLL TAX—Mr Pearce asked the Treasurer—

- (1) How many small business (i.e. companies with less than 20 employees) paid payroll tax in each of the last two financial years?
- (2) How many medium sized enterprises (i.e. companies with more than 20 and less than 199 employees) paid payroll tax in each of the last two financial years?

Answer—

I'm advised:

Payroll tax is payable by an individual employer, or a group of employers, where their taxable wages exceed the annual threshold, which is currently \$638,000 from 1 July 2009.

Liable employers self assess what is due and pay the payroll tax to the Office of State Revenue by way of return. Employers are required to provide wage details for the previous financial year in July each year.

There is no requirement for employers to provide the Office of State Revenue with data on the number of employees as this has no impact on the amount of tax they have to pay.

\*3151 ILLAWARRA—DIRECT FACTORY OUTLET AT KEMBLA GRANGE—Mr Pearce asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1)

- (a) In light of recent reports that the direct factory outlet at Kembla Grange proposed by Total Recycling Pty Ltd appears unlikely to go ahead, what action has been taken to find an alternative site for the proposed centre given that it is estimated the initiative could create 420 permanent jobs for the Illawarra and generate \$200 million turnover by 2011?
- (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The determination of the use of the land at Kembla Grange is a matter for Wollongong City Council and the Department of Planning. Please see the notes of Wollongong City Council's ordinary meeting of 26 May 2009, available at [www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au](http://www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au) for more details on this matter.

\*3152 ILLAWARRA—SUBSIDIES OR FUNDING TO PACIFIC BRANDS—Mr Pearce asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) What NSW Government subsidies, grants or other funding (such as funding under the Illawarra Advantage Fund or DET Apprenticeship programs) was provided to Pacific Brands operations in the Illawarra during the last 10 years?
- (2) What steps have been taken to have any or all of these funds returned to the Government since the company announced in February that it would be culling 281 positions in the Illawarra?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Questions regarding funding through the Illawarra Advantage Fund should be directed to the Minister for Regional Development as the responsible portfolio Minister. Questions regarding DET apprenticeship programs should be directed to the Minister for Education and Training as the responsible portfolio Minister.
- (2) As above.

\*3153 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—ENMORE BOYS SCHOOL—Ms Hale asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Enmore Boys School, 2-12 Metropolitan Rd, Enmore:

- (1)
  - (a) When was the decision made to dispose of the former Enmore School building at 2-12 Metropolitan Road, Enmore?
  - (b) On what grounds was that decision made?
- (2)
  - (a) What population projections and demographic evidence was taken into account when determining to sell the school site?
  - (b)
    - (i) When were those projections and statistics compiled?
    - (ii) which years did they refer?
  - (c)
    - (i) Are those projections/statistics publicly available?
    - (ii) If so, where are they available?
- (3) Was the decision to sell the site re-examined in the light of more recent statistical/demographic evidence?
- (4) What demographic figures were used to determine the future of surrounding schools and educational facilities?

- (5)
- (a) Was the Enmore Boys School considered as an adjunct facility to enable support for these schools?
  - (b) If not, why not?
- (6) What attempts have been made to ascertain whether any public educational institutions were or are interested in utilising the premises?
- (7) When were those attempts made, to whom and what were the responses?
- (8)
- (a) Were any other community or public institutions approached to establish whether they were interested in utilising the premises?
  - (b) If so, when were those approaches made and what were the responses?
- (9)
- (a) What were the decisions by Enmore TAFE (Design Centre Enmore) in relation to their long term use of their current site?
  - (b)
    - (i) Did this include consideration of the redundant school building at 2-12 Metropolitan Rd?
    - (ii) If not, why not?
- (10)
- (a) Has Enmore TAFE (Design Centre Enmore) been offered use of the building, given that it requires additional accommodation and the former school site is less than 250 metres from the TAFE campus?
  - (b) If so, when and what were the responses?
- (11) Will the sale of the site to private interests for residential accommodation be reconsidered in light of the Federal government's emphasis on skills training and the recently proposed 'earn or learn' requirements on young people, policies that are expected to result in an increased demand for TAFE courses and accommodation?

Answer—

- (1)
- (a) Approval to dispose of the former Enmore Boys School Annexe was given in September 2003 by the former Minister for Education and Training.
  - (b) The decision was made on the basis that the site was considered surplus to educational needs of the Department of Education and Training.
- (2), (3) and (4)

Population and housing data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics was utilised from 1986 to 2001 Census counts and more recently the 2006 Census for the Marrickville Local Government Area to inform the disposal of the Enmore site.

Census data is publicly available from the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

(5)

The building no longer meets current educational standards and would require extensive modifications to achieve compliance with those standards.

(6) and (7)

There are excess teaching spaces in primary and high schools across the Marrickville Local Government Area. In 2009 there are notionally 45 excess teaching spaces across the four high schools and 63 spaces across the 13 primary schools.

(8) No.

(9)

- (a) The Design Centre Enmore will remain on its present site for the foreseeable future.
- (b)
  - (i) Yes.
  - (ii) Not applicable.

(10)

- (a) Yes.
- (b) A review of whether the property was required for TAFE NSW was undertaken by the Department of Commerce in 1999. Subsequent to this review, it was determined that the premises were not suitable or cost effective for TAFE purposes.

(11)

No. TAFE NSW - Sydney Institute has advised that it does not require use of the Metropolitan Road, Enmore site. In recent years there has been a significant capital investment in facilities at the Ultimo Campus to position the Sydney Institute to respond to current and future demand for TAFE services in the inner Sydney area.

### 3 JUNE 2009

(Paper No. 103)

\*3154 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—FVP B9—Mr Gay asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—

In relation to Bovine Johne's disease:

- (1) Why is the Department asking the Fieldview Park Murray Grey Stud to retest their animals, when they have not knowingly misidentified FVP B9 nor have been involved in aiding and abetting such an act?
- (2)
  - (a) Will there be an investigation into the Department's handling and testing procedures at their Veterinary Laboratories?
  - (b) If not, why?
- (3)
  - (a) Why has it taken so long for the Department to notify the Fieldview Park Murray Grey Stud that there is a question as to the authenticity of FVP B9?
  - (b) How will the Department rectify this situation?

Answer—

- (1) Due to an inconsistent test result from samples taken from the Fieldview Park Murray Grey Stud, the animals are required to be re-tested.
- (2)
  - (a) Yes.
  - (b) Not Applicable.
- (3)

- (a) The owners of Fieldview Park Murray Grey Stud were notified that the test results were inconsistent as soon as NSW Department of Primary Industries became aware of the inconsistency.
- (b) The owners were not charged for the tests on the first samples and there will be no charge for the laboratory costs in re-testing the cattle.

\*3155 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—MUNICIPAL RECYCLING—Mr Cohen asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) Considering that the 2006/07 municipal recycling rate for New South Wales was 38% and that only a 5% increase in Municipal recycling was achieved over the last two years, will the Government achieve the 2014 target of 66%?
- (2) How will the Government achieve the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery objective of not generating any more waste in New South Wales when there has been a 21% increase in the volume of municipal waste in New South Wales compared with the 2003 level?
- (3) What would account for the per capita increase in municipal waste tonnage from 272kg to 287kg between 2004/05 and 2006/07?
- (4) Does the general increase in municipal waste compared to the reductions in Commercial and Industrial and Construction & Demolition indicate a result of a lack of extended producer responsibility schemes?
- (5) What did the 16 waste campaigns run by the Department's Waste Operations team with blitzes on waste situations posing risks to the environment entail?
- (6)
  - (a) Were any environmental protection licence holders fined or cautioned?
  - (b) If so, which?
- (7) Which local councils received annual Waste Service Performance Improvement Payments in:
  - (a) 2006/07?
  - (b) 2007/08?
- (8) What was the total Waste Service Performance Improvement Payments received by each council?
- (9) What was the cost of the 9 programs described on page 34 of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Progress Report 2008?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) In the 2008 Waste Strategy Performance Report, for New South Wales, the increase in total tonnes of municipal waste disposed of between 2002-3 and 2006-7 is 11 per cent. Tonnes disposed of is misleading since for Sydney over this period, the tonnes of waste per capita actually decreased by 34kg per person.
- (3) Economic growth is a common factor in the fluctuation of waste disposal figures. New South Wales experienced a 4% growth in the economy between 2004/05 and 2006/07. Increased compliance programs under the City and Country Environment Restoration Program, which commenced in July 2006, have strengthened the regulation of illegal waste disposal across Greater Sydney and channelled more waste to licensed municipal landfills.
- (4) No.
- (5) The Department of Environment and Climate Change undertakes waste campaigns that promote regulatory compliance by assisting landfill operators to better understand and meet their legislative obligations. The campaigns use a broad range of regulatory tools including enforcement, education, media and partnerships with other agencies. A range of compliance campaigns were undertaken in 2007/08, including:
  - targeting the waste management practices of the construction and demolition sector;
  - publishing practical advice about preventing and cleaning up illegal dumping on Aboriginal land;
  - investigating the lawfulness of skip bin operators;
  - undertaking covert surveillance to catch illegal dumpers 'in the act';



- inspecting waste transport vehicles;
  - targeting compliance by companies that generate liquid waste;
  - hosting a resource efficiency forum for the liquid waste industry;
  - targeting the tracking of mud from waste facilities;
  - assisting dry cleaners improve their waste management practices;
  - checking compliance for daily cover at landfills; and,
  - a range of campaigns targeting the management practices of licensed waste facilities.
  - targeting the waste management practices of the construction and demolition sector;
  - publishing practical advice about preventing and cleaning up illegal dumping on Aboriginal land;
  - investigating the lawfulness of skip bin operators;
  - undertaking covert surveillance to catch illegal dumpers 'in the act';
  - inspecting waste transport vehicles;
  - targeting compliance by companies that generate liquid waste;
  - hosting a resource efficiency forum for the liquid waste industry;
  - targeting the tracking of mud from waste facilities;
  - assisting dry cleaners improve their waste management practices;
  - checking compliance for daily cover at landfills; and,
  - a range of campaigns targeting the management practices of licensed waste facilities.
- (6)
- (a) Yes.
- (b) The Department of Environment and Climate Change takes strong regulatory action against those who do not comply with the law. As part of a campaign that targeted use of daily cover at licensed landfills in Sydney, the Department issued six warning letters and eight penalty infringement notices for breaches of licence conditions.
- (7) & 8.

Local Council	Amount paid in WSIP in 2006-07	Amount paid in WSIP in 2007-08
Ashfield	\$32,262.75	\$67,516.25
Auburn	\$51,765.68	\$111,156.48
Bankstown	\$142,698.46	\$301,374.82
Baulkham Hills	\$129,853.99	\$272,208.11
Blacktown	\$228,525.54	\$482,339.90
Botany	\$29,889.28	\$62,742.05
Burwood	\$25,119.77	\$52,633.56
Camden	\$41,412.38	\$87,969.67
Campbelltown	\$121,105.04	\$249,809.45
Canada Bay	\$54,226.22	\$115,632.18
Canterbury	\$108,133.19	\$228,009.46
Cessnock	\$39,102.60	\$81,739.91
Fairfield	\$151,397.42	\$315,385.50
Gosford	\$131,656.66	\$274,124.83
Hawkesbury	\$51,455.29	\$106,873.62
Holroyd	\$74,123.39	\$158,081.80
Hornsby	\$126,738.81	\$263,727.91
Hunters Hill	\$11,228.84	\$23,329.34
Hurstville	\$61,300.68	\$128,490.83
Kiama	\$16,411.94	\$34,179.03
Kogarah	\$44,986.29	\$95,141.87
Ku-ring-gai	\$87,632.17	\$181,770.00
Lake Macquarie	\$153,437.13	\$317,937.78
Lane Cove	\$26,061.42	\$54,290.36
Leichhardt	\$41,230.99	\$86,629.81
Liverpool	\$137,209.81	\$288,514.50
Maitland	\$49,595.37	\$104,968.63

Manly	\$31,350.13	\$65,758.84
Marrickville	\$60,557.36	\$128,324.81
Mosman	\$22,866.42	\$47,648.07
Newcastle	\$118,485.68	\$247,421.52
North Sydney	\$49,133.42	\$103,637.16
Parramatta	\$122,430.44	\$260,087.31
Penrith	\$143,468.39	\$297,727.51
Pittwater	\$46,239.14	\$97,167.59
Port Stephens	\$51,257.77	\$106,736.11
Randwick	\$101,609.37	\$214,558.87
Rockdale	\$76,864.49	\$161,670.41
Ryde	\$80,257.81	\$168,280.84
Shellharbour	\$50,890.95	\$106,722.70
Shoalhaven	\$75,472.97	\$157,934.23
Strathfield	\$25,495.46	\$54,548.61
Sutherland	\$173,377.02	\$358,911.70
Sydney	\$119,614.37	\$254,758.05
Warringah	\$112,567.32	\$236,669.09
Waverley	\$49,671.16	\$104,294.51
Willoughby	\$51,564.13	\$109,048.59
Wingecarribee	\$36,013.22	\$75,313.94
Wollongong	\$155,115.65	\$322,188.78
Woollahra	\$42,524.95	\$88,932.23
Wyong	\$115,604.30	\$241,974.87
TOTAL	\$4,080,993.00	\$8,556,894.00

9. The cost of the 9 programs described on page 34 of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Progress Report 2008 was \$12,046,213.

\*3156 WATER—WATER LICENCES—Mr Cohen asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

(1)

- (a) How many Aboriginal cultural water licences have been issued under all New South Wales Water Sharing Plans?
- (b) For each licence, what is the total megalitre entitlement?
- (c) Which of these licences regulate:
  - (i) river?
  - (ii) groundwater source?

(2)

- (a) How many Aboriginal commercial water licences have been issued under all New South Wales Water Sharing Plans?
- (b) For each licence, what is the total megalitre entitlement?
- (c) Which of these licences regulate:
  - (i) river?
  - (ii) groundwater source?

Answer—

(1) & (2)

Since commencement of the water sharing plans there has been one water access licence issued under the specific category of "Aboriginal Cultural Licence".

No licences have been issued under the specific category of "Aboriginal Commercial Licence". Records held by the Department of Water and Energy indicate that there are also 39 other surface water and five groundwater access licences of various categories that are held by Aboriginal community groups or entities.

Entitlement details are as follows:

- Aboriginal cultural - 500 unit shares.
- Surface water - 10780.5 unit shares
- Groundwater - 400 unit shares

It should be also noted that individual licence applicants are not required to disclose their cultural background.

\*3157 WATER—MOWAMBA AQUEDUCT—Mr Cohen asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

(1)

- (a) When the diversion capacity of Mowamba Aqueduct increased?
- (b) How was it increased?

(2)

- (a) Was the increased diversion capacity from Mowamba River following corporatisation agreed to by all the shareholder governments of Snowy Hydro Ltd?
- (b)
  - (i) If not, which shareholder governments objected?
  - (ii) What was the basis of their objection?

Answer—

- (1) (a) & (b) I am advised that the diversion capacity of Mowamba Aqueduct has not been increased.
- (2) (a) & (b) Not applicable.

\*3158 WATER—SNOWY WATER LICENCE REVIEW—Mr Cohen asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

(1)

- (a) Has the Victorian Government or the Commonwealth Governments formally agreed to and signed off on the Snowy Water Licence Review?
- (b) If so, when did this occur?

Answer—

- (1) (a) & (b) The report is being finalised and liaison is continuing with both governments.

\*3159 HEALTH—PROGRAM OF APPLIANCES FOR DISABLED PEOPLE—Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

- (1) What is the average Department of Health payment processing time for invoices from suppliers of Program of Appliances for Disabled People (PADP) equipment?
- (2) Are some suppliers waiting up to 8 months for payment of invoices?
- (3) Why is the Department not meeting the 30 day payment requirement for PADP invoices?

(4)

- (a) Is the Department jeopardising the viability of PADP equipment suppliers by not paying invoices on time?
- (b) If so, what actions will be taken to redress this situation?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) – (4) inclusive

Area Health Services are currently responsible for approving the payment of invoices to PADP suppliers.

Despite a record contribution from the NSW Government, rising demand has meant some Area Health Services have had difficulty operating within their budgets.

At times, delays have been experienced in paying suppliers. All Area Health Services are working hard to reduce their costs, which will improve their ability to pay creditors within the benchmark periods.

EnableNSW has been established within Health Support Services to implement recommendations from the independent review of PADP conducted by PricewaterhouseCoopers in 2006. This includes the transfer of PADP lodgement centres throughout the State into a single consolidated service centre managed by EnableNSW, which has now commenced.

As responsibility for PADP procurement is transitioned it is anticipated EnableNSW will standardise procurement, acquittance and payment arrangements and be allocated funds to pay suppliers in accordance with its procurement practices.

EnableNSW will have a supplier payment KPI and commence reporting against this KPI from October 2009.

\*3160 DISABILITY SERVICES—ACCESS TO CASE MANAGERS—Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

- (1) How many people are currently on waiting lists for access to DADHC Case Managers?
- (2) What was the average waiting time for a case manager during 2008?
- (3) How many people have been removed from the waiting list for case managers from July 2008 to May 2009?

Answer—

(1) - (3)

The Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care does not maintain a 'waiting list' for case management services.

In total, 2,215 service requests were finalised between July 2008 and May 2009.

\*3161 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—ABORIGINAL LANDS CLEAN-UP PROGRAM—Mr Cohen asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) Could the Aboriginal Lands Clean-Up Program provide funding to the local community in Wallaga Lakes to clean up asbestos on community grounds?

- (2)
- (a) Did the Department advise the Merriman Aboriginal Land Council of funds available under the Aboriginal Lands Clean-Up Program?
  - (b)
    - (i) If so, to who this advice was provided?
    - (ii) when was it provided?
  - (c) If not, why not?
- (3) How many tonnes of asbestos have been removed from Aboriginal Land Council controlled lands under the Aboriginal Lands Clean-Up Program?
- (4) What was the nature of the brief from the Department to the Occupational Hygienist who undertook sampling of the Wallaga Lake Village?
- (5) Why was the Occupational Hygienist not requested to sample around residential houses?
- (6)
- (a) Does the asbestos found at the Wallaga Lake Village pose a threat to the health of the community?
  - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) Yes. Merriman Aboriginal Lands Council and Eurobodalla Shire Council have successfully applied for a \$50,000 grant under the Aboriginal Land Clean Up Program to clean up illegally dumped material (including asbestos) on their community lands at Wallaga Lake.
- (2) (a) – (c) The Department of Environment and Climate Change informed Eurobodalla Shire Council about the program in November 2007. Council was also informed about the 2008/09 grants program in early December 2008, in the context of Wallaga Lake, and the Department has help coordinated the successful grant application in partnership with the Merriman Local Aboriginal Land Council. The current round of Aboriginal Land Clean-Up Program grants (2008/09) was also advertised in the Koori Mail newspaper. The NSW Aboriginal Lands Council was informed of the Program and informed its constituent Local Aboriginal Lands Councils. The grants program was also advertised through NSW Health's Aboriginal Network.
- (3) 34 tonnes of asbestos and asbestos contaminated soil has been removed and disposed of appropriately.
- (4) The occupational hygienist engaged by the Department of Environment and Climate Change was required to map the extent of all asbestos containing material in the Wallaga Lake Village and at the tip site. All fibro cement debris was assumed to contain asbestos.
- (5) In addition to the work arranged by DECC to map the extent of asbestos containing material, the Department of Health also engaged an occupational hygienist to prepare a health risk assessment, which involved the collection and analysis of soil and air samples for asbestos fibres. These samples were collected within the Wallaga Lake Village.
- (6)
  - (a) No.
  - (b) The risk assessment concludes that the health risk from the fibro cement debris to people living in the Wallaga Lake Village is comparable to those living in a normal suburban environment, and that no person would be exposed to measurable amounts of asbestos fibres

\*3162 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—COFFEY GEOTECHNICS—Mr Cohen asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) Why wasn't the Department granted access to the full report by Coffey Geotechnics (CH16132-AC) in the Part 3A Application relating to the Blue Dolphin Resort Yamba Road development?
- (2)
  - (a) Does the Minister acknowledge the letter from Coffey Geotechnics, dated 23 October 2006, advised that the full report on soil contamination should be read in conjunction with the letter

- submitted for the purposes of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act Part 3A application?
- (b) If so, why isn't the full soil contamination report considered as part of the Part 3A assessment?
- (3) Has the owner of the service station on the Blue Dolphin Resort site been issue with any notices under the Protection of the Environment Operations (POEO) Act or POEO Regulations?
- (4)
- (a) The report author states "it is possible that the contamination identified at the service station could extend beyond the service station boundaries and be present in soils and groundwater around the Blue Dolphin Resort site", would it be possible that diesel and petroleum contamination from underground storage tanks at the service station is finding its way into the Clarence River?
- (5) What actions will be taken to ensure proven contamination from this service station site is not entering the Clarence River?

Answer—

- (1) I am advised that report CH16132-AC prepared by Coffey Geotechnics was not included in the Part 3A documentation referred to the Department of Environment and Climate Change by the Department of Planning.
- (2) a. – b. The Department of Environment and Climate Change reviewed the Addendum report included in the Part 3A application and was satisfied that it contained sufficient information to support the recommendation of that report.
- (3) No.
- (4) - 5. The service station contamination will be remediated in accordance with a Development Approval issued by the Department of Planning. The approval will require an audit report by an accredited contaminated site auditor to certify that the site is suitable for its proposed uses. Any potential for offsite migration of residual contamination will be assessed in the site audit report and subject to obligations for notification to the Department of Environment and Climate Change under the Contaminated Lands Management Act 1997. The Department will regulate the cleanup of the contamination if it is determined to pose a significant risk of harm.

\*3163 ARTS—CONCERT HALL FOR THE CENTRAL COAST—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

Concert Hall for the Central Coast:

- (1)
- (a)
- (i) Has the Minister met with Friends of the Performing Arts Precinct regarding their call for a new 1000-seat concert hall and conservatorium complex for the Central Coast area?
- (ii) Has the Minister met with the Minister for the Central Coast to discuss this matter?
- (iii) Has the Minister met with parliamentary representatives of Central Coast electorates to discuss this matter?
- (iv) Has the Minister investigated the eligibility of such a project for assistance from the Commonwealth Government?
- (b) If so, what was the outcome?
- (2)
- (a) Does the Government intend to fund such a concert hall and conservatorium complex?
- (b) If not, what form of assistance will the Government extend to the project?

Answer—

(1)-(2)

I am advised that the Minister for the Central Coast has agreed to meet with Friends of the Performing Arts Precinct to discuss the project.

Funding for arts and cultural capital infrastructure projects is available through the 2010 Arts Funding Program. This is a competitive process and all applications are judged on merit against relevant criteria set out in the funding guidelines. Councils and arts and cultural organisations are encouraged to liaise with the Department of the Arts, Sport and Recreation regarding opportunities to coordinate arts development in the region.

\*3164 CENTRAL COAST—CONCERT HALL FOR THE CENTRAL COAST—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

Concert Hall for the Central Coast:

(1)

- (a) Has the Minister met with Friends of the Performing Arts Precinct regarding their call for a new 1000-seat concert hall and conservatorium complex for the Central Coast area?
- (b) If not, will the Minister meet with them to discuss the project?

(2)

- (a) Has the Minister met with The Minister for Arts regarding the proposal to construct a new 1000-seat concert hall and conservatorium complex for the Central Coast area?
- (b)
  - (i) If not, will the Minister meet with the Minister for Arts and discuss the project with him?
  - (ii) If not, why not?

(3)

- (a) Will the Minister urge the Government to fund such a concert hall and conservatorium complex?
- (b) If not, what form of assistance will the Minister request that the Government extend to the project?

(4) Has the Minister met with parliamentary representatives of Central Coast electorates to discuss this matter?

Answer—

Should the Friends of the Performing Arts Precinct wish to have a meeting, I suggest they make contact with my office.

\*3165 LANDS—SALTWATER AT SOUTH WEST ROCKS—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

"Saltwater" at South West Rocks:

- (1) Did the Department of Land and Water Conservation in 1996 give consent under SEPP 46 for the site known as "Saltwater", in South West Rocks, to be cleared of native vegetation in order to establish a tea-tree plantation?
- (2) While the SEPP 46 assessment was proceeding, did the developer commission agents to prepare an application for residential rezoning which was lodged with Kempsey Shire Council within one week of receiving permission to clear for the plantation?
- (3) Was this a misuse of SEPP 46 given it is now a multi-million dollar residential development project?

Answer—

The site referred to as "Saltwater" at South West Rocks is not Crown land, therefore the Member may like to redirect her question to the appropriate Minister.

\*3166 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—RENEWABLE ENERGY PRECINCTS—Dr Kaye asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

Wind Power Precincts:

- (1) For the five Renewable Energy Precincts for wind energy that were announced by the Premier on 27 February 2009:
  - (a) Where are they located?
  - (b) How large are they?
  - (c) What townships are inside the precinct boundaries?
- (2)
  - (a) Has the government commissioned any studies into the wind resource within these precincts?
  - (b) If not, on what basis were these precinct areas chosen?
- (3) With regard to this designation, what community consultation has been undertaken with residents who live within these precincts?

Answer—

Questions (1) - (3)

As the Department of Planning is leading the process of establishing wind energy precincts, these questions should be referred to the Minister for Planning.

\*3167 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—PLAN-IT YOUTH PROGRAM—Dr Kaye asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Plan-It Youth Funding:

- (1) Does the current funding of the Plan-It Youth program end in July 2009?
- (2)
  - (a) Will the Minister renew the funding for a subsequent year?
  - (b) If so, how much will be provided to the program and for how long?

Answer—

(1) and (2)

A total of \$850,000 has been made available to Department of Education and Training regions each year from 2009 to 2012 to support the learning and retention needs of at risk 15 to 19 year olds within the regional context. This represents the same level of funding made available to the Plan-It Youth program in 2008.

With the funds provided, regions will have the flexibility to determine the most appropriate strategies to support 15 to 19 year old students who are most at risk of disengaging from education, training and/or employment. These may include the Plan-it Youth Program.

\*3168 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—PRIVATE SCHOOL FUNDING—Dr Kaye asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Private School Funding:

- (1) For each private or non-government school in New South Wales in 2008/2009, please provide the following information in a table format in excel or Comma Separated Value (CSV) format:
  - (a) What is the suburb of that school?
  - (b) What is the postcode of the school?
  - (c) What is the Education Resource Index funding category of that school?
  - (d)



- (i) Is the school funded as part of a system?
  - (ii) If so, which system?
  - (e) What was the total primary school student enrollment of that school?
  - (f) What was the total secondary school student enrollment of that school?
  - (g) How much was paid to that school in Per Capita Allowances in respect of primary students?
  - (h) How much was paid to that school in Per Capita Allowances in respect of secondary students?
  - (i) How much was paid to that school in Interest Subsidies?
  - (j) How much was paid to that school in Supervisor Subsidies?
  - (k) How much was paid to that school in any other form of grant?
  - (l) What was the total amount paid to the school?
  - (m) What is its commonwealth school identity number, if available, ?
- (2) If school funding data for each private or non-government school in New South Wales in 2008/2009 is not available, on which date will it become available?

Answer—

The 2008/2009 data is not yet available. It will be available in August 2009.

\*3169 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—SPEECH LANGUAGE IMPAIRMENT—Dr Kaye asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Speech Language Impairment

- (1) What steps has the Department taken to investigate Speech Language Impairment (SLI) and to determine if it should be recognised as a disability?
- (2) What are the findings of any such investigations?
- (3) Does the Minister have any plans to recognise SLI and to allow students with SLI to attract targeted funding?

Answer—

(1) to (3)

The Department of Education and Training has carefully considered the needs of students with a range of disabilities and learning difficulties in the development of its programs and services to support students, including those with speech and language impairment.

The Department's \$134 million Learning Assistance Program supports students in regular classes who are experiencing difficulties in literacy, numeracy or language, regardless of the cause. This program addresses the specific learning needs of students through direct and intensive instruction and through the professional development of teachers. The Learning Assistance program employs more than 1,378 specialist teachers who work directly with students and their teachers. Students do not need a disability confirmation to access support through this non-categorical program.

There are also 41 Support Classes (Language) across the state which provide specialist support to students with severe speech and language impairment and a disability confirmation.

In addition, the \$9 million School Learning Support Coordinator initiative has provided the equivalent of an additional 80 full time specialist teacher positions in 265 schools across the State in 2009. These specialist teachers provide direct support for students with complex additional learning needs and their teachers, including students with language difficulties.

\*3170 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—PALM AVE SCHOOL AND DELWOOD ASSESSMENT CENTRE—Dr Kaye asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Palm Avenue School and Delwood Assessment Centre:

- (1)
- (a) Has the Department initiated a review of Palm Avenue School and Dalwood Assessment Centre?
  - (b) If so,
    - (i) have terms of reference been drafted and agreed to?
    - (ii) If so, where are they available?
    - (ii) Has a panel been selected to conduct the review?
    - (ii) If so, what are the names the members on the panel?
    - (iii) What organisations do they represent?
    - (iii) When will the review be completed?
    - (iv) What is the progress on the review?

Answer—

(1) and (2)

The Department of Education and Training and NSW Health have initiated a review of the Palm Avenue School and the Dalwood Assessment Centre and preliminary work has commenced. The terms of reference are currently being finalised and a reference group is being established. The review is expected to be completed by the end of 2009.

Organisations to be included are being identified, however specific membership has not yet been finalised. Organisations likely to be represented include: Aboriginal Medical Service; NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group; NSW Health; NSW Department of Education and Training; Catholic Education Commission; Children's Hospital Education Research Institute; and The Isolated Children's Parents' Association.

\*3171 TRANSPORT—PRIVATE VEHICLE CONVEYANCE SCHEME REVIEW—Dr Kaye asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

Private Vehicle Conveyance Scheme Review:

- (1) Will the Government implement any of the recommendations of the Woods' Ministerial Review of the Private Vehicle Conveyance (PVC) Scheme?
- (2) Will the government reform the PVC scheme so that it is based on a per family payment calculated on actual kilometres travelled with a student or students in the family vehicle?
- (3) Will the Minister fulfil the undertaking of the former Minister to finalise the report in the first half of 2009 and cause any changes to become effective from the beginning of 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) – (3)

The Government is currently considering the recommendations of the Review of the Private Vehicle Conveyance Scheme and the Government's response will be announced in due course.

\*3172 WATER—HUNTER WATER ANNUAL DEMAND LEVELS—Dr Kaye asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) In relation to the annual demand for water from Hunter Water consumers in the Lower Hunter over the last 25 years,

- (a) what is the lowest annual demand?
  - (b) what is the highest annual demand?
- (2) In planning for the Tillegra Dam, what is the annual expected demand for water from Hunter Water consumers in the Lower Hunter for each of the next 50 years?

Answer—

(1) & (2) A detailed discussion of Hunter Water's demand projections is contained in the H250 report which is available on Hunter Water's website.

\*3173 WATER—WATER DEMAND PROJECTIONS FOR TILLEGRA PLANNING—Dr Kaye asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

Hunter Water Demand Projections for Tillegra Planning:

- (1) Why is the impact of the 40% reduction in household demand under Building Sustainability Index (BASIX) and other trends towards more efficient water use not accounted for in Hunter Water's projections for water use in planning for Tillegra dam?

Answer—

(1) I am advised by Hunter Water that the impact of the reduction in household demand under the Building Sustainability Index (BASIX) for new households has been included in projections for water use in planning for Tillegra dam, as described on page 44 of Hunter Water's H250 Plan.

\*3174 WATER—WATER FIX PROGRAM—Dr Kaye asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

Sydney Water's Water Fix Program:

- (1) What proportion of households in Sydney have received a retrofit from Sydney Water's Water Fix program?
- (2) What proportion of households in the Lower Hunter have received a retrofit under a similar targeted program?
- (3) Did the targeted program in the Lower Hunter end in 2007?
- (4)
  - (a) Are there any plans to retrofit households in the Lower Hunter?
  - (b) If so, when will the program have reached one in four households?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) As at 30 April 2009 the proportion of householdes in Sydney, Illawarra, and the Blue Mountains that have participated in WaterFix (including Housing NSW) is 29.1 percent.
- (2) Since 2004 water efficiency retrofits have occurred in around 20 percent of households in the Lower Hunter, under various Hunter Water collaborative demand management programs.
- (3) Yes, the Hunter Water sponsored retrofit program ended in 2007 and was replaced by the Together Today Enviro saver program of which Hunter Water is a foundation member.
- (4) (a) & (b) In 2009/10 Hunter Water will be offering "Do It Yourself" kits at selected community events to further improve upon the number of water efficiency retrofits installed in the Lower Hunter. BASIX's requirements for household renovations will also increase the number of households with retrofits in the Hunter.

\*3175 WATER—ALTERNATIVE DROUGHT SECURITY MEASURES—Dr Kaye asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

Hunter Water Alternative Drought Security Measures:

- (1) Did Hunter Water, in its pricing submission to Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART), identify alternative drought security measures to the Tillegra dam as additional bores in the

sand beds at North Stockton and Tomago and desalination and that these had a net cost of \$155 million?

- (2) Why should Hunter Water customers pay \$250 million extra for the dam when an alternative cheaper drought security measures has been identified?
- (3) Will any material on this drought security alternative be made available to the public?

Answer—

- (1) No. This is a misinterpretation of the report.
- (2) I am advised by Hunter Water that there is no comparable alternative to Tillegra that could reliably deliver drought security for \$155M.
- (3) Tillegra is part of a package of drought security measures. The costs of Tillegra versus alternate supply augmentation options are publically available in Hunter Water's H250 Plan.

\*3176 WATER—HUNTER WATER DESALINATION PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS—Dr Kaye asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) In the planning for Tillegra Dam, on what basis was it assumed to take 4 years to build a desalination plant in the Lower Hunter when the Sydney Metro plan assumed 26 months?

Answer—

- (1) Hunter Water engaged consultants GHD to undertake a review of desalination plant options. The May 2007 report recommended that Hunter Water allow 4 years for completion of a desalination plant, including pilot testing, land acquisition, planning, calling of tenders, construction and commissioning. The report was prepared after careful consideration of programs put in place for desalination across Australia.

The Metropolitan Water Plan assumes 26 months to build the Sydney desalination plant but that figure does not include the time taken for land acquisition and pre-approvals. The Sydney desalination project was announced in 2005 and is expected to be completed in the summer of 2009/10.

\*3177 WATER—DESALINATION RISK WEIGHTED COST STUDY—Dr Kaye asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

Hunter Water Desalination Risk Weighted Cost Study:

- (1)
  - (a) In the planning for Tillegra Dam, has there been a risk weighted cost study to justify the selection of 1 in 100 years as an appropriate probability for having to build a desalination plant?
  - (b) If so, would this study be made publicly available?
  - (c) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) (a) – (c) I am advised by Hunter Water that its assessment of the need to trigger the construction of a desalination plant as a drought contingency measure was based on the ability of the Corporation to gain the required approvals and implement the drought response measures, rather than on risk weighted cost.

\*3178 WATER—END-USE MODELLING FOR DEMAND FORECASTS—Dr Kaye asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

Hunter Water End-Use Modelling for Demand Forecasts:

- (1) Do water utilities in New South Wales, other than Hunter Water, use end-use modelling to forecast their water demand, via the Integrated Water Cycle Management (IWCM) model or Sydney Water's Water Services Association of Australia (WSSA) licensed Integrated Supply Demand Planning (iSDP) end-use model?
- (2) Why is Hunter Water not required to use an end-use model that would take account of changing trend in water use efficiency?
- (3)

- (a) Will Hunter Water be required to use an end-use model that would take account of changing trends in water use efficiency?
- (b) If so, when?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Under the Best Practice Management for Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines local water utilities are required to undertake comprehensive integrated water cycle management planning. This ensures that an integrated water plan is developed that considers all possible water sources, including water, sewerage and stormwater. These guidelines incorporate end use modelling and also include historical use modelling, demand management, rain water tank modelling and climate correction modelling.
- (2) Hunter Water's current modelling practices meet the requirements of the Best Practice Management for Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines for local water utilities. Hunter Water's modelling takes into consideration factors such as growth in customer connections, demand management programs and impacts of recycling schemes to determine the total supply requirements.

\*3179 WATER—INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE PLANNING IN HUNTER—Dr Kaye asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

Hunter Water Integrated Water Resource Planning:

- (1) Why has the principle of integrated water resource planning not been applied in the Lower Hunter, as is the case with all other utilities in the State?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) As is required by the Hunter Water Corporation's Operating License, the principles of integrated water resource planning have been applied in the Lower Hunter since 2002. Most recently Hunter Water's H250 Plan was developed around these principles – a copy of this report can be found on Hunter Water's website.

\*3180 WATER—HUNTER WATER RAINFALL MODELLING—Dr Kaye asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

Hunter Water Rainfall Modelling:

- (1)
  - (a) Did Hunter Water state that long-term climate change is a key reason for the need for the dam?
  - (b) Does it assume a possible 10% reduction in rainfall in their modelling?
- (2) What is the justification for using this simplistic approach to modelling possible climate impacts that gives an approximate reduction in runoff of 25%?

Answer—

- (1)
  - (a) The impact of climate change is one of the reasons cited by Hunter Water for the need for Tillegra Dam, as explained in its "Why Tillegra Now?" paper.
  - (b) A description of the modelling used by Hunter Water can be found in the SKM report 'Review of Yield Estimates' on the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal's website.
- (2) I am advised that the method used by Hunter Water was far more complex than the simplistic interpretation that a ten per cent reduction would lead to a reduction in runoff of twenty five per cent. A description of the modelling used by Hunter Water can be found in the SKM report 'Review of Yield Estimates' on the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal's website.

\*3181 WATER—GREENHOUSE EMISSIONS ASSESSMENT—Dr Kaye asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

Tillegra Greenhouse Emissions Assessment:

- (1) What assessment has been done on greenhouse emissions from the proposed Tillegra Dam?
- (2) When will any of such assessment be made available?

Answer—

- (1) An assessment has been undertaken as part of the Environmental Assessment Report for the proposed project.
- (2) The Environmental Assessment Report will be publicly exhibited to provide the community with an opportunity to comment on the proposal.

\*3182 WATER—TILLEGRA DAM COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS—Dr Kaye asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

Tillegra Dam Cost Benefit Analysis:

- (1) Has there been a full cost-benefit analysis done looking at the full range of negative externalities of Tillegra Dam?
- (2)
  - (a) Will any such assessment be made publicly available?
  - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) The Environmental Assessment Report for Tillegra Dam includes a socio-economic analysis using a cost effectiveness approach consistent with NSW Treasury guidelines, and a Regional Economic Impact Analysis.
- (2) (a) & (b) The Environmental Assessment Report and associated reports will be publicly exhibited to provide the community with an opportunity to comment on the proposal.

\*3183 WATER—TILLEGRA JUSTIFICATION ASSESSMENT—Dr Kaye asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

Tillegra Justification Assessment:

- (1) Why was Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) prevented by the Government from investigating or reporting on whether the Tillegra Dam decision is justified?
- (2) Will the Government reverse its directive and allow the regulator to assess whether the Tillegra decision is justified on water supply planning grounds?

Answer—

- (1) & (2) Tillegra Dam is necessary to secure the water supply of the lower Hunter region for at least the next 50 years. The dam will allow for an expected population growth of 160,000 people and meet the challenges of an increasingly variable climate. IPART, as part of its price determination process, commissioned Sinclair Knight Merz (SKM) to independently review Hunter Water's yield estimates. SKM found that the estimates were 'reasonable and robust'.

\*3184 WATER—WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR LOWER HUNTER—Dr Kaye asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

Water Conservation Measures for the Lower Hunter:

- (1) When will water conservation measures such as long-term water savings rules, mandatory water savings action plans for heavy users and washing machine rebates for residents be put in place for residents in the Lower Hunter?
- (2) Why are these measures available to residents in Sydney but not the Lower Hunter?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) & (2) I refer the Member to the answer to Question on Notice 6217 in the Legislative Assembly.

\*3185 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT—ILLAWARRA ADVANTAGE FUND—Mr Pearce asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

In relation to the Minister's statement on Tuesday, 2 June, 2009 (Hansard 2/6/2009) that: "The Illawarra Advantage Fund to date supporting 120 projects, representing around \$218 million in business investment and the creation and retention of 2,858 jobs "; for each grant awarded by the fund:

- (1) Who were the recipients?
- (2) What was the amount?
- (3) What was the project or purpose?
- (4)
  - (a) What was the number of jobs created?
  - (b) What was the number of jobs retained?

Answer—

The Illawarra Advantage Fund provides financial assistance to eligible businesses looking to establish or expand in the Illawarra region. Assistance is geared to securing growth or investment that is unlikely to occur without some up-front assistance to overcome constraints to the project proceeding.

A business' eligibility for any financial assistance is determined on a case-by-case basis taking into account the level of capital investment and the number of jobs to be created by an individual project. Information on financial assistance provided by the Department for business investment projects is commercial-in-confidence.

Press releases which provide more general information about business projects assisted by the Department can be accessed on the Department's website at [www.business.nsw.gov.au](http://www.business.nsw.gov.au).

\*3186 STATE DEVELOPMENT—MOTOR RALLIES—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—

Motor rallies in northern New South Wales:

- (1) Will legislation be introduced to facilitate the staging of motor rallies in northern New South Wales?
  - (a) If so, when?
  - (b) Will this legislation obviate the need for rally organisers to apply the relevant local council for development approval?
  - (c) Who will be the consent authority?
    - (i) Minister for State Development ?
    - (ii) Minister for Planning?
- (2) What is the quantum of grants and subsidies and other public moneys that the Government expects it will allocate annually to assist the staging of these rallies?
- (3)
  - (a) Did the spokesperson for Rally Australia, Chris Nixon, or any other person, ask the Minister and/or the Premier or their representatives for assurances that the government would take steps to ensure the rally events would proceed, despite opposition from local residents and councils?
  - (b) If so, when were those requests made?
  - (c) What was the government's response?

Answer—

- (1) I refer the Member to the Motor Racing (World Rally Championship) Bill 2009 which was introduced into Parliament in June 2009 to facilitate the staging of the World Rally Championship.

- (2) Events NSW have invested in the World Rally Championship to boost tourism and increase jobs in regional New South Wales. The economic, marketing and community benefits have been rigorously assessed. Over the life of the agreement, as much as \$100 million of direct economic benefit will be generated for the State. As the World Rally Championship is the highest profile motorsport championship after Formula One, with each round watched by more than 51 million people, Repco Rally Australia will provide an opportunity to showcase Northern New South Wales to a global television audience. Events NSW's investment is commercial-in-confidence. It is not new money, but comes from Events NSW's existing budget to drive economic, strategic and community benefits for our state. The NSW Government will be supporting the Repco Rally with in-kind assistance from government agencies such as the NSW Police Force and the Roads and Traffic Authority. The scope of these services is currently being discussed with the event organiser.
- (3) As outlined above, the NSW Government supports the Repco Rally Australia for the benefits it will bring to the state of New South Wales and has introduced legislation accordingly.

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\*3187 HEALTH—TAMWORTH HEALTH SERVICES PLAN—Mr Khan asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

With regard to the Tamworth Health Services Plan 2008-2012, there is reference to a redeveloped Tamworth Hospital fulfilling the role of a major Rural Referral Hospital with a range of Level 5 Services.

- (1) What are the different levels of services that a hospital can provide?
- (2) What are the definitions for all Levels?
- (3)
  - (a) Is this information available publicly?
  - (b) If so, where is it available?
- (4) What does Level 5 Services at Tamworth Hospital entail?
- (5) How would a Level 5 Services differ from what Tamworth Hospital is currently providing?
- (6) With regard to maternity services, the document further states that services are to be increased from Level 4 to Level 5 services. What does this entail?

Answer—

I am advised:

Tamworth Hospital is already a Rural Referral Hospital and the majority of clinical services are already Level Five services.

Role delineation is a process which determines what support services, staff profile, minimum safety standards and other requirements are required by clinical services to be appropriately supported and provided safely. The role level of a service describes the complexity of clinical activity undertaken by that service, and is chiefly determined by the presence of medical, nursing and other health care personnel who hold qualifications compatible with the defined level of care.

The Tamworth Health Services Plan (2008 – 2012) was developed after extensive community and staff consultation. The Plan identifies the characteristics of the future population of Tamworth Health Services' catchment area and their future health service needs.

The Plan proposes models of health care for the future, consistent with NSW Health policies and Hunter New England Health strategic directions. The strategies proposed complement health delivery initiatives already in place in line with current and emerging trends in health care. Expanding services in the future



would necessarily require additional resources at that time, which would need to be considered alongside other competing state-wide service priorities and funding availability.

\*3188 FINANCE—POWER PRIVATISATION TRIP—Dr Kaye asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

- (1) During the Minister's recent overseas trip to promote the government's Energy Reform Strategy,
  - (a) what cities were visited?
  - (b) what organisations did the Minister meet?

Answer—

I'm advised that

An International Market Testing Update is available on the Government's energy reform website. The update states that: "the team met with firms in South East Asia, China, Japan, Korea, Middle East, Europe, United Kingdom, Canada, and the United States. Over 16 business days the Government team visited 11 countries and held 30 meetings with potential investors during the period 14 April to 7 May 2009".

The Government met with companies on a confidential basis.

Disclosing details of the cities visited would allow an informed commentator to determine the companies that the Government met with. As noted in the update, disclosing the organisations interested in the reform process could affect their ongoing participation in the process and consequently taxpayer value.

\*3189 WATER—FARMERS CREEK DAM COAL WATER—Dr Kaye asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) What advice has State Water given to Oberon and Lithgow Councils regarding supply from the Fish River System from January 1 to May 31 2009?
- (2) Is the Farmers Creek Dam being supplied by water transferred from the Clarence Coal Mine?
- (3) To what standard is water from the Farmers Creek Dam treated at the Lithgow water treatment plant?
- (4) What quality assurance is conducted on that water to ensure that it meets the standard?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) State Water regularly communicates with the Fish River Customer Council (FRCC). Oberon and Lithgow Councils are represented on the FRCC along with other major consumers, Sydney Catchment Authority and Delta Electricity. The FRCC meets every six weeks to discuss drought management in addition to quarterly FRCC meetings.
- (2) Lithgow City Council's Farmers Creek Dam is supplemented with water transferred from the Clarence Colliery when Council assesses that there may be a need for additional water. Water was last transferred from the Clarence Colliery in February 2009.
- (3) & (4) Water from Farmers Creek Dam is treated at Lithgow City Council's Oakey Park water treatment plant to comply with Australian Drinking Water Guidelines. Regular water quality monitoring at the treatment plant and in various parts of the reticulation is undertaken by the Council to ensure the treated water meets the Guidelines. Water samples are also forwarded to NSW Health for testing as part of NSW Health's water quality monitoring program.

\*3190 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—MODULAR DESIGN CLASSROOMS—Dr Kaye asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1)

- (a) At what public schools in New South Wales are modular design classrooms currently in use?  
(b) For each school currently using modular design classrooms, how many are currently in use?

Answer—

(1) (a) and (b)

Modular Design Range permanent pre-fabricated classrooms are in use at the following schools (with the number of Modular Design Range buildings in use at each school indicated):

Please note that each Modular Design Range building contains two classrooms.

Albion Park Public School – 3  
Albury Tutorial Centre – 2  
Anna Bay Public School – 2  
Artarmon Public School – 1  
Auburn Public School – 2  
Auburn West Public School – 2  
Balgowlah Heights Public School – 1  
Balgowlah North Public School – 1  
Bangalow Public School – 1  
Bankstown North Public School – 1  
Bankstown Public School – 1  
Batemans Bay Public School – 1  
Beauty Point Public School – 2  
Beelbangerá Public School – 2  
Berkeley Vale Public School – 1  
Beverly Hills North Public School – 1  
Beverly Hills Public School – 1  
Bexley North Public School – 1  
Biddabah Public School – 1  
Blacktown South Public School – 1  
Bletchington Public School – 1  
Bligh Park Public School – 1  
Bogangar Public School – 1  
Bonnyrigg Heights Public School – 2  
Brighton-Le-Sands Public School – 3  
Bungendore Public School – 1  
Burwood Public School – 1  
Byron Bay Public School – 1  
Cabramatta Public School – 2  
Cabramatta West Public School – 1  
Caddies Creek Public School – 1  
Cambewarra Public School – 1  
Canley Heights Public School – 1  
Canley Vale Public School – 2  
Carlingford West Public School – 1

Carlton Public School – 1  
Casino Public School – 1  
Casula Public School – 1  
Cecil Hills High School – 1  
Cecil Hills Public School – 1  
Centaur Public School – 1  
Cherrybrook Public School – 1  
Chester Hill Public School – 1  
Chittaway Bay Public School – 1  
Claremont Meadows Public School – 2  
Cook School – 2  
Crawford Public School – 1  
Crystal Creek Public School – 1  
Curl Curl North Public School – 1  
Currans Hill Public School – 1  
Dalmeny Public School – 1  
Douglas Park Public School – 1  
Dubbo West Public School – 1  
Dundas Public School – 2  
East Hills Girls High School – 1  
Epping West Public School – 1  
Ettalong Public School – 1  
Fairfield Heights Public School – 1  
Fairfield Public School – 1  
Fairvale Public School – 1  
Floraville Public School – 1  
Georges Hall Public School – 1  
Girraween Public School – 1  
Glendenning Public School – 1  
Glendore Public School – 2  
Glenmore Park Public School – 1  
Gordon West Public School – 1  
Governor Philip King Public School – 1  
Granville East Public School – 1  
Green Valley Public School – 1  
Greenacre Public School – 2  
Greenway Park Public School – 1  
Griffith East Public School – 1  
Griffith North Public School – 1  
Gwandalan Public School – 1  
GyMEA Bay Public School – 1  
Hambledon Public School – 1  
Hampden Park Public School – 2  
Harcourt Public School – 1

Harrington Park Public School – 2  
Harrington Street Public School – 1  
Hassall Grove Public School – 2  
Hebersham Public School – 1  
Hinchinbrook Public School – 1  
Hobartville Public School – 1  
Homebush West Public School – 1  
Hornsby North Public School – 1  
Hoxton Park Public School – 1  
James Erskine Public School – 1  
Jasper Road Public School – 1  
Jerrabomberra Public School – 4  
Jewells Public School – 1  
Jilliby Public School – 1  
Kings Langley Public School – 1  
Kingsgrove Public School – 2  
Kurri Kurri Public School – 1  
Lake Illawarra South Public School – 1  
Lansvale Public School – 2  
Laurieton Public School – 1  
Macquarie Fields Public School – 1  
Maitland East Public School – 2  
Marsden Road Public School – 1  
Matthew Pearce Public School – 1  
McCallums Hill Public School – 1  
Merrylands East Public School – 1  
Metford Public School – 1  
Minchinbury Public School – 1  
Minto Public School – 1  
Moree Public School – 1  
Mount Annan Public School – 1  
Mowbray Public School – 1  
Murray Farm Public School – 1  
Narellan Vale Public School – 2  
Narranga Public School – 2  
Narraweena Public School – 1  
Newington Public School – 1  
Newport Public School – 1  
North Gosford Learning Centre – 2  
North Haven Public School – 1  
Northlakes Public School – 1  
Nowra East Public School – 1  
Nulkaba Public School – 2  
Oak Flats Public School – 1

Oakville Public School – 1  
Orana Heights Public School – 2  
Orange East Public School – 1  
Pambula Public School – 1  
Parklea Public School – 1  
Peats Ridge Public School – 1  
Penrith Valley Learning Centre – 2  
Picton Public School – 2  
Plumpton Public School – 1  
Pottsville Beach Public School – 1  
Prairievale Public School – 1  
Pretty Beach Public School – 2  
Punchbowl Public School – 1  
Quakers Hill East Public School – 1  
Quakers Hill Public School – 1  
Ramsgate Public School – 1  
Regentville Public School – 1  
Rosemeadow Public School – 1  
Roseville Public School – 1  
Rouse Hill Public School – 1  
Rutherford Public School – 2  
Shelley Public School – 1  
Sherwood Ridge Public School – 1  
Shoalhaven Heads Public School – 1  
Singleton Heights Public School – 1  
St Johns Park Public School – 1  
Strathfield North Public School – 1  
Strathfield South Public School – 1  
Sunshine Bay Public School – 1  
Surveyors Creek Public School – 1  
Tacking Point Public School – 1  
Tanilba Bay Public School – 1  
Tea Gardens Public School – 1  
Terranora Public School – 1  
The Entrance Public School – 1  
The Junction Public School – 1  
Thirlmere Public School – 1  
Thornton Public School – 2  
Tomaree Public School – 2  
Toormina Public School – 1  
Toukley Public School – 2  
Truscott Street Public School – 1  
Tuggerawong Public School – 2  
Tuncurry Public School – 2

Vincentia Public School – 1  
 Waitara Public School – 1  
 Wallsend South Public School – 2  
 Waniora Public School – 2  
 Wauchope Public School – 1  
 Westmead Public School – 1  
 Wheeler Heights Public School – 1  
 Wiley Park Public School – 1  
 Wirreanda Public School – 4  
 Woonona East Public School – 1  
 Woy Woy Public School – 1  
 Yowie Bay Public School – 1

\*3191 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—TRANBY ABORIGINAL COLLEGE FUNDING—Dr Kaye asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Tranby Aboriginal College Funding

- (1) For each of the last ten years, what has been the total amount of funding provided by the NSW Government to Tranby Aboriginal College?
- (2) What is the current funding provided by the NSW Government to Tranby Aboriginal College in the following categories:
  - (a) Recurrent funding?
  - (b) Any other funding?

Answer—

- (1) Funding provided by the NSW Department of Education and Training is as follows:

Year	Amount
1999	\$68,700
2000	\$184,347
2001	\$267,368
2002	\$349,089
2003	\$76,453
2004	\$543,477
2005	\$788,174
2006	\$471,465
2007	\$698,719
2008	\$591,141

(2)

- (a) - (b) The Department of Education and Training does not provide recurrent funding to Tranby Aboriginal College. Funding for training delivery is outlined in the answer to Question 1.

\*3192 FINANCE—EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST IN ELECTRICITY ASSETS—Dr Kaye asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

- (1) What organisations or companies have expressed interest in tendering for development sites as part of the government's Energy Reform Strategy?
- (2) What organisations or companies have expressed interest in tendering for the generation trading rights to the state's power generators as outlined under the government's Energy Reform Strategy?

- (3) What organisations or companies have expressed interest in tendering for retail electricity services being sold as part of the government's Energy Reform Strategy?

Answer—

I'm advised that:

Expressions of Interest have not yet been called.

As announced in the Government's International Market Testing Update on 12 May 2009, "the Government will call for formal Expressions of Interest in July/August this year".

- \*3193 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—NEWTOWN PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL—Dr Kaye asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Newtown Performing Arts High School Catchment

- (1) Are there any proposals to change the catchment boundaries of Newtown Performing Arts High School?
- (2)
- (a) Are there any proposals to increase secondary education facilities in the Inner West?
- (b) If so, what?
- (3) Are there any departmental projections of future demand for secondary education services in the Inner West coming years?

Answer—

- (1) Not at this time.
- (2)
- (a) Not at this time.
- (b) Not applicable.
- (3) There are projections which are updated annually and are utilised for service planning.

- \*3194 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—REDFERN ABORIGINAL DANCE THEATRE FUNDING—Dr Kaye asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) For each of the last ten years, what has been the total amount of funding provided by the NSW Government to the Aboriginal Dance Theatre at Redfern?
- (2) What is the current funding provided by the NSW Government to the Aboriginal Dance Theatre in the following categories:
- (a) Recurrent funding?
- (b) Any other funding?

Answer—

- (1) Funding provided by the Department of Education and Training is as follows:

Year	Amount
1999	\$0
2000	\$28,133
2001	\$59,857
2002	\$65,212
2003	\$67,201
2004	\$33,707
2005	\$88,744
2006	\$101,768

2007	\$88,575
2008	\$175,618

(2)

- (a) The Department does not provide recurrent funding.
- (b) Funding for training delivery is outlined in the answer to Question 1.

\*3195 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—NAISDA DANCE COLLEGE FUNDING—Dr Kaye asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) For each of the last ten years, what has been the total amount of funding provided by the NSW Government to National Aboriginal Islander Skills Development Association (NAISDA) Dance College?
- (2) What is the current funding provided by the NSW Government to NAISDA Dance College in the following categories:
  - (a) Recurrent funding?
  - (b) Any other funding?

Answer—

- (1) Funding provided by the NSW Department of Education and Training is as follows:

Year	Amount
1999	Nil
2000	\$42,000
2001	\$85,825
2002	\$89,513
2003	\$92,671
2004	\$46,983
2005	\$108,931
2006	\$54,323
2007	\$82,586
2008	\$50,636

- (2) (a)&(b) The Department of Education and Training does not provide recurrent funding. Funding for training delivery is outlined in the answer to Question 1.

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\*3196 FINANCE—CONTRACTORS ON COMPUTER LICENSING PROGRAM—Ms Ficarra asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

(1)

- (a) Is WorkCover developing a Licensing Computer program to alter its current licensing computer program?
- (b) If so, why is this required when the NSW Government already has a centralised licensing system?

(2)

- (a) Is WorkCover using contractors to perform the work on the licensing program?
  - (i) If so, is this contrary to the State Government's Staffing freeze policy?
  - (ii) If not, why not?
- (b) How many contractors have been used on the Licensing program for the following periods:
  - (i) June 2008?



- (ii) July 2008?
  - (iii) August 2008?
  - (iv) September 2008?
  - (v) October 2008?
  - (vi) November 2008?
  - (vii) December 2008?
  - (viii) January 2009?
  - (ix) February 2009?
  - (x) March 2009?
  - (xi) April 2009?
  - (xii) May 2009?
  - (xiii) June 2009
- (3) How much money has been expended on contractors working on the Licensing Program for the following periods:
- (a) June 2008?
  - (b) July 2008?
  - (c) August 2008?
  - (d) September 2008?
  - (e) October 2008?
  - (f) November 2008?
  - (g) December 2008?
  - (h) January 2009?
  - (i) February 2009?
  - (j) March 2009?
  - (k) April 2009?
  - (l) May 2009?
  - (m) June 2009?

Answer—

The provision of licensing services to the people of New South Wales is recognised as a front line service.

I'm advised WorkCover conducted a review of the Government Licensing System in 2005 and again in 2007, and determined the Government Licensing System solution would not align with the legislative framework required for WorkCover licenses.

WorkCover is currently upgrading its existing licensing system to enable better workflow and compliance to align with government objectives of more efficient client services and cutting red tape and duplication.

\*3197 FINANCE—EXTERNAL LAWYERS USED—Ms Ficarra asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

In relation to the call for expressions of interest (EOI) referred in the answer to Question on Notice 3069:

- (1)
  - (a) Where was the EOI advertised?
  - (b) When was it advertised?
  - (c) How many EOI were received?
  - (d) What firms were successfully selected?
- (2) Did the EOI call for people to express interest in particular areas of law?
- (3) Did Mr Gerrard Phillips, Middletons and Carroll & O'Dea tender specifically for WorkCover's disciplinary and industrial relations matters?

- (4) Did any other Law Firm or Lawyer, tender specifically for WorkCover's disciplinary and/or Industrial Relations matters?
- (5) Why does WorkCover only use Mr Gerrard Phillips of Middletons and Carroll & O'Dea Lawyers as Solicitors for disciplinary and industrial relations matters when most other Departments and Agencies have more than two external legal providers for such matters?
- (6) What is the total amount of funds on industrial and disciplinary matters paid to the following law firms since the Expression of Interest in 2007:
  - (a) Mr Gerrard Phillips and/or Middeltons ?
  - (b) Carroll & O'Dea Lawyers?
  - (a) Have steps been taken to ensure that the expenditure in the cases of Public Service Association v. WorkCover and Public Service Association on behalf of Mr A v. WorkCover is not excessive?
  - (b) Will costs met by tax-payers to the lawyers involved in these cases be reviewed?
- (7) What has been done to address the Conflict of Interest of the Chief Executive Officer, Mr Jon Blackwell in these two cases?

Answer—

WorkCover advertised for Expressions of Interest for particular areas of law in December 2006 and January 2007. Of the 38 Expressions of Interest received, 16 firms were successful.

WorkCover is satisfied with the quality of service provided by Middletons and Carroll & O'Dea solicitors for disciplinary and industrial matters.

All expenditure is subject to review to ensure economy. In the cases of Public Service Association v WorkCover and Public Service Association on behalf of Mr A v WorkCover, I'm advised there is no conflict of interest as Mr Blackwell is neither the subject of these cases nor a witness.

\*3198 FINANCE—WORKCOVER SCHEME AGENTS PAYMENTS—Ms Ficarra asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

I refer to Question on Notice 3067 asked in the Legislative Council

- (1) Which Scheme Agents, appointed by WorkCover NSW as its agents, have used the services of Mrs Annette Blackwell (nee Williams) and/or AW WorkWise?
- (2) What is the total amount of money expended by WorkCover Scheme Agents to Mrs Annette Blackwell (nee Williams) and/or AW WorkWise for the following periods:
  - (a) 2003/2004?
  - (b) 2004/2005?
  - (c) 2005/2006?
  - (d) 2006/2007?
  - (e) 2007/2008?
  - (f) 2008 to present?
  - (a) Did Mr Jon Blackwell, the Chief Executive Officer of WorkCover recently announce to WorkCover staff that he has declared a Conflict of Interest and will be excluding himself from the determination of tenders by Insurance Companies to become WorkCover Scheme Agents?
  - (b) If so,
    - (i) Who will now determine tenders for WorkCover's Scheme Agent contracts?
    - (ii) When will this take place?
- (3) In view of the conflict of interest involving Mr Blackwell, his wife and insurance companies and Scheme Agents since he first declared his relationship with the then Annette Williams and AW WorkWise in 2004, why has Mr Blackwell not previously excluded himself from determining tenders for WorkCover Scheme Agent contracts?

- (4) Can the Minister assure the House that at no time, has the Chief Executive Officer of WorkCover, Jon Blackwell, asked WorkCover Scheme Agents or those tendering for Scheme Agent contracts to use his wife, Mrs Annette Blackwell (nee Williams) or her firm, AW Workwise's services?
- (5)
- (a) Has WorkCover, in an effort to get back confidence in the tendering process, written to all insurance companies advising that in view of Mr Blackwell's conflict of interest he has been excluded from determining tenders for Scheme Agent Contracts?
  - (b) If not, why not?
- (6)
- (a) Will Mr Blackwell's failure to exclude himself from determining matters in the past in which might have benefited his wife and/or her company financially be properly and independently investigated?
  - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

As advised in my response to QON 3067, engagement of AW Workwise and/or Ms Annette Blackwell by Scheme agents are commercial arrangements between Scheme agents and the relevant provider.

Mr Blackwell has advised me that he has never pursued contracts for or on behalf of his wife or her firm.

In relation to the tendering process, the appointment of Scheme Agents by the Nominal Insurer will be determined by Ms Sue Clark, a part time Director of the WorkCover Board. I'm advised Ms Clark has no conflict of interest in relation to the Scheme Agent contracts. Ms Clark has many years experience in the insurance industry and is therefore eminently qualified to under take this role.

\*3199 LOCAL GOVERNMENT—ADMINISTRATION OF PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS COUNCIL—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs representing the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the concerns held by staff of Port Macquarie-Hastings Council and residents that a number of hand picked public servants have been parachuted into rolls in the Council while local staff have been made redundant?
- (2) If a position has been made redundant, how can the Administrator now appoint a former state public servant to the redundant position?
- (3)
  - (a) Was the selection of the staff at Port Macquarie-Hastings Council based on Merit Selection principles?
  - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

I provide the following details in response to your questions:

- (1) The Department of Local Government has advised me that enquiries were made with Council's General Manager, who stated that he is not aware of any former public servants being appointed to staff positions with the Council. The council has merit-based selection criteria for recruitment in accordance with the Local Government Act.
- (2) Neither the Minister nor the Administrator can appoint council staff. Section 335 of the Local Government Act provides that a council's General Manager is responsible for the appointment of staff.
- (3) See (1).

\*3200 TRANSPORT—CROSS BORDER TRANSPORT TASKFORCE—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1)
  - (a) Did all submissions to the Taskforce generally endorse improving transport connectivity to south-east Queensland?
  - (b) Was there broad support in the submissions for identifying a corridor and an interchange location to connect rail services to Queensland"?
  - (c) Did the Government close the only rail service to this region in 2004?
- (2) What has been done to effect the wishes of those who made submissions to the Taskforce?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) – (2) The final report of the Cross Border Transport Taskforce examining links between NSW and Queensland was released on 27 April, 2009. The report has been endorsed by the Queensland Transport Minister and is available on the NSW Ministry of Transport website (at [www.transport.nsw.gov.au](http://www.transport.nsw.gov.au)).

While the Taskforce recognised that a number of public submissions advocated the restoration of the Casino to Murwillumbah train service, the Report concluded that the residents' greatest need is for intra-regional connectivity and local transport, and that the re-commencement of rail passenger services on the Casino to Murwillumbah line is not warranted.

The Report also concluded that, in the absence of significant population growth, the most flexible, responsive and sustainable mode for delivery of the required public transport services for the low to medium population density typical of the region is by bus.

\*3201 ATTORNEY GENERAL—DEMERIT POINTS—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—

- (1) What is the situation with motorists who have no conviction recorded against them pursuant to section 10 of the Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act 1999 with regard to their demerit points?
- (2)
  - (a) Can demerit points in relation to these offences be invalidated when section 10 of the Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act 1999 is used?
  - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

The loss of demerit points and the associated legislation fall within the jurisdiction of the Minister for Roads.

\*3202 ROADS—DEMERIT POINTS—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Roads—

- (1) What is the situation with motorists who have no conviction recorded against them pursuant to section 10 of the Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act 1999 with regard to their demerit points?
- (2)
  - (a) Can demerit points in relation to these offences be invalidated when section 10 of the Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act 1999 is used?
  - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) When hearing a matter, a court determines whether a person is guilty or not guilty of an offence. Where a person is found not guilty, no court imposed penalty or demerit points are applied.
- (2) (a) and (b) I am advised that at this time the Government has no intention of introducing judicial discretion to the application of demerit points. To do so would be a departure from the nationally agreed position.

\*3203 JUVENILE JUSTICE—KEELONG JUVENILE DETENTION CENTRE—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State representing the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering, Minister for Youth, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

In relation to the closure of Keelong Juvenile Detention Centre:

- (1)
  - (a) Did the Director General or any of his officers meet any executive member, organiser or member of the Public Service Association (PSA) to discuss the closure of Keelong Juvenile Justice Centre?
  - (b) If so, who?
- (2)
  - (a) Did the Director General or any of his officers reach mutual agreement with any Executive member, organiser or member of the PSA to close Keelong Juvenile Justice Centre?
  - (b) If so, who?

Answer—

I am advised by the Department of Juvenile Justice that in relation to the closure of Keelong Juvenile Justice Centre:

- (1)
  - (a) The Director General did meet with the Public Service Association (PSA).
  - (b) The PSA members in attendance were: Steve Turner – Assistant General Secretary, Julie Bond – Industrial Officer, Mark McFadden – Delegate, Andy Huk – Delegate and Belinda Sugden – Delegate.
- (2)
  - (a) No.
  - (b) Not applicable as no agreement was reached.

\*3204 JUVENILE JUSTICE—SEXUAL ASSAULTS IN PRISONS—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State representing the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering, Minister for Youth, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

In relation to sexual assaults and rapes in New South Wales Prisons:

- (1) Has there been an increase in the rate of sexual assaults in the prison system due to the growing population and younger prisoners being transferred from juvenile detention centres to adult prisons?
- (2) How many reports of sexual assault/rape in New South Wales Prisons have been made in the following periods:
  - (a) 2004/05?
  - (b) 2005/06?
  - (c) 2006/07?
  - (d) 2007/08?
  - (e) 2008 present?
- (3) How many prisoners in New South Wales Prisons have been charged for committing sexual assault/rape on fellow prisoners during the following periods:
  - (a) 2004/05?

- (b) 2005/06?
- (c) 2006/07?
- (d) 2007/08?
- (e) 2008 present?

(4) What support for victims of sexual assault or rape is provided?

Answer—

The Department of Juvenile Justice advises that as this question relates to New South Wales Prisons, it needs to be answered by Minister for Corrective Services.

\*3205 CORRECTIVE SERVICES—SEXUAL ASSAULTS IN JUVENILE JUSTICE FACILITIES—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

In relation to sexual assaults and rapes in New South Wales Juvenile Justice facilities:

- (1) Following the incident at Kurrajong Juvenile Detention Centre where a violent offender allegedly raped a 16-year-old boy as a result of overcrowding following the closure of Keelong Juvenile Detention Centre, what action has been taken to ensure the safety of inmates?
- (2) How many reports of sexual assault/rape in New South Wales Juvenile Justice Centres have been made in the following periods:
  - (a) 2004/05?
  - (b) 2005/06?
  - (c) 2006/07?
  - (d) 2007/08?
  - (e) 2008 present?
- (3) How many prisoners in New South Wales Juvenile Justice Centres have been charged for committing sexual assault/rape on fellow prisoners during the following periods:
  - (a) 2004/05?
  - (b) 2005/06?
  - (c) 2006/07?
  - (d) 2007/08?
  - (e) 2008 present?
- (4) What support for victims of sexual assault or rape is provided?

Answer—

This question should be directed to the Minister for Juvenile Justice.

\*3206 JUVENILE JUSTICE—MOBILE PHONES IN JUVENILE DETENTION CENTRES—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State representing the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering, Minister for Youth, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

In relation to mobile telephones in Juvenile Detention Centres:

- (1) For the following periods:
  - (a) 2003/04.
  - (b) 2004/05.
  - (c) 2005/06.
  - (d) 2006/07.
  - (e) 2007/08.
  - (f) 2008 to present.
    - (i) How many inmates have been found with illegally possessing mobile telephones?
    - (ii) How many inmates have been charged for the illegal possession of mobile telephones or associated charges?

- (iii) How many inmates have been convicted for the illegal possession of mobile telephones or associated charges?

Answer—

The Department of Juvenile Justice's records indicate that, from 2003 to the present, no detainees have been found with, charged or convicted of possessing a mobile telephone.

\*3207 CORRECTIVE SERVICES—MOBILE PHONES IN PRISONS—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

In relation to mobile telephones in New South Wales Prisons:

(1) For the following periods:

- (a) 2003/04.
- (b) 2004/05.
- (c) 2005/06.
- (d) 2006/07.
- (e) 2007/08.
- (f) 2008 to present.
  - (i) How many inmates have been found with illegally possessing mobile telephones?
  - (ii) How many inmates have been charged for the illegal possession of mobile telephones or associated charges?
  - (iii) How many inmates have been convicted for the illegal possession of mobile telephones or associated charges?

Answer—

I am advised that this question cannot be answered without further clarification by the Honourable Member as to the precise nature of the charges she is referring to (i.e., whether they are heard by Courts or Visiting Magistrates).

\*3208 CORRECTIVE SERVICES—DRUG POSSESSION IN PRISONS—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

In relation to drug possession and dealing in New South Wales Prisons:

(1) For each of the following periods:

- (a) 2003/04;
- (b) 2004/05;
- (c) 2005/06;
- (d) 2006/07;
- (e) 2007/08;
- (f) 2008 to present;
  - (i) How many inmates have been charged with possession of illegal drugs?
  - (ii) How many inmates have been convicted of possession of drugs?
  - (iii) How many inmates have been charged with dealing and/or trafficking drugs in New South Wales Prisons?
  - (iv) How many inmates have been convicted of dealing and/or trafficking drugs in New South Wales Prisons?

(2) What is being done to address the use of and dealing/trafficking of illegal drugs in New South Wales Prisons?

Answer—

I refer the Honourable Member to my answer to a Question Without Notice in the Legislative Council on 3 March 2009.

\*3209 JUVENILE JUSTICE—DRUG POSSESSION IN JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTRES—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State representing the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering, Minister for Youth, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

In relation to drug possession and dealing in Juvenile Justice Centres:

- (1) For each of the following periods:
  - (a) 2003/04;
  - (b) 2004/05;
  - (c) 2005/06;
  - (d) 2006/07;
  - (e) 2007/08;
  - (f) 2008 to present;
    - (i) How many inmates have been charged with possession of illegal drugs?
    - (ii) How many inmates have been convicted of possession of drugs?
    - (iii) How many inmates have been charged with dealing and/or trafficking drugs?
    - (iv) How many inmates have been convicted of dealing and/or trafficking drugs?
- (2) What is being done to address the use of and dealing/trafficking of illegal drugs in Juvenile Justice Centres?

Answer—

(1) - (4) The department does not maintain statistics on charges or convictions. All incidents of illegal drugs that can be connected to a detainee are referred to the NSW Police for their follow up and action.

(5) The Department of Juvenile Justice has initiated a number of strong anti drug and contraband measures to reduce the likelihood of contraband entering its centres.

The department's Security and Intelligence Unit gather, analyse and disseminate intelligence to centre management on detainee drug trafficking into juvenile justice centres and any information that may relate to staff safety and centre security.

Targeted and random urinalysis testing of detainees is carried out in centres on a regular basis. Detainees suspected of being under the influence of a drug or involved in a significant incident are targeted for urinalysis testing.

Detainees who refuse to give urine samples have sanctions imposed on them, as if they had returned a positive sample. Detainees returning a positive result are referred to Drug and Alcohol Counselling and withdrawn from centre activities until a thorough risk assessment is completed.

Every telephone call made by detainees (with the exception of calls to the Ombudsman, legal representatives, medical staff, Official Visitors and Chaplains), is recorded on the department's controlled telephone system and can be monitored by the department if information suggests that a detainee is obtaining contraband.

The department regularly employs the services of the Department of Corrective Services Drug Dog Unit to undertake spot checks of detainees and visitors, on a random and targeted basis, at all juvenile justice centres.

All juvenile justice centres have Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Counsellors who provide treatment services to young people, both while they are in custody and in the community. As well, the Department has a raft of specialist AOD programs to address the needs of young offenders with alcohol and other drug -related problems.



The specialist Alcohol and Other Drug programs provide young offenders with strategies and assistance to reduce harm associated with alcohol and other drug use.

The Department has also developed an Alcohol and Other Drug program targeted at Aboriginal young people. Dthina Yuwali, designed to be used within both community and custodial environments, is a three staged approach focusing on the relationship between substance abuse and offending.

\*3210 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—MILK MARKETING (NSW) PTY LTD—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—

In relation to Milk Marketing (New South Wales) Pty Ltd:

- (1) Does Milk Marketing (NSW) Pty Ltd still exist?
  - (a) If so,
    - (i) what is its functions?
    - (ii) who are its Directors?
    - (iii) how many people are employed by the company?
    - (iv) what activities has it undertaken in the last year?
    - (v) how is it funded?
    - (vi) what is its total amount of cash held?
    - (vii) what is the total amount of assets held?
- (2) During the Chairman of Milk Marketing (NSW) Pty Ltd's travels to destinations outlined hereunder, what activities were undertaken on behalf of the Milk Marketing (NSW) Pty Ltd during the respective trips:
  - (a) 23 Jun 2008 - 15 Jul 2008 UK?
  - (b) 22 Sep 2007 - 6 Oct 2007 UK and Ireland?
  - (c) 10 May 2006 - 21 May 2006 USA?
  - (d) 16 Sep 2005 - 25 Sep 2005 Canada?
  - (e) 3 Jun 2005 - 14 Jun 2005 Ireland?

Answer—

- (1) See the Food Authority Website.
- (2) (a) - (e) Milk Marketing (NSW) Pty Ltd's activities are in line with the interests of the NSW Dairy Industry, particularly post dairy deregulation, through its important role in facilitating national and international industry dialogue and information exchange. Its performance is supported by the Government and is readily recognised and endorsed by the NSW Dairy Industry. International attendances by the Chair of Milk Marketing (NSW) Pty Ltd are included in the Annual Reports of the NSW Food Authority and relate to attendance, representation and participation at the International Dairy Federation and allied international dairy organisations.

\*3211 LANDS—REAL PROPERTY AMENDMENT BILL—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

In relation to the Real Property & Conveyancing Legislation Amendment Bill 2009:

Given that under the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006 (Cth) financial institutions may:

- (a) adopt a risk based approach as to what identity documents they may rely upon provided that such documents fulfil the criteria set out in the accompanying Rules Instrument;
  - (b) not necessarily follow the old 100 points of identification system; and
  - (c) are currently not required to identify a mortgagor if the mortgagor is not receiving a designated service (for example a guarantor to a loan).
- (1)

- (a) will the Minister make the Registrar-General's Office publish its prescribed identification procedure in draft format several months prior to the enactment of the amending legislation so to give industry enough time to amend their current processes?
- (b) If not why not?

Answer—

The Department of Lands will consult with the relevant stakeholders, including organisations representing the financial institutions, during preparation of the standards required to verify the identity of a person giving a mortgage over land. The standards will be clearly set out in Regulations that will be available several months before commencement to give industry ample time to amend its practices accordingly.

\*3212 FAIR TRADING—COOPERATIVES ACT—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State representing the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Citizenship, and Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts—

- (1)
  - (a) Under section 134 of the Co-operatives Act 1992, is an ex-member of a co-operative required to wait an indefinite period at the behest of the incumbent Board of Directors of the co-operative to redeem the value of their shares in the co-operative?
  - (b) Is this an unjust and discriminatory effect of section 134 of the Co-operatives Act 1992?
- (2) Will amending legislation be introduced reforming section 134 stipulating a maximum period an ex-member must wait to redeem the value of their shares with a view to encouraging better management practices as well as a level playing field between co-operatives and their competitors?
- (3) Will the Minister establish a parliamentary inquiry into the operations of co-operatives, particularly with regard to:
  - (a) the arbitrary nature in which an incumbent Board of Directors may reject a membership application without reason?
  - (b) the expensive way in which a member must access the Supreme Court for dispute resolution?
  - (c) the possibility of making co-operatives become mandatory members of an external dispute resolution scheme similar to the way in which finance brokers and credit providers must be mandatory members of the Financial Ombudsman's Service or similar external dispute resolution scheme?

Answer—

The Office of Fair Trading advises me that:

- (1)
  - (a) Section 134 of the Co-operatives Act 1992 deals with the repayment of shares where membership has been cancelled because the member is no longer an active member. The co-operative must repay the amount due to the former member within 12 months unless the former member agrees to a longer period, or the board of the co-operative believes payment would 'adversely affect the financial position of the co-operative'. If the board defers the payment beyond twelve months, the cooperative must allot or issue debentures or Co-operative Capital Units to the former member in satisfaction of the amount. If the co-operative is a deposit taking co-operative, it can also apply the amount as a deposit by the former member with the co-operative. Section 136 of the Co-operatives Act 1992 requires the co-operative to repay any debenture, Cooperative Capital Unit or deposit as soon as repayment would not, in the opinion of the board, adversely affect the financial position of the co-operative and in any case within 10 years. A co-operative may apply to the Co-operatives Council of New South Wales to extend the 10 year period. Fair Trading is not aware of any such application having been made to the Council.
  - (b) Section 134 is similar to legislation in other jurisdictions across Australia which include equivalent provisions for the repayment of shares on cancellation of membership. Unlike companies, co-operatives are based on the concept of 'active membership'. To this end, when a member ceases activity for a defined period of time, the co operative is required to cancel the

membership and forfeit the shares. In a company, shares may increase or decrease in value, but shares in a co-operative are maintained at par value and must be repaid.

- (2) Section 136 of the Co-operatives Act 1992 already sets a maximum period for the repayment of shares to a former member whose membership has been cancelled. No legislative amendment is required.
- (3) The Ministerial Council on Consumer Affairs is currently preparing a proposed National Cooperatives Law which would implement the same cooperatives legislation in all states and territories. The proposed legislation will be released for public comment and any suggestions for changes relating to membership and dispute resolution can be considered as part of that process. A Parliamentary Inquiry would look at the same issues, causing unnecessary duplication, and is therefore not considered necessary.

\*3213 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—STAFFING IN FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT BRANCH—Ms Cusack asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) As the number of professional engineering staff in the floodplain management branch of the Department has been reduced to a third of those in the Department a decade ago and is below the critical mass for such a specialist group needed to assist local government in meeting its obligations under the Flood Prone Land Policy, will the Department reverse the numbers of professional staff with the relevant qualifications and experiences?
  - (a) If so, will this number be maintained in the future?
  - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

The Floodplain Management Unit was transferred to the Environment portfolio in 2007. The Government recognises the importance of effective floodplain management by local councils. Government provides approximately \$8 million annually to support local councils undertake floodplain risk management planning and projects. The Department of Environment and Climate Change is currently reviewing staffing arrangements to ensure effective floodplain management support to councils.

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(Paper No. 106)

\*3214 PREMIER—MARDI GRAS FUNDING—Revd Mr Nile asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) What was the cost of Sydney Mardi Gras 2009, including payment for grants and special facilities such as police, security and road closures?
- (2) In the answer provided to a Question without Notice, asked on 5 March 2009, the Government stated that "Events NSW will be undertaking a comprehensive review of the 2009 event":
  - (a) Has this review taken place?
    - (i) If so, what were the findings?
    - (ii) If not, why not?
- (3) Of the estimated \$37.1 million budgeted for Events NSW in 2009-2010, what proportion has been allocated to Sydney Mardi Gras 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The full cost of staging the Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras, including the provision of security services, is the responsibility of New Mardi Gras Ltd. The total cost of the Ambulance deployment was \$50,170 as calculated under the provisions of the Ambulance Major and Sporting Events Policy. A total of 839 police were involved in the 2009 Mardi Gras operation. These officers were paid according to their rank and as part of their normal duties. Roads and

Traffic Authority (RTA) support for the 2009 Mardi Gras, including road closures and management of the peripheral road network to minimise the impact to the non-event community, cost \$143,000.

- (2) Events New South Wales conducted a comprehensive review of the 2009 Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras. The review found that:
- more than 21,000 visitors from interstate or overseas came specifically for Mardi Gras;
  - overseas visitors stayed an average of 10.5 nights in Sydney and New South Wales, and interstate visitors stayed an average of 3.9 nights in Sydney and New South Wales;
  - the overall direct economic impact to the state of New South Wales was close to \$29,548,761;
  - more than 448 press articles were published in interstate and selected international key New South Wales tourism markets, with a cumulative circulation of over 40 million;
  - more than 700 television news and radio items were broadcast in interstate markets, having a cumulative audience of 17 million; and · 65.8% of New South Wales residents believe that the \$400,000 investment the New South Wales Government makes in the Mardi Gras is a reasonable use of taxpayers' money.
  - more than 21,000 visitors from interstate or overseas came specifically for Mardi Gras;
  - overseas visitors stayed an average of 10.5 nights in Sydney and New South Wales, and interstate visitors stayed an average of 3.9 nights in Sydney and New South Wales;
  - the overall direct economic impact to the state of New South Wales was close to \$29,548,761;
  - more than 448 press articles were published in interstate and selected international key New South Wales tourism markets, with a cumulative circulation of over 40 million;
  - more than 700 television news and radio items were broadcast in interstate markets, having a cumulative audience of 17 million; and · 65.8% of New South Wales residents believe that the \$400,000 investment the New South Wales Government makes in the Mardi Gras is a reasonable use of taxpayers' money.
- (3) Events NSW has not confirmed funding for the 2010 Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras.

\*3215 CORRECTIVE SERVICES—BULLYING IN CESSNOCK CORRECTIONAL CENTRE—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

- (1)
- (a) Did the Minister have a meeting with Mr Corey O'Donnell on 7 April 2009 at Newcastle Town Hall?
  - (b) Was the Minister handed a document at that meeting by Mr O'Donnell regarding allegations by Mr O'Donnell of bullying and harassment over a number of years by Judy Windle, the Director of Human Resources, Department of Corrective Services?
- (2) Has the Minister asked for the claims of Mr O'Donnell to be investigated?
- (a) If so, has it been completed?
    - (i) If not, when will it be completed?
    - (ii) When will Mr O'Donnell be advised of the findings of the report?
  - (b) If not, why not?
- (3) Did Mr O'Donnell contact the Minister's office by phone on the 21 April 2009 regarding an offer of re-deployment Mr O'Donnell had received by phone from Assistant Commissioner of Corrective Services, Peter Peters?
- (4)
- (a) Did the Minister's office contact Assistant Commissioner Peters after the call from Mr O'Donnell?
  - (b) Did the Minister's office advise Assistant Commissioner Peters to offer Mr O'Donnell the "Transferred officers package" as part of his redeployment from Cessnock Correctional Centre?
- (5)
- (a) Is the Minister aware of medical advice received by Mr O'Donnell, which indicated that a redeployment of Mr O'Donnell to St Heliers Correctional Centre would be inappropriate due to a work-related post-traumatic stress disorder?

- (b) Had Mr O'Donnell advised the Commissioner of Corrective Services of these health issues?
- (6) Did Mr O'Donnell suffer a heart attack, after being handed charges of misconduct by the Department?
- (7)
- (a) How many staff of Cessnock Correctional Centre are currently on sick leave?
- (b) How many staff of Cessnock Correctional Centre are off duty due to stress-related health issues?
- (8) How many staff of Cessnock Correctional Centre are currently facing misconduct charges that have arisen due to conflict between staff at Cessnock Correctional Centre and management of the Department of Corrective Services?
- (a) Has the Minister advised management of the Department of Corrective Services in their dealings with staff at Cessnock Correctional Centre to take into account the stress and pressure experienced by them during the recent aborted privatisation process?
- (b) If so, what guidelines have been given to management to assist staff in regaining confidence in management of the Department?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1)–(6) The Department of Corrective Services has grievance management policies and procedures as required by the Industrial Relations Act 1996. I will not comment on the specific circumstances of individual employees.

(7)

- (a) The number of staff on sick leave at Cessnock Correctional Centre fluctuates daily.
- (b) The Department does not correlate the causes of sick leave since there is often a combination of factors contributing to an employee's illness.

(8) 3.

- (a) I have ongoing discussions with the Department regarding the well being of all departmental employees.
- (b) Not applicable.

\*3216 COMMERCE—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - LEGAL PROCEEDINGS—Mr Lynn asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

In relation to question 3031, placed on the Question and Answer Paper of 2 April 2009, and your answer received on 7 May 2009, that "The matter referred to relate to ongoing legal proceedings. Detailed responses may compromise these proceedings":

- (1) Who are the parties to these legal proceedings?
- (2)
- (a) Have proceedings commenced in a court or tribunal?
- (b)
- (i) If so, in which court or tribunal have those proceedings commenced?
- (ii) If so, on what date were those proceedings commenced?
- (c) If not, exactly what is the nature of the "legal proceedings" referred to in your answer?
- (3) Was the officer referred to in question 3031 involved in any way in the preparation of your answer to that question?

Answer—

I am advised that the proceedings in question have been concluded. I am further advised that the parties to these now concluded proceedings are subject to confidentiality orders.

\*3217 WATER—CHAFFEY DAM IN THE STATE BUDGET—Mr Khan asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) With regards to the reference to Chaffey Dam Upgrade Phase 1 contained in the 2009-10 Budget Paper No 4. at 4-45:
  - (a) What is the \$2,733,000 allocated for 2009-10 to be spent on?
  - (b) Does the estimated total cost of the project listed as \$19,089,000 relate only to the safety upgrade of the Dam?
  - (c)
    - (i) Does the estimated total cost of the project listed as \$19,089,000 relate to the augmentation of Chaffey Dam's capacity to 100 Gigalitres?
    - (ii) If so, how much relates to the augmentation?
- (2) Is there any provision for the augmentation of Chaffey Dam contained in this years budget?

Answer—

- (1)
  - (a) The reference to Chaffey Dam Upgrade Phase 1 and the Work-In Progress figure of \$2,733,000 in the 2009-10 Budget Paper No 4, page 4-85, is allocated to be spent on environmental investigations, the detailed design and the start of construction.
  - (b) Yes.
  - (c) (i) &(ii) See answer to 1(b).
- (2) See answer to 1(b)

\*3218 HEALTH—SWINE FLU IN SCHOOLS AND GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

- (1)
  - (a) Have eight schools across the state now been hit by swine flu, forcing students into isolation and closing classes?
  - (b) At Botany Public School, were witches' hats used to separate affected children from the rest of the school at recess and lunch breaks?
  - (c) Have sixty boarders at The King's School, Parramatta been placed in isolation awaiting pathology?
  - (d) Have up to 60 children been given a dose of antiviral Tamiflu, sent home for 72 hours of quarantine and forbidden to return until Thursday?
  - (e) Have new cases of swine flu been confirmed at Westfield Sports High, J J Cahill Memorial High, Marist Brothers Pagewood, Marsden High and Dubbo Christian School, St Margaret Marys Primary School and Bethel Christian Academy?
- (2) What is NSW Health doing to assist those schools that have been identified as having cases of swine flu?
- (3)
  - (a) Is the ventilation level of school classrooms adequate?
  - (b) What is the optimal ventilation rate (number of air changes per minute) that experts advise to limit the risk of airborne spread of infectious agents such as human swine flu?
  - (c) In what proportion of classrooms is that ventilation rate achieved?
  - (d) What is the mean ventilation rate during teaching sessions and what is the range?
  - (e) Is ventilation being kept at levels lower than infection control experts advise to maintain air temperature at comfort levels at reduced energy cost?
  - (f) If so, is that practice exposing pupils and teachers to an avoidable risk to their health?
- (4) What is NSW Health doing to assist schools as to preventative and precautionary measures?

Answer—

Comprehensive information for the community, including a daily summary of suspected and confirmed cases is published on the Department of Health's website: [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)

Whole of Government arrangements for an influenza pandemic are addressed in the New South Wales Human Influenza Pandemic Plan. This plan and its supporting documents address hospitals and healthcare institutions, education institutions, churches and places of worship, nursing homes and other public institutions.

The Plan and its supporting documents have been adapted to support due response to H1N1 Influenza 09 (Human Swine Influenza) and a range of specific documents have also been developed in response to emerging needs.

The Australian Government's National Counter-Terrorism Plan addresses biological threats.

The New South Wales Department of Health is in regular communication with Area Health Services to ensure appropriate preparation and response to H1N1 Influenza 09. This includes enhanced emergency department screening, communication to general practitioners, support to those in home isolation and quarantine, contact tracing of confirmed cases, the activation of a general human swine inquiries line and mental health help line and enhanced laboratory testing capacity, amongst other activities.

In addition, the New South Wales Department of Health has provided Area Health Services with a range of print and electronic resources for distribution to all hospitals.

The New South Wales Department of Health is working closely with partner agencies, including the Department of Education and Training, to ensure sector-specific advice is appropriate for the current situation. All hospitals will be guided by directions issued by the NSW Department of Health's Chief Health Officer and the Chief Executive of the Area Health Service. Hospitals will continue to treat those presenting for emergency care and have been instructed to be especially vigilant for influenza (both seasonal and H1N1).

A number of Coalition MPs have listed a range of questions about swine flu cases and individual outbreaks, requiring answers which were already outdated before Department of Health staff were required to commence the time-consuming process of researching them. I would urge Coalition Members to consider their questions carefully before diverting Health resources away from patients.

\*3219 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—SWINE FLU IN SCHOOLS AND GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

(1)

- (a) Have eight schools across the state now been hit by swine flu, forcing students into isolation and closing classes?
- (b) At Botany Public School, were witches' hats used to separate affected children from the rest of the school at recess and lunch breaks?
- (c) Have sixty boarders at The King's School, Parramatta been placed in isolation awaiting pathology?
- (d) Have up to 60 children been given a dose of antiviral Tamiflu, sent home for 72 hours of quarantine and forbidden to return until Thursday?
- (e) Have new cases of swine flu been confirmed at Westfield Sports High, J J Cahill Memorial High, Marist Brothers Pagewood, Marsden High and Dubbo Christian School, St Margaret Marys Primary School and Bethel Christian Academy?

(2) What is the Department doing to assist those schools that have been identified as having cases of swine flu?

(3)

- (a) Is the ventilation level of school classrooms adequate?

- (b) What is the optimal ventilation rate (number of air changes per minute) that experts advise to limit the risk of airborne spread of infectious agents such as human swine flu?
  - (c) In what proportion of classrooms is that ventilation rate achieved?
  - (d) What is the mean ventilation rate during teaching sessions and what is the range?
  - (e) Is ventilation being kept at levels lower than infection control experts advise to maintain air temperature at comfort levels at reduced energy cost?
  - (f) If so, is that practice exposing pupils and teachers to an avoidable risk to their health?
- (4) What is the Department doing to assist schools as to preventative and precautionary measures?

Answer—

- (1)
- (a) There are a number of schools which have had either suspected or confirmed cases of human swine flu reported. In accordance with the state and national pandemic plan, testing and reporting has not been required since the commencement of the "Protect" phase, and as a result it is not possible to provide an accurate number of schools affected.
  - (b) Botany Public School has managed confirmed cases of swine flu in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Health and the Department of Education and Training. The school did not use witches hats to separate affected students. The advice from NSW Health personnel was to keep classes separated from each other. Accordingly, the school kept students in their classrooms during recess and lunch breaks under the supervision of their teachers.
  - (c) This information cannot be provided by the Department of Education and Training, as it is not a New South Wales public school.
  - (d) It is assumed that this question is related to 1(c) in which case the information cannot be provided by the Department of Education and Training, as it is not a New South Wales public school.
  - (e) There are a number of schools which have had either suspected or confirmed cases of human swine flu reported. Due to the lack of testing and reporting since the commencement of the "Protect" phase, it is not possible to advise if any further cases have been confirmed in these schools. Information cannot be provided by the Department of Education and Training for Marist Brothers Pagewood, Dubbo Christian School, St Margaret Marys Primary School and Bethel Christian Academy as they are not New South Wales public schools.
- (2) Schools are experienced in managing health issues as there are usually a range of flu and other transmittable illnesses circulating within the community at any time which can impact on schools. Schools have access to a wide range of support to assist them to manage this emerging health situation. All schools have in place infection control guidelines and mitigation and management guidelines developed in consultation with NSW Health. Schools can contact their School Education Director or the Department of Education and Training's Occupational Health and Safety Directorate for advice and support or, where required, they have direct access to their local public health unit.
- (3)
- (a) Ventilation is not a factor impacting on the management of swine flu in schools. The ventilation provided in all school buildings complies with the Building Code of Australia.
  - (b) NSW Health advises that Human Swine Flu is not an airborne virus. It is transmitted by droplet. The ventilation provided in all school buildings complies with the Building Code of Australia.
  - (c) , (d), (e) and (f) This information is not applicable as the ventilation provided in all school buildings complies with the Building Code of Australia.
- (4) The Department of Education and Training, in accordance with the state and national pandemic plan, adopted an "exclusion" policy to minimize the spread of the virus under the "Delay" and "Contain" phases. Staff and students were excluded from attending school for a period of seven days after leaving a destination identified where there was known community or school transmission of human swine influenza. This was a very effective strategy in delaying the spread of the disease in New South Wales government schools. Under the new "Protect" phase schools are no longer required to exclude staff or students. Schools and other areas of the Department have been advised by NSW Health that good hygiene practices are to be implemented and anyone who is unwell should stay away from work or school until their symptoms have resolved to limit the spread of infection. The Department has provided Infection Control Guidelines and Human Swine Influenza Mitigation and Management Guidelines, developed in consultation with NSW Health, to all schools and other



facilities to assist in the prevention and effective management of all infectious diseases, particularly this winter.

\*3220 HEALTH—PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND TRANSMISSION OF INFECTION—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

Public transport and the transmission of infection, including pandemic influenza

- (1) Will the increasing crowding of public transport have an impact on the transmission of infection, including pandemic influenza?
- (2)
  - (a) What is the estimated risk of contracting influenza on public transport from another infected passenger?
  - (b) Is the risk greater if the transport is crowded?
  - (c) If so, to what extent?
- (3) What is the current average number of peak hour journeys:
  - (a) by bus that involve at least some passengers standing for over half an hour?
  - (b) by train that involve at least some passengers standing for over half an hour?
  - (c) by ferry that involved at least some passengers standing for over half an hour?
  - (d) How has this number changed compared with 2008, 2007 and 2006?
  - (e) What is the expected number for 2010?
- (4) What is the optimal ventilation rate (number of air changes per minute) that experts advise to limit the risk of airborne spread of infectious agents such as human swine flu for air conditioning in trains?
  - (a) In what proportion of trains is that ventilation rate achieved?
- (5) What is the optimal ventilation rate (number of air changes per minute) that experts advise to limit the risk of airborne spread of infectious agents such as human swine flu for air conditioning in buses?
  - (a) In what proportion of buses is that ventilation rate achieved?
- (6) What is the optimal ventilation rate (number of air changes per minute) that experts advise to limit the risk of airborne spread of infectious agents such as human swine flu for air conditioning in ferries?
  - (a) In what proportion of ferries is that ventilation rate achieved?
- (7) What is the mean ventilation rate during travel and what is the range on:
  - (a) Trains?
  - (b) Buses?
  - (c) Ferries?
- (8)
  - (a) Is ventilation on trains, buses and ferries being kept at levels lower than infection control experts advise to maintain air temperature at comfort levels at reduced energy cost?
  - (b) If so, is that practice exposing commuters to an avoidable risk to their health?

Answer—

I am advised:

Advice to members of the general public about preventing transmission of influenza is available on the NSW Health H1N1 influenza 09 website: [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au). This information applies to public transport commuters.

Influenza is transmitted through droplet spread and is not primarily airborne. Air-conditioning systems are not known to spread influenza. The extent to which the risk of influenza transmission increases in crowded settings depends on a variety of factors including the stage of the unwell person's illness, whether or not the well person is immunosuppressed, whether or not good hand and respiratory hygiene measures are taken and the duration of the close contact.

(3) - (8) These questions should be redirected to the Minister for Transport.

\*3221 FINANCE—ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRY REGARDING SWINE FLU—Ms Ficarra asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

WorkCover assistance to industry regarding Swine Flu

- (1) What is WorkCover doing to assist workplaces in New South Wales to manage procedures of transmission of infection, including pandemic influenza?
- (2) Has WorkCover developed any model "Risk Management" strategies to provide to and assist industry and workplaces to comply with occupational health and safety legislation in the event of the risk of swine flu?

Answer—

WorkCover has worked closely with the Office of Industrial Relations in developing a "Workplace Guide To Managing Influenza Pandemic". The Guide outlines employers' key occupational health and safety responsibilities and includes strategies to combat the spread of a pandemic virus in the workplace.

This Guide is available online at [www.workcover.nsw.gov.au](http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au)

\*3222 CORRECTIVE SERVICES—MANAGEMENT OF TRANSMISSION OF INFECTION—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

Management of the transmission of infection, including pandemic influenza in NSW Prisons

- (1) Have any prisoners, prison officers or prison staff been suspected or diagnosed with swine flu?
- (2) What is the Department doing to address the transmission of infection, including pandemic influenza?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) One inmate has been confirmed as suffering from H1N1 Influenza (human swine flu), whilst a number of inmates have demonstrated flu-like symptoms and been isolated from other inmates. In addition, a number of staff have self-excluded from the workplace after possibly being exposed to H1N1 influenza or demonstrating flu-like symptoms.
- (2) The Department of Corrective Services has established policies and procedures which adhere to the requirements of the NSW Health Human Influenza Pandemic Plan. The Department has had pandemic planning as a corporate objective since December 2007 and is represented at senior officer level on the Pandemic Influenza Interagency Planning Committee and the Infectious Diseases Emergency Planning Committee.

Uniformed and non-uniformed staff have been trained to deliver health industry standard Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) training to all staff across the department, and a stockpile of approved PPE equipment has been created and securely stored. The Department is on a national register for ongoing access to PPE equipment should shortages occur.

The Department has established communication and protocol lines with the NSW Department of Health, which is the lead agency in pandemic planning; and has commenced implementation of a Justice Health inmate screening document specifically designed to alert for influenza symptoms. A Deputy Commissioner's Memorandum has been issued to all staff in relation to inmate screening for H1N1 influenza. All inmates received into custody or transferred between custodial and court locations are now screened before being placed on an escort vehicle.

Pandemic briefing sessions have also been held for correctional centre general managers. In the event of a confirmed case of H1N1 influenza linked to any possible pandemic, a workplace screening process has been developed for correctional centre staff and visitors.

\*3223 JUVENILE JUSTICE—MANAGEMENT OF TRANSMISSION OF INFECTION—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State representing the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering, Minister for Youth, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

Management of the transmission of infection, including pandemic influenza in NSW Juvenile Justice Centres

- (1) Have any prisoners, prison officers or prison staff in Juvenile Justice Centres been suspected or diagnosed with swine flu?
- (2) What is the Department doing to address the transmission of infection, including pandemic influenza in any of its facilities?

Answer—

- (1) I am advised by the Department of Juvenile Justice that as of 13 July 2009 there has been one confirmed case of swine flu for a detainee and seven cases of suspected swine flu for both staff and detainees.
- (2) The Department follows NSW Health guidelines on infection control in all its centres.

\*3224 COMMUNITY SERVICES—MANAGEMENT OF TRANSMISSION OF INFECTION—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Community Services—

Management of the transmission of infection, including pandemic influenza in NSW Department of Community Service facilities

- (1) What is the Department doing to address the transmission of infection, including pandemic influenza in any of its facilities?

Answer—

The Department of Community Services has a policy on Standard Precautions for Infection Control which outlines the basic work practices required to control the spread of infection. This policy is available to all staff and managers through the Department's intranet. In line with good health principles and advice the policy emphasises the use of good hygiene practices as a key aspect of infection control.

When there are particular outbreaks of infection in the community, such as whooping cough or the recent H1N1 Influenza 09 Pandemic, the Department provides specific guidance and support to its managers and staff, depending on the nature, location and extent of the event. The Department has also developed a Pandemic Response Plan as part of its business continuity management.

In the current H1N1 Influenza Pandemic the following steps have been taken:

- Staff have been sent email updates on the current status of the Pandemic and infection control.
- Key public health messages and links to public health information sites have been provided in the email messages to staff.
- Posters and information sheets on the flu, transmission risks, how to wash and dry hands, cough etiquette and so on have been distributed to Department of Community Services offices. Posters have been placed in bathrooms and tea rooms.
- A supply of anti-bacterial hand wash has been procured and distributed to each Department of Community Services Community Services Centres to be used by staff after each client contact where washing with soap and water is not possible.
- Information has been provided to managers on steps to take in managing situations where staff have been identified as having the infection or showing symptoms, including specific communications at those sites.

These steps are in line with the advices that have been provided to the Department by the Department of Premier and Cabinet and Health authorities.

\*3225 DISABILITY SERVICES—MANAGEMENT OF TRANSMISSION OF INFECTION—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

Management of the transmission of infection, including pandemic influenza in NSW Department of Disability Services facilities

(1) What is the Department doing to address the transmission of infection, including pandemic influenza in any of its facilities?

Answer—

The Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care (DADHC) has in place extensive and long-standing policies and procedures around infection control and good hygiene across its facilities that mitigate against the transmission of infections.

Business continuity plans which address planning for disruption to service provision have been in place in DADHC since 2006 and include planning for the impact of pandemics.

Since the arrival of H1N1 in Australia, DADHC has taken a number of additional actions to strengthen infection control and keep staff and clients informed with up-to-date and emerging information, such as:

- distribution of Department of Premier and Cabinet's updates on swine influenza to senior officers across the Department for dissemination to staff;
- distribution of a communiqué to all staff on DADHC's response to swine influenza, including infection control, personal protective equipment and referral to NSW Health website for up to date information;
- distribution of guides on 'Hand-Washing' and 'Cough Etiquette' from NSW Health and the World Health Organisation to sites across DADHC;
- procurement of face masks and antibacterial hand gel for distribution is currently underway to, in the first instance, staff supporting high needs health-vulnerable clients in group homes and large residential centres, and home care clients to protect both themselves and clients, including advice on their use and proper disposal;
- the establishment of a Pandemic Planning Steering Committee to advise DADHC on pandemic related actions and strategies;
- establishment of a centralised tracking system for suspected and confirmed cases of swine influenza. In addition, DADHC is activating alternative arrangements for the engagement of additional nursing and residential care staff for its facilities, as advice on the estimates of prevalence rates of swine influenza increases.

\*3226 ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS—MANAGEMENT OF TRANSMISSION OF INFECTION—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

Management of the transmission of infection, including pandemic influenza in Aboriginal communities

(1) What is the Department doing to address the transmission of infection, including pandemic influenza in indigenous communities?

Answer—

(1) The issue of management of the transmission of infection falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Health, the Hon John Della Bosca MLC.

\*3227 CITIZENSHIP—MANAGEMENT OF TRANSMISSION OF INFECTION—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State representing the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Citizenship, and Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts—

Management of the transmission of infection, including pandemic influenza in non-English speaking background (NESB) communities

- (1) What is the Office of Citizenship doing to educate people in NESB communities regarding the transmission of infection, including pandemic influenza?
- (2)
  - (a) Will education guides be published in various community languages?
  - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

This question is better directed to the Minister for Health.

\*3228 HEALTH—STIMULANT MEDICATIONS LINKED TO SUDDEN DEATH IN YOUTHS—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

Stimulant Medications Linked to Sudden Death in Youths

- (1)
  - (a) Is the Minister and Department of Health aware that stimulant drugs commonly given for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder [ADHD] are associated with an increase in sudden unexplained deaths in young people?
  - (b) Are odds of suddenly dying increased by a factor of 7.4 in such circumstances?
- (2)
  - (a) Is the prescription of these drugs, that is purportedly tightly controlled by state legislation, increasing in New South Wales?
  - (b) If so, to what extent?
- (3)
  - (a) Has the Minister considered the expert opinion in Physician's First Watch 16 June 2009 that this finding of an increase in sudden unexplained deaths should be considered in the context of other data about the risk and benefit of stimulants in medical treatment?
  - (b) If so, will this opinion be acted upon?

Answer—

I am advised by the Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Health:

- (1)
  - (a) A recent article in the American Journal of Psychiatry suggested there may be an association between the use of stimulants and sudden unexplained death among children and adolescents.
  - (b) One of the statistical analyses in the article demonstrated a 7.4 times greater risk for sudden unexplained death in those taking stimulant medication. The risk was still very small and the study authors noted that the data had limitations which precluded a definite conclusion.
- (2) (a) and (b) Information in respect to this part of the question is available in the Chief Health Officer's 2008 Report.
- (3)
  - (a) The reported study has demonstrated a potential association between a rare event (sudden, unexpected death) and the use of stimulants. Untreated, ADHD can lead to problems that can follow individuals throughout life, including higher rates of accidents and injuries. Health professionals in NSW are expected to consider the risks and benefits for all treatments, including medication.
  - (b) In response to the recently-published study, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued a communication that it "is unable to conclude that these data affect the overall risk and

benefit profile of stimulant medications used to treat ADHD in children". The FDA is a co-sponsor of a current large study which will provide further information about the potential risks associated with stimulant medications. It has recommended that healthcare professionals follow current prescribing information for use of these medications, including a cardiovascular history and examination. NSW Health Therapeutic Guideline TG 181/8 Criteria for the diagnosis and management of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder in children and adolescents, issued by Pharmaceutical Services Branch in 2008, already states that a child's cardiovascular status should be examined before commencing stimulant medication.

\*3229 ROADS—GRANTS FOR CYCLE PATHS—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Roads—

(1)

- (a) Does your Department provide grant funding for the creation of cycle paths?
- (b) If so:
  - (i) what is the total amount of funding available for such grants?
  - (ii) when must grant applications be received by your Department in this regard?
  - (iii) where can information be found for those wishing to apply for grants in this regard?

Answer—

I am advised:

Yes – the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) provides grant funding for cycleways to Local Councils in New South Wales.

- (1) \$4.7 million has been allocated in the 2009/10 financial year to 50/50 fund 93 local cycleway projects within 77 Council areas across New South Wales.
- (2) Councils can submit projects throughout each year for consideration. However, only projects submitted before 1 October will be considered to receive funding within the following financial year. Submissions received after this date will be assessed for the following financial year.
- (3) Information for those wishing to apply for cycleway grants is available from the RTA website at [www.rta.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au). Councils can also contact the relevant RTA Regional office for more information.

\*3230 SPORT AND RECREATION—GRANTS FOR CYCLE PATHS—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

(1)

- (a) Does your Department provide grant funding for the creation of cycle paths?
- (b) If so:
  - (i) what is the total amount of funding available for such grants?
  - (ii) when must grant applications be received by your Department in this regard?
  - (iii) where can information be found for those wishing to apply for grants in this regard?

Answer—

(1)

- (a) Yes.
- (b)
  - (i) In 2008/09, \$69,529 was awarded for facility grant projects that support cycling.
  - (ii) - (iii) Information about grant programs, including opening and closing dates, can be found on website [www.dsr.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au). Organisations that wish to be notified when a particular program opens can register their interest at the website.

\*3231 YOUTH—GRANTS FOR CYCLE PATHS—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State representing the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering, Minister for Youth, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

(1)

- (a) Does your Department provide grant funding for the creation of cycle paths?
- (b) If so:
  - (i) what is the total amount of funding available for such grants?
  - (ii) when must grant applications be received by your Department in this regard?
  - (iii) where can information be found for those wishing to apply for grants in this regard?

Answer—

- (1) No.
- (2) Not applicable.

\*3232 INFRASTRUCTURE—GRANTS FOR CYCLE PATHS—Ms Ficarra asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

(1)

- (a) Does your Department provide grant funding for the creation of cycle paths?
- (b) If so:
  - (i) what is the total amount of funding available for such grants?
  - (ii) when must grant applications be received by your Department in this regard?
  - (iii) where can information be found for those wishing to apply for grants in this regard?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Government currently provides grant funding for the creation of cycle paths under the following programs:
  - (a) By the Roads & Traffic Authority (RTA) under BikePlan 2010, with matching contributions on a dollar for dollar basis from local government. By the Department of Planning under three relevant programs (Grants under all three of these programs are matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis by recipient councils.):
    - (i) Sharing Sydney Harbour Access Program
    - (ii) Metropolitan Greenspace Program.
    - (iii) NSW Coastline Cycleway Program.
- (2) As an indication, the following was budgeted for 2009-10:
  - A total of \$10 million by the RTA and local government; and,
  - A total of \$10.5 million by the Department of Planning and local government for the three relevant programs.
  - A total of \$10 million by the RTA and local government; and,
  - A total of \$10.5 million by the Department of Planning and local government for the three relevant programs.

The submission date for councils to the RTA for the 2010-11 financial year is 1 October 2009. Closing dates for relevant 2010 Department of Planning grants are:

- 30 April 2010 for the Sharing Sydney Harbour Access Program.
- 22 April 2010 for the Metropolitan Greenspace Program.
- 18 December 2009 for the New South Wales Coastline Cycleway Program.

Further information on grant programs is available from the RTA and Department of Planning websites.

\*3233 ROADS—P PLATE CHARGED OF SPEEDING OFFENCES—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Roads—

"P" Plate Drivers charged and convicted of speeding offences:

- (1) How many "P" Platers were charged with speeding offences for the following periods:
  - (a) 2004/05?
  - (b) 2005/06?
  - (c) 2006/07?
  - (d) 2007/08?
  - (e) 2008 present?
- (2) How many 'P' Platers were convicted of speeding offences for the following periods:
  - (a) 2004/05?
  - (b) 2005/06?
  - (c) 2006/07?
  - (d) 2007/08?
  - (e) 2008 present?
- (3) How many "P" Platers had their cases dealt with under Section 10 of the Crime (Sentencing Procedure) Act 1999 for the following periods:
  - (a) 2004/05?
  - (b) 2005/06?
  - (c) 2006/07?
  - (d) 2007/08?
  - (e) 2008 present?
- (4) How many "P" Platers had their licenses suspended after being convicted of speeding offences for the following periods:
  - (a) 2004/05?
  - (b) 2005/06?
  - (c) 2006/07?
  - (d) 2007/08?
  - (e) 2008 present?
- (5) How many "P" Platers had their licenses revoked after being convicted of speeding offences for the following periods:
  - (a) 2004/05?
  - (b) 2005/06?
  - (c) 2006/07?
  - (d) 2007/08?
  - (e) 2008 present?
- (6) What action is being taken to address the incidences of speeding by "P" platers?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) does not maintain data relating to charges. This question should be directed to NSW Police.

(2)

(a)	2004/05	43,292
(b)	2005/06	46,374
)		
(c)	2006/07	54,708
(d)	2007/08	61,492
)		



(e)	2008 – 31 May 09	39,163
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(3)

(a)	2004/05	1491
(b)	2005/06	812
(c)	2006/07	256
(d)	2007/08	213
(e)	2008 – 31 May 09	283

(4) The RTA advises that court convictions do not result in a licence suspension. The result is a licence disqualification.

(5)

(a)	2004/05	1918
(b)	2005/06	1844
(c)	2006/07	1942
(d)	2007/08	1534
(e)	2008 – 31 May 09	1629

- (6) The RTA advises that the action being taken to address speeding incidents includes:
- Zero tolerance on speeding for provisional drivers. A P1 driver will incur a licence suspension if four or more demerit points are accumulated, or for any speeding offence.
  - From 1 July 2009, P2 drivers will incur 4 demerit points for speeding offences up to 30 kph over the speed limit. This means that P 2 drivers will have their licence suspended for a second speeding offence.
  - The Graduated Licensing System limits younger drivers to lower speed limits.
  - There is also constant advertising targeted at young drivers.

Zero tolerance on speeding for provisional drivers. A P1 driver will incur a licence suspension if four or more demerit points are accumulated, or for any speeding offence.

From 1 July 2009, P2 drivers will incur 4 demerit points for speeding offences up to 30 kph over the speed limit. This means that P 2 drivers will have their licence suspended for a second speeding offence.

The Graduated Licensing System limits younger drivers to lower speed limits.

There is also constant advertising targeted at young drivers.

\*3234 ROADS—P PLATE DRIVERS AND DRIVING UNDER INFLUENCE—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Roads—

"P" Plate Drivers charged and convicted of Driving Under the Influence (DUI)

- (1) How many "P" Platers were charged with Driving Under the Influence offences for the following periods:
- 2004/05?
  - 2005/06?
  - 2006/07?
  - 2007/08?
  - 2008 present?
- (2) How many "P" Platers were convicted of Driving Under the Influence offences for the following periods:
- 2004/05?

- (b) 2005/06?
  - (c) 2006/07?
  - (d) 2007/08?
  - (e) 2008 present?
- (3) How many "P" Platers had their cases dealt with under Section 10 of the Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act 1999 for the following periods:
- (a) 2004/05?
  - (b) 2005/06?
  - (c) 2006/07?
  - (d) 2007/08?
  - (e) 2008 present?
- (4) How many "P" Platers had their licenses suspended after being convicted of Driving Under the Influences offences for the following periods:
- (a) 2004/05?
  - (b) 2005/06?
  - (c) 2006/07?
  - (d) 2007/08?
  - (e) 2008 present?
- (5) How many "P" Platers had their licenses revoked after being convicted of Driving Under the Influence offences for the following periods:
- (a) 2004/05?
  - (b) 2005/06?
  - (c) 2006/07?
  - (d) 2007/08?
  - (e) 2008 present?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) advises me that it does not maintain data relating to charges. This information is maintained by the NSW Police force.
- (2)
- (a) 2004/05: 4,312.
  - (b) 2005/06: 4,429.
  - (c) 2006/07: 5,073.
  - (d) 2007/08: 5,645.
  - (e) 2008 – 31 May 09: 3,454.
- (3)
- (a) 2004/05:131.
  - (b) 2005/06:100.
  - (c) 2006/07:117.
  - (d) 2007/08: 84.
  - (e) 2008 – 31 May 09: 41.
- (4) (a) to (e) Court convictions do not result in a licence suspension (only disqualification).
- (5)
- (a) 2004/05: 3,339.
  - (b) 2005/06: 3,390.
  - (c) 2006/07: 4,005.
  - (d) 2007/08: 4,541.
  - (e) 2008 – 31 May 09: 2,863.

\*3235 LANDS—OLD QUARRY SITE—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

Old Quarry Site - 13A Amourin Street, North Manly

- (1) Has the Aboriginal Lands Council lodged a claim over this land?
- (2) What is the process to be followed for determining the application?
- (3) How can the community have an input in the process?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The claim will be investigated by the Department of Lands against the criteria contained in the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983.
- (3) Various authorities, including Warringah Shire Council, will be referenced as part of the investigation of the claim to ensure that community needs are considered.

\*3236 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—ALLAMBIE HEIGHTS—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

DA 2008/1771 for the subdivision of the school at Lot1 Malinya Road, Allambie Heights

On 12 May 2009, Warringah Council resolved the following:

1. That Council call on the Minister for Education to withdraw DA 2008/1771 for the subdivision of the school at Lot1 Malinya Road, Allambie Heights as the site contains remnant indigenous vegetation, threatened species, aboriginal relics and provides a significant local amenity for the neighbourhood.
2. That Council writes to Minister for Planning, Minister for Environment and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, advising of the aboriginal relics on site as well as threatened species on site.

(1)

- (a) Has any action been taken in response to the Council's resolutions?
- (b) If so, what?

Answer—

As this is a currently operating school site, there is no intention to sell any land at Allambie Heights. The Department of Education and Training will write to Council to notify them of this position.

\*3237 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—ALLAMBIE HEIGHTS—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

DA 2008/1771 for the subdivision of the school at Lot1 Malinya Road, Allambie Heights

On 12 May 2009, Warringah Council resolved the following:

1. That Council call on the Minister for Education to withdraw DA 2008/1771 for the subdivision of the school at Lot1 Malinya Road, Allambie Heights as the site contains remnant indigenous vegetation, threatened species, aboriginal relics and provides a significant local amenity for the neighbourhood.
2. That Council writes to Minister for Planning, Minister for Environment and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, advising of the aboriginal relics on site as well as threatened species on site.

(1)

- (a) Has any action been taken in response to the Council's resolutions?
- (b) If so, what?

Answer—

1. Questions about resolution 1. should be directed to the relevant Minister. The Department of Environment and Climate Change provided appropriate procedural advice to the Council earlier this year.

\*3238 PLANNING—SCHOOL AT LOT 1 MALINYA ROAD—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

DA 2008/1771 for the subdivision of the school at Lot 1 Malinya Road, Allambie Heights

- (1) Is the Minister aware that Warringah Council on 12 May 2009 resolved: That Council call on the Minister for Education to withdraw DA 2008/1771 for the subdivision of the school at Lot1 Malinya Road, Allambie Heights as the site contains remnant indigenous vegetation, threatened species, aboriginal relics and provides a significant local amenity for the neighbourhood.
- (2)
  - (a) In view of the remnant indigenous vegetation, threatened species, and aboriginal relics on site will the Department of Land intervene to protect the site from subdivision and development?
  - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) No, neither the Department of Planning nor I have received any correspondence from Council on this issue.
- (2)
  - (a) This is a matter for the Minister for Lands.
  - (b) This is a matter for the Minister for Lands.

\*3239 LANDS—ALLAMBIE HEIGHTS—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

DA 2008/1771 for the subdivision of the school at Lot1 Malinya Road, Allambie Heights

On 12 May 2009, Warringah Council resolved the following:

1. That Council call on the Minister for Education to withdraw DA 2008/1771 for the subdivision of the school at Lot1 Malinya Road, Allambie Heights as the site contains remnant indigenous vegetation, threatened species, aboriginal relics and provides a significant local amenity for the neighbourhood.
2. That Council writes to Minister for Planning, Minister for Environment and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, advising of the aboriginal relics on site as well as threatened species on site.

- (1)
  - (a) Has any action been taken in response to the Council's resolutions?
  - (b) If so, what?

Answer—

This question should be directed to the Minister for Education and Training.

**18 JUNE 2009**

(Paper No. 107)

\*3240 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—EXCESS OR RETIRED ANIMALS—Ms Rhiannon asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) What happens to animals at Western Plains Zoo that are considered excess and/or retired?
- (2) Are any animals sold to private individuals or businesses?
- (3) Have any animals been sold to a Mr Bob McComb?
  - (a) If so,
    - (i) what animals were sold?
    - (ii) When were they sold?
    - (iii) How much was paid for each animal?
    - (iv) Where are these animals kept?

(v) How is their ongoing welfare guaranteed?

(4)

- (a) Are animals ever sold for the purpose of hunting?
- (b) If so, is this in accordance with the zoo's purpose, that is to take care of and preserve animals for the enjoyment of future generations?

Answer—

- (1) Animals which are not required for the TWPZ animal collection are preferentially either placed in other zoos and fauna parks, or, occasionally, with private keepers after obtaining the necessary approval of the appropriate Government agencies. Animals may also remain within the Zoo until their death from age related causes. In limited and appropriate cases some animals may be humanely euthanased.
- (2) Only in appropriate cases.
- (3) I am advised:
  - (a) Blackbuck (*Antilope cervicapra*).
  - (b) September 2007 and April 2009.
  - (c) Between \$160-\$300 +gst per animal.
  - (d) Dongadale Deer Park and Stud.
  - (e) Dongadale Deer Park and Stud is required to adhere to NSW Government Animal Welfare and animal keeping legislation as administered by the NSW Department of Primary Industries. I am advised that Dongadale Deer Park and Stud was visited by a Senior Veterinarian from Taronga Western Plains Zoo in 2007 who found the property to be well maintained, with fences in good condition and all animals sighted appeared in good health.
- (4)
  - (a) No.
  - (b) Not applicable.

\*3241 POLICE—EASTERN BEACHES LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Mr Harwin asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) What is the reason for increasing the Authorised Strength of the Eastern Beaches Local Area Command in January 2009?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

- (1) On 1 January 2009, the NSW Police Force authorised strength increased by 70 positions as part of the Government's commitment to deliver 750 additional police officers by 2011. The Eastern Beaches Local Area Command received 2 additional authorised positions from this increase.

\*3242 POLICE—BURWOOD LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Mr Harwin asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) What is the justification for reducing the Authorised Strength of the Burwood Local Area Command from February 2007 level of 155 to the current level of 143, set in December 2008?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

- (1) Workload and other policing data are continually examined to ensure policing resources are allocated adequately. A restructure in 2007 resulted in the establishment of Region Enforcement Squads and Proactive Crime Teams, providing police with the capacity to more swiftly and effectively deploy officers to crime hotspots, in the manner of a mobile strike force that crosses Local Area Command (LAC) boundaries.

\*3243 HEALTH—NEPEAN HOSPITAL - INPATIENT BEDS—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

(1) How many additional inpatient beds have been created at Nepean Hospital since the 2007 election?

Answer—

I am advised that there have been 41 additional beds created at Nepean Hospital since the 2007 election.

\*3244 HOUSING—HOUSING NSW PREMISES ON PRIVATE MARKET—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Leasing of Housing NSW Premises on the Private Rental Market

- (1) In answer to my question asked on 7 May 2009 concerning the procedure whereby Run Property was chosen as the agent to rent Unit 8 /7-41 Cowper Wharf Road, the Minister stated that when Housing NSW engages an organisation on a commercial basis it follows government guidelines.
  - (a) If not, will the Minister provide specific details of the criteria that governed the selection of Run Property as the agent?
- (2) In answer to a question asked on 7 May 2009, the Minister responded that Unit 8 /7-41 Cowper Wharf Road, Woolloomooloo was offered for rental through the private sector at market rent because an assessment was being made about the future use of the property?
  - (a) What was the result of the assessment?
  - (b) If no assessment has been concluded, when will such an assessment be completed?
- (3) Given that Unit 8 /7-41 Cowper Wharf Road, Woolloomooloo is located in an area zoned as residential, in its assessment of "the future of the property" was Housing NSW considering a non-residential use for the property?
  - (a) If so, what non-residential uses were contemplated?
  - (b) Would these uses have required a change of zoning?
  - (c) If not, and there was no intention to seek a non-residential use of the site, what contemplated use made it necessary or desirable to lease the property on the private rental market?
- (4)
  - (a) To which branch office of Housing NSW is the officer who authorised the advertising of the Cowper Wharf Road, Woolloomooloo unit for private rental attached?
  - (b) What is that officer's position title?
- (5)
  - (a) Did the Unit 8 /7-41 Cowper Wharf Road, Woolloomooloo advertisement comply with Housing NSW Code of Conduct and Business Ethics?
  - (b) Was the advertisement for this housing a market testing exercise with no intention on the part of Housing NSW to enter into a residential tenancy agreement?
  - (c) Did the advertisement state that the housing was usually used as social housing for people unable to access or afford private rental?
- (6) What was the intended length of the residential tenancy agreement for the Cowper Wharf Road unit, had one been entered into?
- (7) Which real estate agencies are currently managing Housing NSW residential properties?
- (8) How many Housing NSW residential properties in total are currently being privately rented in NSW? What is the breakdown of this total figure per postcode area?
- (9) How many Housing NSW properties is Run Property currently managing? What is the breakdown of this total figure per postcode area?
- (10) Is income received from private market rentals detailed in Housing NSW's audited accounts?
- (11) For the 2008-2009 financial year, from properties rented on the private rental market:
  - (a) What was the total gross income received by Housing NSW for those properties?
  - (b) What was the net income?
  - (c) What was the annual average percentage commission paid to real estate agents handling these properties?

Answer—

- (1) Run Property was engaged on a commercial basis, consistent with industry standards.
- (2)
  - (a) Not applicable.
  - (b) Over coming months.
- (3) No.
  - (a) Not applicable.
  - (b) Not applicable.
  - (c) Not applicable.
- (4) (a) and (b) A senior Housing NSW official.
- (5)
  - (a) The advertisement did not contravene the Housing NSW Code of Conduct and Ethics.
  - (b) No.
  - (c) No.
- (6) No period was nominated in the advertisement.
- (7) Housing NSW accommodation is principally managed by Housing NSW, various community housing providers and a small number of properties are managed by Run Properties (Millers Point), Raine and Horne (Batemans Bay) and The Professionals (Banora Point).
- (8) 13 boarding houses in Millers Point, 7 unit buildings in Millers Point, 3 houses in Batemans Bay, 1 unit in Banora Point.
- (9) 20 properties in Millers Point.
- (10) Yes.
- (11)
  - (a) \$6,878,046.37.
  - (b) Housing NSW is unclear of the intent of this question. All funds raised from rents, are invested back into social housing. Ms Hale may wish to clarify this point.
  - (c) Commissions to real estate agents are negotiated on each separate engagement and are treated as commercial in confidence.

\*3245 HEALTH—NEPEAN HOSPITAL - OPERATING THEATRES—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

- (1) How many additional operating theatres have been created since the 2007 election?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Nepean Stage 3 redevelopment announced in May 2009 provides for the construction of East Block with an additional 6 operating theatres from 2011.

\*3246 HEALTH—NEPEAN HOSPITAL - CRITICAL CARE SERVICES—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

- (1) Has there been an extension of critical care services at Nepean Hospital since the 2007 election?

Answer—

I am advised:

The redevelopment of the Nepean Hospital Emergency Department was completed in 2006. In 2007 Clinical Initiatives Nurse positions were established in order to review patients and improve clinical safety in the Nepean Hospital Emergency Department waiting room. Nepean Hospital Intensive Care Unit increased bed numbers in 2008/09, providing for 13 intensive care beds and 5 high dependency

beds. Also in 2008, the 6-bed Psychiatric Emergency Care Centre (PECC) was opened at Nepean Hospital adjacent to the Emergency Department.

\*3247 HEALTH—NEPEAN HOSPITAL - NUCLEAR MEDICINE—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

(1) Has there been an extension of nuclear medicine services at Nepean Hospital since the 2007 election?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Department of Nuclear Medicine at Nepean Hospital provides bone scanning for infection, identification of fracture sites and heart scans. Nepean's Department of Nuclear Medicine provided 3,843 occasions of service in the 2008/09 year.

The NSW Health Department has approved the purchase and installation of a Positron Emission Topography (PET) scanner for Nepean Hospital in 2009/10. The purchase of the 64-slice PET scanner will substantially enhance nuclear medicine at Nepean Hospital, particularly in the treatment of cancer.

\*3248 HEALTH—NEPEAN HOSPITAL-CARDIAC INVESTIGATION SERVICES—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

(1) Has there been an extension of Cardiac Investigation services at Nepean Hospital since the 2007 election?

Answer—

I am advised:

In 2008 the Cardiac Catheterisation Laboratory at Nepean Hospital established a second laboratory on Ward W5C. This enabled the transfer of the Special Imaging Suite from Nepean Operating Theatres to level 5 West Block.

The establishment of the second laboratory has enabled staff to improve patient throughput significantly. In 2008 the Cardiac Catheterisation Laboratory conducted over 1,500 occasions of service. This figure has increased on a year-on-year basis in 2009.

\*3249 HEALTH—NEPEAN HOSPITAL - OUTPATIENT SERVICES—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

Nepean Hospital Outpatient Services

(1)

(a) Have outpatient services at Nepean Hospital been expanded since the 2007 election?

(b) If so, what particular services have been expanded?

Answer—

I am advised:

(a) and (b) Outpatient services at Nepean Hospital have expanded substantially since 2007. New outpatient clinics have been established in Paediatrics, Cardio- Paediatrics, High Risk Cardiology Patients, Falls and Fractures Clinic, Multiple Sclerosis infusions (Neurology), and Podiatry. Outpatient clinics have been expanded in Rehabilitation, Geriatric Medicine, Respiratory Medicine, Liver Disease and Addiction Medicine.



In June 2009 the Aged Care and Rehabilitation Centre opened at Nepean Hospital and expanded the existent Rehabilitation and Aged Care and Allied Health Clinics Outpatient Clinics.

The Centre provides outpatient care for 12 aged care patients and 24 rehabilitation patients per day. In addition, an Allied Health Service provides care for an average of 36 patients per day in an active gymnasium on an outpatient basis, and approximately 30 occasions of service for inpatients.

\*3250 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—DEMOUNTABLE CLASSROOMS IN PENRITH AND MULGOA—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Demountable Classrooms in the electorates of Penrith and Mulgoa

- (1) How many demountable classrooms are in Public Schools within the Penrith electorate?
- (2) How many demountable classrooms are in Public Schools within the Mulgoa electorate?
- (3) How much money is allocated in the 2009/10 Budget to remove demountable classrooms and build permanent class rooms in schools in the Penrith electorate?
- (4) How much money is allocated in the 2009/10 Budget to remove demountable classrooms and build permanent class rooms in schools in the Mulgoa Electorate?
- (5) Which Schools in the Penrith electorate will have demountable classrooms removed and permanent classrooms built?
- (6) Which Schools in the Mulgoa electorate will have demountable classrooms removed and permanent classrooms built?

Answer—

- (1) 12.
- (2) 49.
- (3) - (6) Individual projects under the 2009/10 Demountable Replacement Program are yet to be finalised. Details of the program cannot be announced at this time.

\*3251 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—SECURITY FENCES IN PENRITH AND MULGOA SCHOOLS—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

High Security Fences around Public Schools in Penrith and Mulgoa Electorates

- (1) How many Public Schools within the Penrith electorate do not have high security fences around them and what are these Schools?
- (2) How many Public Schools within the Mulgoa electorate do not have high security fences around them and what are these Schools?
- (3) How much money is allocated in the Budget to erect high security fences around schools in the Penrith electorate?
- (4) How much money is allocated in the Budget to erect high security fences around schools in the Mulgoa Electorate?
- (5) Which Schools in the Penrith electorate will have high security fences erected around them?
- (6) Which Schools in the Mulgoa electorate will have high security fences erected around them?

Answer—

- (1) The following 10 schools do not have high security fences: Emu Plains Public School; Glenbrook Public School; Lapstone Public School; Emu Heights Public School; Leonay Public School; Kingswood Public School; Penrith Lakes Environmental Education Centre; Nepean High School; Blaxland High School and Kingswood High School.
- (2) The following 9 schools do not have high security fences: Bringelly Public School; Badgery's Creek Public School; St Marys South Public School; Luddenham Public School; Mulgoa Public School; Orchard Hills Public School; Regentville Public School; Glenmore Park Public School and St Marys Senior High School.

(3) –(6) The 2009/10 security fencing program is expected to be announced in the near future.

\*3252 ROADS—FLASHING LIGHTS NEAR PENRITH AND MULGOA SCHOOLS—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Roads—

Flashing Lights for pedestrian safety around Schools in the Penrith and Mulgoa Electorates

- (1) How many Public Schools within the Penrith electorate do not have "Flashing Lights" for Pedestrian safety around them?
- (2) How many Public Schools within the Mulgoa electorate do not have "Flashing Lights" for Pedestrian safety around them?
- (3) How much money is allocated in the 2009/2010 Budget to for "Flashing Lights" for Pedestrian safety around schools in the Penrith electorate?
- (4) How much money is allocated in the 2009/2010 Budget to for "Flashing Lights" for Pedestrian safety around schools in the Mulgoa electorate?
- (5) Which Schools in the Penrith electorate will have "Flashing Lights" for Pedestrian safety installed around them?
- (6) Which Schools in the Mulgoa electorate will have "Flashing Lights" for Pedestrian safety installed around them?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) - (2) There are currently no schools in the Penrith electorate that have school zone flashing lights installed. Two schools in the Mulgoa electorate have school zone flashing lights installed, these are Orchard Hills Public School at Orchard Hills and Colyton High School at Colyton.

(3) - (6) The Roads and Traffic Authority selects school zone sites for flashing lights on an ongoing basis to maximise road safety in school zones. The list of additional school zones to be fitted during the 2009/2010 financial year is currently being finalised.

\*3253 INFRASTRUCTURE—FUNDING FOR WESTERN SYDNEY INFRASTRUCTURE—Ms Ficarra asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

Funding for Western Sydney Infrastructure

- (1) What is the total amount of funds delivered by the Government for infrastructure in Western Sydney for the following periods:
  - (a) 2007/2008?
  - (b) 2008 to present?
- (2) What infrastructure projects have commenced in Western Sydney for the following periods:
  - (a) 2007/2008?
  - (b) 2008 to present?
- (3) What infrastructure projects have been completed in Western Sydney for the following periods:
  - (a) 2007/2008?
  - (b) 2008 to present?

Answer—

I'm advised:

- (1) The total amount of funds budgeted for capital works and road maintenance expenditure within Greater Western Sydney (including the Competitive Government Sector and excluding some multi-region projects not split by region):
  - (a) \$2.2 billion for 2007-08.
  - (b) \$2.2 billion for 2008-09.

(2)

- (a) Infrastructure projects in Western Sydney with the main contract awarded in 2007-08 (excluding the Competitive Government Sector and some multi-region projects not split by region):

Arena Makegood - Sydney International Equestrian Centre
Bankstown TAFE - Children's Centre and Community Services Upgrade
Campbelltown High School - Upgrade
Cowpasture Road Camden Valley Way to Main Street
Dunheved Fire Station
Granville TAFE - Student Amenities and Security
Great Western Highway Woodford to Hazelbrook
Homebush Bay West Maritime Precinct
Hoxton Park Recycled Water Project – major pipelines and advanced water treatment plant at St Marys
Lidcombe TAFE - Design Centre Refurbishment
Liverpool Hospital Redevelopment Stage 2
Liverpool Turnback
Macarthur Station 4th Platform
Mamre Road M4 Overpass Duplication
Nepean Hospital Bed Capacity Expansion
Nepean Hospital North Block Refurbishment
Nepean Hospital Other Equipment
Nirimba TAFE - Campus Redevelopment
Olympic Park Railway Station works
Quakers Hill to Schofields Duplication
Reclad and Refurbish Kingswood Repository Building - Stage 2
Renewable Energy Program (Sydney Water) – cogeneration plants at Glenfield and Liverpool and hydro-electric generators at Prospect
Replacement Flows Project (part of the Western Sydney Recycled Water Initiative) – recycled water plant and distribution network
Silverwater Fire Station
Sydney Olympic Park - Asset Replacement/Renewal
Sydney Olympic Park - Town Centre Car Park
State Sports Centre Works
Sydney Water Developer Funded Works
The Hills School - Upgrade
Windsor Police Station

- (b) Infrastructure projects in Western Sydney with the main contract awarded in 2008-09 (excluding the Competitive Government Sector and some multi-region projects not split by region. January to June 2009 information is not yet final):

Bankstown Hospital Pathways Home
Easy Access Emu Plains Station
Emu Plains Juvenile Justice Centre Works
Freemans Reach, Glossodia, Wilberforce Sewerage Scheme
Glenfield to Liverpool Effluent Diversion Scheme
Hawkesbury Heights, Yellow Rock Sewerage Scheme
Hazelbrook Public School Upgrade
Hoxton Park Road: Banks Road to Cowpasture Road
Londonderry, Agnes Banks Sewerage Scheme
Macquarie Fields TAFE - Sport and Recreation
Narellan Fire Station Renovations
North Georges River Sewer Submain Rehabilitation North West Growth Centre Integrated Water Servicing – first release precincts
Sydney Water - Potts Hill Facility Consolidation
Westmead Public School Upgrade
Winmalee Sewage Treatment Plant Renewal and Modification

(3)

- (a) Infrastructure projects completed in Western Sydney in 2007-08 (excluding the Competitive Government Sector and some multi-region projects not split by region):

Birrong Boys High School - Upgrade
Blacktown Psychiatric Emergency Care Centre
Easy Access Belmore Station
Easy Access Auburn Station
Fairfield Sewer Diversion Scheme
Granville Boys High School Upgrade - Stage 3
Granville TAFE - Infrastructure Upgrade
Greenacre Fire Station Renovations
Holroyd High School Upgrade
Holsworthy Sewage Transfer Scheme
Lawrence Hargrave School Upgrade
Lidcombe Public School Hall
Liverpool to Ashfield Sewage Pipeline
Minchinbury Reservoir
Narellan Road Extension
Nepean Psychiatric Emergency Care Centre
Parramatta Justice Office Building
Penrith High School Upgrade
Richmond TAFE - Equine Studies Facility
Ropes Crossing Public School - New School
Second Ponds Creek Public School - New School
St Marys Police Station - New Station
Transitway North West Network
Western Sydney Strategy - Cancer Care Centre Refurbishment
Western Sydney Strategy – Women's Health/Newborn Care Centre Redevelopment
Westfields Sports High School Upgrade
Windsor Road: South Creek Crossing

- (b) Infrastructure projects completed in Western Sydney in 2008-09 (excluding the Competitive Government Sector and some multi-region projects not split by region. January to June 2009 information is not yet final):

Bankstown TAFE - Children's Centre and Community Services Upgrade
Campbelltown High School - Upgrade
Dunheved Fire Station
Granville TAFE - Student Amenities and Security
Penrith Government Office Building
Rouse Hill Sewage Treatment Plant and Recycled Water Plant Amplification
Silverwater Fire Station
Sydney Water - Parramatta Head Office Fitout
Upper Blue Mountains Sewerage Scheme
West Camden Sewage Treatment Plant Amplification and Upgrade

\*3254 PREMIER—PENRITH GOVERNMENT OFFICE—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

Penrith Government Office

- (1) What is the total amount of money spent on building the Penrith Government Office?
- (2) How much vacant space is in the Penrith Government Office Building?

- (3) How many public servants work in the Sydney Catchment Authority in the Penrith Government Office?
- (4) How many Executive and staff positions will be abolished/made redundant from the Sydney Catchment Authority as a result of the new Super Departments/and State Budget cuts?
- (5) How many public servants work in the regional office of the Department of Community Services in the Penrith Government Office?
- (6) How many Executive and staff positions will be abolished or made redundant at the Penrith regional offices of the Department of Community Services as a result of the new Super Departments/and State Budget cuts?
- (7) How many public servants work in the Office of Fair Trading in the Penrith Government Office?
- (8) How many Executive and staff positions will be abolished and made redundant at the Penrith regional offices of the Office of Fair Trading as a result of the new Super Departments/and State Budget cuts?
- (9) Are there any other Government Departments or Agencies housed in the Penrith Government Office?
  - (a) if so, please name the respective Department or Agency and the number of public servants by respective Department or Agency?
  - (b) Please list the number of public servants by each of these Department or Agencies that will lose their jobs due to the introduction of Super Departments/staff cuts?

Answer—

The Penrith Government Office was officially opened on 12 December 2008. In addition to the jobs created during its construction the building continues to support the local economy by housing the Sydney Catchment Authority, Department of Community Services, Office of Fair Trading, Consumer Trade and Tenancy Tribunal, and the Office of Industrial Relations. The Department of Juvenile Justice is expected to move into the building in August 2009.

\*3255 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—SYDNEY CATCHMENT AUTHORITY STAFF IN PENRITH—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

Sydney Catchment Authority Staff housed at Penrith Government Office

- (1) How many public servants work in the Sydney Catchment Authority in the Penrith Government Office?
- (2) How many Executive and staff positions will be abolished/made redundant from the Sydney Catchment Authority as a result of the new Super Departments/and State Budget cuts?

Answer—

These questions should be directed to the Minister for Water.

\*3256 COMMUNITY SERVICES—PENRITH GOVERNMENT OFFICE—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Community Services—

DOCS Regional Office Penrith Government Office

- (1) How many public servants work in the regional office of the Department of Community Services in the Penrith Government Office?
- (2) How many Executive and staff positions will be abolished/made redundant at the Penrith regional offices of the Department of Community Services as a result of the new Super Departments/State Budget cuts?

Answer—

- (1) As at 3 July 2009 - 18 in the Regional Office and 58 in Penrith Community Services Centre.
- (2) There are no plans to delete or make redundant any staff located in Penrith.

\*3257 FAIR TRADING—FAIR TRADING REGIONAL OFFICE IN PENRITH—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State representing the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Citizenship, and Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts—

Office of Fair Trading Regional Office Penrith Government Office

- (1) How many public servants work in the Office of Fair Trading in the Penrith Government Office?
- (2) How many Executive and staff positions will be abolished and made redundant at the Penrith regional offices of the Office of Fair Trading as a result of the new Super Departments/Budget cuts?

Answer—

- (1) There is a total of 39 staff working in the Penrith Fair Trading Centre. This is represented by three separate functions:
  - Customer Services - 12 staff;
  - Home Building Service - 17 staff;
  - Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal - 10 staff.
  - Customer Services - 12 staff;
  - Home Building Service - 17 staff;
  - Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal - 10 staff.
- (2) The Premier made it clear in his announcement on 11 June 2009 that the creation of 13 super departments will not impact on any frontline jobs or services.

\*3258 WESTERN SYDNEY—PREFERRED BUSINESS LOCATION—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Western Sydney A preferred location for business

- (1) What has the Government done during the following periods to finalise the vision for Penrith as a regional city in Western Sydney and to make Western Sydney a preferred location for business:
  - (a) 2007/2008?
  - (b) 2008 to present ?
- (2) How much money has the Government spent of the following periods in order to finalise the vision for Penrith as a regional city in Western Sydney and to make Western Sydney a preferred location for business:
  - (a) 2007/2008?
  - (b) 2008 to present?

Answer—

- (1)
  - (a) & (b) The NSW Government recognises Western Sydney as a vital contributor to the State's economy, as a major centre for growth, innovation and as an environmental asset.

The vision for Penrith includes 10,000 new jobs matched by 10,000 new residents in the City Centre by 2031.

The recently delivered Penrith State Office building is a huge \$1.2 billion state-of-the-art Government office that brings together various services and staff under the one roof, including the Department of Fair Trading, the Department of Community Services and the Sydney Catchment Authority.

The newly created Office for the Hawkesbury-Nepean will also shortly take up occupancy in the building overseeing a \$77 million investment to restore the Hawkesbury Nepean River's health, improving the ecology and water quality.

In Parramatta we have the State's greatest example of Government decentralisation. Western Sydney residents can now work in head offices of Police, the Heritage office, Sydney Water, the Office of State Revenue or the Attorney General's Department.

In 2007-08 a new Older Persons Evaluation Review and Assessment [OPERA] unit was built on level 1A of Nepean Hospital. The Government also delivered a new after-hours general practitioners clinic based at Nepean Hospital.

At Jamison High School, a trade school was constructed during 2008 and is now open for business. A new library at Kingswood Park Public School was an in-house refurbishment project of the Department of Education and Training. In addition, during 2007 easy access upgrades were delivered to Blaxland railway station, and Emu Plains railway station is presently undergoing a \$2 million easy access upgrade.

In March 2009 the NSW Government amended a Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (SREP) at St Marys to help create up to 3,000 jobs when the employment and residential precinct is complete.

In the 2009/2010 budget, a further \$11 million has been allocated for the redevelopment of Nepean Hospital, which will create more jobs, boost local businesses and the Penrith economy.

In 09/10 the NSW Government is also investing over \$42 million to strengthen Penrith city's energy infrastructure and to ensure that the growing population in Penrith is well serviced.

Over \$40 million has been invested by the NSW Government in Western Sydney arts and cultural development in the past seven years. The Government's contribution to cultural capital infrastructure alone in Western Sydney has been over \$20 million.

In 2007 the NSW Government released the Employment Lands Action Plan for Sydney.

This identified the Western Sydney Employment Lands Investigation Area between the Western Sydney Employment Hub and Badgerys Creek, as having the potential to meet medium to long term need for employment lands.

The Marsden Park Employment Precinct, set to become the biggest employment area in the North West Growth Centre, was released by the Government in June 2008.

Construction on the first development in Sydney's Growth Centres began in late 2008 with major civil works at Oran Park, which will be Sydney's biggest residential development in the past decade.

(2)

(a) & (b) Over \$12 billion has been invested in Western Sydney since 2007/2008, continuing the NSW Government's commitment to growing the three regional river cities of Penrith, Parramatta and Liverpool and delivering improved and expanded services for families across greater Western Sydney.

As part of the 09/10 budget, a record investment in Western Sydney includes:

- \$336 million for energy infrastructure
- \$250 million to protect our water supply and improve water infrastructure.
- \$410 million for road safety and new and upgraded roads.
- 17 new commuter car parks, of which, one will be at Penrith, Emu Plains, Werrington, & St Marys.
- \$8 million over two years for a commuter ferry service between Parramatta and the Sydney CBD and another \$36.5 million for 87 new buses for the region.
- Over \$45 million will be spent to upgrade local schools and TAFEs.

- \$22 million will be invested to improve the facilities at Western Sydney Parklands - a park that is around 25 times the size of Centennial Park, ensuring the people living in Western Sydney can enjoy a landmark park and native bushland in their own backyard.

I am proud to say that this is the latest chapter in the NSW Government's long-term investment in Western Sydney.

\*3259 ENERGY—ELECTRICITY SYSTEMS UPGRADES IN PENRITH AND EMU PLAINS—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—

Electricity systems upgrades Penrith and Emu Plains

- (1) What has the Government done since March 2007 to upgrade electricity systems at Penrith and Emu Plains?
- (2) How much money was spent by the Government to upgrade electricity systems at Penrith and Emu Plains during the following periods:
  - (a) March 2007 to March 2008?
  - (b) March 2008 to March 2009?
  - (c) March 2009 to present?

Answer—

I am advised by Integral Energy that:

- (1) Since March 2007, approximately \$40 million has been invested in upgrading the electricity distribution network in Penrith and Emu Plains. This includes \$19 million on the redevelopment of the Penrith Transmission Substation, \$5 million upgrading the Emu Plains Zone Substation and \$16 million on upgrades and maintenance of the electricity distribution network in these areas.
- (2)
  - (a) \$17.1 million.
  - (b) \$21.1 million.
  - (c) \$1.6 million.

\*3260 FINANCE—WORKCOVER SMALL BUSINESS COMMITTEE-WESTERN SYDNEY—Ms Ficarra asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

WorkCover Small Business Committee Western Sydney

- (1) When was the WorkCover Small Business Committee established?
- (2) Who are the members of this Committee?
- (3) What has the Committee's activities been since March 2007?

Answer—

The Western Sydney Small Business Forum was established in April 2008 and is comprised of small businesses from the Western Sydney region.

The Small Business Forum provides feedback to WorkCover to assist ongoing product and service development and improvement and helps ensure that WorkCover's services are relevant and meet the needs of the local business community.

\*3261 ARTS—FUNDING FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL FACILITIES—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

Funding for art and cultural facilities - Penrith and Mulgoa



- (1) How much money has the Government allocated for art and cultural facilities in Penrith and Mulgoa electorates during the following periods:
  - (a) 2007/2008?
  - (b) 2008 to present?
- (2) What art and cultural facilities have received funding from the Government in the Penrith and Mulgoa electorates during the following periods:
  - (a) 2007/2008?
  - (b) 2008 to present?

Answer—

I am advised that information relating to the funding of arts and cultural institutions in the Penrith and Mulgoa electorates is available in the annual reports of the Department of the Arts, Sport and Recreation and the Library Council of New South Wales.

\*3262 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—FUNDING TO JAMIESON HIGH SCHOOL—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Funding to Jamieson High School

- (1) How much money has the Government allocated to Jamieson High School over the following periods:
  - (a) 2007-2008?
  - (b) 2008-2009?
  - (c) 2009-2010?

Answer—

- (1) Direct funding to Jamison High School is as follows:
  - (a) \$655,750.
  - (b) \$900,531.
  - (c) Funding for 2009/2010 is yet to be determined as it includes Semester 1, 2010 funding.

The above amounts do not include the cost of school operations met centrally such as permanent salaries, capital works, major maintenance and cleaning.

\*3263 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—UPGRADE OF TOILET BLOCKS AND FACILITIES IN SCHOOLS—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Upgrade of Toilet blocks and facilities in Schools How much money, if any, has the Government spent in upgrading toilet blocks and facilities respectively, at the following Schools since March 2007:
  - (a) Castlereagh Public School?
  - (b) Lethbridge Park High School?
  - (c) Bennett Road Public School?
  - (d) Nepean High School?
  - (e) Emu Heights Public School?
  - (f) St Marys South Public School?
  - (g) Regentville Public School?

Answer—

The Department of Education and Training's programs are typically organised by financial year, therefore it is not possible to provide funding details of projects by calendar year or month.

Since the 2006/07 financial year, the State Government has allocated \$645,586.85 for minor capital works projects to upgrade toilet facilities at Castlereagh Public School, Bennett Road Public School, Nepean High School, Emu Heights Public School and St Marys South Public School.

\*3264 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—UPGRADE OF SCIENCE LABORATORIES IN SCHOOLS—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Upgrade of Science Laboratories in Schools

- (1) How much money, if any, has the Government spent in upgrading science laboratories respectively at the following Schools since March 2007:
- (a) Colo High School?
  - (b) Richmond High School?
  - (c) Colyton High School?
  - (d) St Clair High School?
  - (e) St Marys Senior High School?
  - (f) Blaxland High School?
  - (g) Jamison High School?
  - (h) Kingswood High School?
  - (i) Nepean High School?

Answer—

The Department of Education and Training's programs are typically organised by financial year, therefore it is not possible to provide funding details of projects by calendar year or month.

Since the 2006/07 financial year the State Government has allocated \$6,685,993 for capital works projects to upgrade science laboratories at the above schools.

\*3265 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—SECURITY FENCE UPGRADES—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Security Fence Upgrades How much money, if any, has the Government spent in upgrading Security Fences at the following respective Schools since March 2007:
- (a) Hawkesbury High School/Freemans Reach Public School?
  - (b) Bennett Road Public School?
  - (c) St Clair Public School?
  - (d) Blaxland East Public School?
  - (e) Kingswood South Public School?
  - (f) Penrith South Public School?

Answer—

- (1)
- (a) This is a 2007 Building Better Schools election commitment to be delivered during the term of this Government.
  - (b) A security fence was completed on 20 May 2009 at a total cost of \$261,469.
  - (c) St Clair Public School has an existing security fence comprising the new style fence at the front of the school and the older style weldmesh fence at the side of the school.
  - (d) A security fence was completed on 3 July 2007 at a total cost of \$194,592.
  - (e) A security fence was completed on 20 May 2009 at a total cost of \$262,657.
  - (f) A security fence was completed on 1 February 2008 at a total cost of \$125,291.

- \*3266 PREMIER—PREMIERS SPORTING CHALLENGE—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

Premier's Sporting Challenge

- (1) How much money, if any, has the Government allocated to Schools in the Penrith and Mulgoa electorates since March 2007 through the Premier's Sporting Challenge?
- (2) What Schools, if any, in the Penrith and Mulgoa electorates received funds through the Premier's Sporting Challenge?

Answer—

- (1) and (2)

The Premier's Sporting Challenge is a \$58 million program aimed at encouraging school students to live healthy, active lifestyles. I am advised that 45 Schools in the Penrith and Mulgoa electorates were allocated more than \$136,000 in 2008/09 through the Premier's Sporting Challenge.

- \*3267 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—READING RECOVERY TEACHERS—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

Reading Recovery Teachers

- (1) How many Reading Recovery teachers have been recruited by the Government since March 2007 to present?
- (2) How many Primary Schools in the Penrith and Mulgoa electorates have Reading Recovery teaches and please list the respective School and the number of Reading Recovery teachers in the respective School?
- (3) How many High Schools in the Penrith and Mulgoa electorates have Reading Recovery teaches and please list the respective School and the number of Reading Recovery teachers in the respective School?

Answer—

- (1) One hundred additional Reading Recovery teachers have been made available to schools through the Best Start initiative announced in March 2007.
- (2) Twenty primary schools in the Mulgoa and Penrith electorates are implementing Reading Recovery in 2009. The schools and number of Reading Recovery teachers currently implementing Reading Recovery are as follows:

Mulgoa Electorate	
Banks Public School	1
Bennett Road Public School	2
Blackwell Public School	1
Clairgate Public School	1
Oxley Park Public School	2
Regentville Public School	1
St Clair Public School	1
St Marys Public School	1
St Marys South Public School	1
Surveyors Creek Public School	1
Penrith Electorate	
Blaxland East Public School	1
Emu Heights Public School	1
Emu Plains Public School	1
Jamisontown Public School	1
Kingswood Park Public School	1

Kingswood Public School	1
Kingswood South Public School	1
Penrith Public School	1
Penrith South Public School	1
York Public School	1

- (3) Reading Recovery is an early intervention program that support students experiencing difficulty learning to read and write in Year 1.

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- \*3268 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—BOVINE JOHNE DISEASE INQUIRY—Mr Gay asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—

In relation to Bovine Johne's disease:

- (1) What is the number of beef cattle herds within Australia that have been affected by the Bovine Johne's Disease (BJD) inquiry involving the Quindalup and Vishala Park (PIC NA 621036) herd?
- (2)
- (a) What is the number of PIC NA 621036 cattle that have been slaughtered and tested for BJD using histology and tissue culture sampling?
- (b) How many of these animals have come back with a positive result from either of these two definitive tests?
- (c) Based on these results, what is the infection rate for the PIC NA 621036 herd?

Answer—

- (1) 35 to date.
- (2)
- (a) 27.
- (b) 5.
- (c) 13.5%.

- \*3269 TRANSPORT—MAIN NORTH LINE OF GLEN INNES—Ms Rhiannon asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1)
- (a) Is the Main North line north of Glen Innes still open to trains?
- (b) When did a train last use this line?
- (2)
- (a) Has the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) built roads over any part of the Main North line north of Glen innes?
- (b) If so, do these roads prevent trains from running along the Main North line north of Glen Innes?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)
- (a) No.
- (b) 1989.
- (2) In the early 1990's the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) undertook a realignment of the New England highway at Bluff Rock. This realignment was done with the approval of the rail entities with

the understanding that should services resume on the line, additional works would need to be undertaken to re-open the line.

\*3270 STATE DEVELOPMENT—V8 SUPERCAR RACES—Ms Rhiannon asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—

- (1)
  - (a) Have any studies been conducted on the impact of holding V8 supercar races at Olympic Park on the habitat of the green and golden bellfrog?
  - (b) If so, what are the findings of these studies?
- (2)
  - (a) Have any studies been conducted on the impact of holding V8 supercar races at Olympic Park on the air quality in the immediate area of the race?
  - (b) If so, what are the findings of these studies?
- (3)
  - (a) Given community concerns about the environmental impact of the race, will the Minister monitor and review the environmental impact of the V8 supercar race to be held in December 2009?
  - (b) If not, why not?
  - (c) If so, will the findings of this review be made public?

Answer—

- (1)
  - (a) Yes.
  - (b) V8 Supercars Australia Pty Ltd (V8SA) engaged Biosphere Environmental Consultants (BEC) to assess the likelihood of the Sydney Telstra 500 V8 Motor Race having significant effect on the Green and Golden Bell Frog and its habitat. BEC concluded that the proposed works will not result in the loss of habitat or impact directly on Green and Golden Bell Frogs at Sydney Olympic Park. Amelioration measures entailing the use of existing and temporary frog-exclusion fences will ensure that the Green and Golden Bell Frogs are not accidentally harmed or killed during the works. The proposed works will not prevent Bell Frogs from moving around the majority of the site. It is proposed that some barriers will be in place for a few days close to the racing precinct, but these will have no significant impact on the frogs or their life cycle. Site preparation measures prior to the onset of the works will prevent dust or run-off from entering nearby frog habitat areas. Overall, the proposed motor race will have negligible impact on the Green and Golden Bell Frogs on the site or within Sydney Olympic Park.
- (2)
  - (a) No.
  - (b) Not applicable.
- (3)
  - (a) Yes.
  - (b) Not applicable.
  - (c) Yes.

\*3271 TRANSPORT—ILLEGAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE USED IN TAXI—Ms Rhiannon asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) How many New South Wales taxi drivers have been charged with the illegal use or possession of electronic "skimmers", that is, electronic data devices that separately strip off or record the personal data on a credit card, where:
  - (a) a credit card is offered by passengers as payment for fares?
  - (b) a debit card is offered by passengers as payment for fares?

- (2) How many New South Wales taxi drivers have been convicted of the illegal use or possession of electronic "skimmers" with regard to:
- (a) credit cards being used to pay taxi fares?
  - (b) debit cards being used to pay taxi fares?

Answer—

(1) - (2) I am advised:

The New South Wales Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research is the official source of New South Wales crime statistics.

\*3272 TRANSPORT—CASINO MURWILLUMBAH RAIL LINE—Ms Rhiannon asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1)
- (a) Is the Minister aware of the 2004 promise by then Federal Shadow Minister for Tourism, Martin Ferguson, to reopen the Casino Murwillumbah rail line?
  - (b)
    - (i) If so, has the Minister taken this issue up with Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development, Anthony Albanese?
    - (ii) If not, why not?
- (2) Is there any funding provided in the 2009/2010 budget to keep the Casino-Murwillumbah rail line in a condition that it can be re-opened if the government deems it necessary in the future?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)
- (a) Yes.
  - (b)
    - (i) No.
    - (ii) The final Report of the Cross Border Transport Taskforce, released earlier this year, concluded that residents' greatest need is for intra- regional connectivity and local transport; and that the re- commencement of the operation of passenger rail services on the Casino-Murwillumbah line is not warranted. As is noted in the Report, the Government has accepted all of the recommendations of the Report and confirms the decision taken in 2004 to cease the operation of rail passenger services on the Casino Murwillumbah railway line; they are not being reinstated. On that basis, there is no present need to seek additional funding from the Commonwealth in respect of that rail corridor.
- (2) Rail passenger services between Casino and Murwillumbah are not being reinstated. In relation to the rail corridor between Casino and Murwillumbah, funding is provided to the Rail Infrastructure Corporation for the purpose of ensuring that appropriate measures can be put in place to deal with safety, environmental or land management risks that might arise.

\*3273 TRANSPORT—MAIL RAIL LINES TO BRISBANE AND MELBOURNE—Ms Rhiannon asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1)
- (a) How many steel bridges on the mail rail lines to Brisbane and Melbourne are in need of repair work due to significant damage from rust?
  - (b) When was the most recent safety audit of steel bridges on the mail rail lines to Brisbane and Melbourne?
  - (c) How much money is allocated in the 2009/2010 budget for repair works to steel bridges on the mail rail lines to Brisbane and Melbourne?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) (a) – (c) In 2004 the NSW Government signed an agreement with the Commonwealth Government owned Australian Rail Track Corporation to lease the New South Wales interstate track.

Any bridges over the interstate track between Brisbane and Melbourne (excluding the CityRail network) would therefore fall under the responsibility of the Australian Rail Track Corporation, local councils or relevant road authorities.

\*3274 FINANCE—BREACHES OF WORKERS COMPENSATION LEGISLATION—Ms Rhiannon asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

(1)

(a) Has any action other than prosecution, been taken against any current workcover manager in their capacity as company director, for breaches of the Workers Compensation legislation, such as under-reporting the number of company employees? (In the answer, please include all managers regardless of whether or not they had declared a conflict of interest and/or secondary employment at the time of any breaches occurring).

(b) What are the details of any breaches?

(c) What penalties were applied?

Answer—

I'm advised no action has been taken against any current WorkCover manager in their capacity as company director, for breaches of the Workers Compensation legislation.

\*3275 FINANCE—WORKPLACES VISITED BY INSPECTORS—Ms Rhiannon asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

(1) Is the number of workplaces visited by the Inspectorate now less than one per week per Inspector?

(2) How many New South Wales workplaces have been visited by Inspectors in each month for the past six months?

Answer—

WorkCover inspectors undertake a range of activities to prevent injuries and illness in the workplace. Workplace visits are only one type of activity which Inspectors undertake to ensure compliance.

In addition to inspection, investigation and enforcement activities, Inspectors also play a critical role in Small Business forums and workshops, the engagement of stakeholders through proactive compliance projects, educational programs and governmental safety working groups.

All of these interventions contribute to the prevention of death, injury and ill health to those at work and those affected by work activities

\*3276 POLICE—ILLEGAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE USED IN TAXI—Ms Rhiannon asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

(1) How many New South Wales taxi drivers have been charged with the illegal use or possession of electronic "skimmers", that is, electronic data devices that separately strip off or record the personal data on a credit card, where:

(a) a credit card is offered by passengers as payment for fares?

(b) a debit card is offered by passengers as payment for fares?

(2) How many New South Wales taxi drivers have been convicted of the illegal use or possession of electronic "skimmers" with regard to:

(a) credit cards being used to pay taxi fares?

(b) debit cards being used to pay taxi fares?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

- (1) A search of police records has revealed one instance of a taxi driver having been served with a Court Attendance Notice for an offence of this type involving a credit card.
- (2) This question should be addressed to the Attorney General.

\*3277 POLICE—BALLISTICS TESTS FOR FIREARMS HANDED IN—Ms Rhiannon asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

(1)

- (a) Were firearms handed in during the recent amnesty subject to any ballistics testing prior to being destroyed?
- (b) If not, did the recent gun amnesty that ended on May 31 provide criminals with an easy way to dispose of weapons used in crimes because the weapons were not checked before being disposed of?

(2)

- (a) Have all the firearms handed in under the amnesty been destroyed?
- (b) If all firearms handed in under the amnesty have not been destroyed, will the destruction be halted until all weapons have been put through a ballistics test to determine if those weapons have been used in a crime?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

- (1) - (2) A key aim of the Firearms Amnesty was to get unregistered guns off the streets. The 'no questions asked' condition of the Amnesty precluded ballistics testing.

\*3278 POLICE—VEHICLE CRASHES CAUSED BY MOBILE PHONE USAGE—Ms Rhiannon asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

(1)

- (a) In the last financial year, how many motor vehicle crashes have occurred with mobile phone usage as a contributing factor?
- (b) What data does New South Wales Police collect at motor vehicle accidents to verify whether mobile phone usage by a driver has had a contributory impact to the accident?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) Police information systems are operational, not statistical, and police do not record or investigate all motor vehicle collisions. Should evidence suggest that mobile phone usage may have been a contributing factor in a crash being investigated by police, investigators may pursue that specific line of inquiry.

\*3279 POLICE—FIREARMS LICENCES—Ms Rhiannon asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

(1)

- (a) Are there any firearms licences currently issued in New South Wales for owners of Owen submachine guns?
- (b) If so,
  - (i) how many are issued?
  - (ii) Are any special limitations attached to those licences?

Answer—



The NSW Police Force has advised me :

- (1)
  - (a) Yes.
  - (b)
    - (i) 39.
    - (ii) The firearm licence/permit types on issue include Firearms Dealer - Theatrical Armourer licence, Firearm Museum permit and RSL Display permit. These are all strictly regulated, including strict safe storage requirements. A condition on the permit requires that the firearms be rendered temporarily inoperable.

\*3280 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—LOGGING TRUCKS TRAVEL ALONG GRAFTON—Ms Rhiannon asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—

- (1) Does Forestry NSW allow logging trucks to travel along the Grafton Armidale Road in non-daylight hours?
- (2) Is there any curfew applied to the hours that logging trucks can use the Grafton Armidale Road in non-daylight hours?
- (3)
  - (a) Is the Minister or the Department aware of any incidents where logs have fallen off the back of traveling logging trucks along the Grafton Armidale Road?
  - (b) If so,
    - (i) what are the details of these incidents?
    - (ii) what was the Department's response?

Answer—

- (1) The Roads and Traffic Authority administer the road and Forests NSW has no jurisdiction.
- (2) No.
- (3)
  - (a) Yes.
  - (b)
    - (i) A log was lost from a truck three years ago. There were no adverse effects from this event.
    - (ii) A Truck Safety Group was established and a Manager, Contractor Safety, appointed.

\*3281 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—IMPACT OF LAND CLEARING ON FLOODS—Ms Rhiannon asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—

- (1)
  - (a) Have any studies been conducted into whether land clearing worsened the severity of May 2009 floods on the mid-North and North coast?
  - (b) If so, what are the findings of those studies?
- (2)
  - (a) Will the Department undertake research into factors that may have contributed to the severity of the floods on the mid-North and North Coasts?
  - (b) If so,
    - (i) will that research be publicly released?
    - (ii) if so, when will it be completed?
    - (iii) if not, why not?

Answer—

This is the responsibility of the Hon Tony Kelly MLC, Minister for Lands.

\*3282 ROADS—OIL REQUIREMENT FOR ROAD BUILDING—Ms Rhiannon asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Roads—

(1)

- (a) Is the Department taking depleting oil supplies into account when planning for future asphalt requirements in road-building and maintenance works?
- (b) Has the Department undertaken any studies into the projected future needs for asphalt in road-building and maintenance works and the oil required to fulfill these works?
  - (i) If so, what were the results of these studies?
  - (ii) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1)

- (a) The availability and sustainable use of road making products derived from crude oil is considered to be a National issue, and the RTA is participating in related ongoing Austroads research initiatives. The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) considers alternative products and processes in light of a range of competing policy initiatives, including the necessity to reduce its carbon footprint.
- (b) The RTA is working with industry in the development and trials of :
  - Thinner bituminous surfacings;
  - Alternative surfacings based on synthetic and cement binders;
  - Increased recycling; and,
  - Improved long term performance of pavements.
  - Thinner bituminous surfacings;
  - Alternative surfacings based on synthetic and cement binders;
  - Increased recycling; and,
  - Improved long term performance of pavements.

When major multi-year development programs such as the Pacific and Hume Highway upgrades are proposed, the RTA undertakes a review of necessary materials resources.

\*3283 ROADS—M4 TOLLWAY—Ms Rhiannon asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Roads—

(1)

- (a) With the federal government's rejection of the government's request for funding for the extension of the M4 tollway, will other avenues for funding this project be pursued?
  - (b) If so, will the government undertake a commitment to the New South Wales public that this project will not be listed as either state significant or critical infrastructure, and allow the proposal to be assessed on environmental impact and merit?
- (2) What, if any, undertakings or commitments have been made with Leightons regarding the section of the M4 East proposal that has been referred to in the Steer Report as the Marrickville Truck Tunnel?
  - (3) Documents obtained in 2005 from the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) indicate that a 'Victoria Road Extension' is part of the proposal to extend the M4 tollway. Is the present proposal to duplicate the Iron Cove Bridge a part of the 'Victoria Road Extension' referred to in the capital expenditure documents for the M4 extension?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1)

- (a) In accordance with the former Premier's Urban Transport Statement released in November 2006, the New South Wales Government has been considering options for the easterly extension of the M4 Motorway in tunnel. To date, feasibility studies and planning activities were undertaken in preparation for the Federal funding submission to Infrastructure Australia last

year. While funds for construction were not forthcoming from the Federal Government in 2009, funds have been allocated in the State Budget for on-going feasibility and planning activities. The possibility of Federal funding in the future should not be ruled out. State borrowings might also be considered, possibly to supplement future Federal funds. The private sector may also be considered to finance part of the cost of the proposal, when finance market conditions become more favourable.

- (b) If a decision is made by the New South Wales Government to proceed with the project, further development activities would be undertaken prior to construction works. A detailed environmental assessment and community and stakeholder involvement will form important components of the development phase. At this stage, it cannot be determined whether the project should be regarded as state significant and/or critical infrastructure. This will depend upon the final form and scope of the project.
- (2) No undertakings or commitments have been given to Leightons or any other company in relation to the M4 East proposal or the previously proposed Marrickville Tunnel.
- (3) The duplication of the Iron Cove Bridge is not part of a possible M4 East "Victoria Road extension".

\*3284 ROADS—USE OF MOBILE PHONES WHILE DRIVING—Ms Rhiannon asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Roads—

- (1)
  - (a) Has the Minister received a letter from Peter Hawker sent 15 May 2009 regarding the use of mobile phones while driving?
  - (b) Will the Minister reply to this letter?
  - (c) If so, when can Mr Hawker expect a response?
- (2) What consultation has the Minister or his Department undertaken with stakeholders with regard to motorcycle and scooter safety and awareness?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) (a) to (c) A response has been provided.
- (2) The Minister and the Roads and Traffic Authority recognise the Motorcycle Council of New South Wales as a key stakeholder in motorcycle safety. The Motorcycle Council is consulted whenever issues arise that require external stakeholder consultation or input.

\*3285 EMERGENCY SERVICES—IMPACT OF LAND CLEARING ON FLOODS—Ms Rhiannon asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State representing the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Small Business—

- (1)
  - (a) Are there any studies into whether land clearing worsened the severity of May 2009 floods on the mid-North and North coast?
  - (b) If so, what are the findings of those studies?
- (2)
  - (a) Will the Department undertake research into factors that may have contributed to the severity of the floods on the mid-North and North Coasts?
  - (b) If so, when will it be completed?
  - (c) if so, will that research be publicly released?

Answer—

(1) - (2) There is no work current or proposed by agencies within my portfolio because no agencies within my portfolio have any authority to direct or influence landuse or river catchment management. However, the SES is working with the Department of Environment and Climate Change and relevant Local Government Councils to collect flood effects data from the May floods. This data will be used to review SES flood intelligence and flood plans to ensure our arrangements reflect expected flood behaviour.

(3) – (5) It is unclear to which 'Department' the question refers.

\*3286 EMERGENCY SERVICES—BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT MAPS—Mrs Pavey asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State representing the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Small Business—

(1)

- (a) Currently, how many Bushfire Management Maps have expired in New South Wales?
- (b) How many Bushfire Management Committees have updated their maps in the last five years in New South Wales?

Answer—

(1)

- (a) The NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) uses a wide variety of maps to assist in the prevention and suppression of bush and other fires. However, none is known as a 'Bushfire Management Map'. Therefore, none have expired.
- (b) Bush Fire Management Committees produce a number of maps incorporated in their individual Bush Fire Risk Management Plans. None of these maps is known as a 'Bushfire Management Map'.

Maps incorporated in Bushfire Risk Management Plans are updated when Bushfire Risk Management Plans are updated. Bushfire Risk Management Plans are required to be updated every 5 years.

\*3287 PREMIER—SYDNEY EMERGENCY WARNING SYSTEM—Mrs Pavey asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Premier, and Minister for the Arts—

- (1) When will the Sydney Emergency Warning System (public address system) review announced by Premier Nathan Rees on the 31st of March be completed?

Answer—

Investigations in to the most feasible option for provision of an unlimited power supply to the CBD public address system commenced immediately following the Premier's announcement of 31 March 2009. The final report will be delivered later this year.

\*3288 FINANCE—TREASURY MANAGEMENT FUNDS AGENT DOCTORS—Ms Ficarra asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

Use of Listening Devices by Treasury Management Funds Agent Doctors

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the practice by some psychiatrists acting on behalf of the Government's Treasury Managed Fund, to use sound recording or video recording devices while interviewing workers compensation claimants even if the claimant refuses to be recorded?
- (2) If a claimant refuses to be sound or video recorded and the doctor insists on such recording continuing, is this a breach of the Surveillance Devices Act 2007?
- (3)
  - (a) Will WorkCover NSW issue guidelines to all Scheme Agents and workers compensation claimants as to the protocol to be followed at interviews, particularly with regard to the use of sound and video recording devices?
  - (b) If not, why not?
- (4) Will WorkCover investigate an allegation by a New South Wales police officer that on 22 June 2009, a psychiatrist refused to turn off a video recording device despite a request by the police officer to do so, which resulted in the interview being terminated?

Answer—

A number of doctors who conduct medical examinations on referral from a workers' solicitor and from insurers, utilise audio or video recording devices. These can only be used with the knowledge and consent of the person being examined.

With regard to the specific allegation made by a New South Wales police officer, WorkCover would be pleased to investigate should further information be provided.

\*3289 HEALTH—MEDICALLY SUPERVISED INJECTING CENTRE—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

Pharmaceutical Opioid usage in the Medically Supervised Injecting Centre (MSIC):

(1)

- (a) Does NSW Health have a record of usage of pharmaceutical opioids such as Oxycodone with regard to the MSIC for the past 24 month, 12 month, 6 month and 3 month period?
- (b) Please provide details of usage for:
  - (i) 3 month
  - (ii) 6 month
  - (iii) 12 month
  - (iv) 24 month
- (c) what guidelines, if any, are in place for the usage of these drugs?

(2)

- (a) What records of drug usage are kept on the premises?
- (b) Will they be made public?
  - (i) If so, when?

(3)

- (a) What peer reviewed research and/or data collection is occurring at the MSIC?
- (b) Who are the medical and scientific participants?
- (c) What is their research and/or clinical backgrounds?

(4) What outcomes, results, statistics or data has been published in peer reviewed medical journals to date as a result of the operation of the MSIC?

Answer—

I am advised:

Information on research and the latest released data is available on the MSIC website: [www.sydneymxic.com](http://www.sydneymxic.com). Data on the use of opioids, other than heroin, at the MSIC is also available on the website. Further data will be released with the report of the current independent evaluation of the trial in late 2010.

\*3290 HEALTH—HEPATITIS C INFECTIONS AND AWARENESS—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

Hepatitis C awareness

- (1) What measures is the Department taking to increase awareness amongst hairdressers and barbers of the risk of Hepatitis C infections associated with razor blade reuse throughout New South Wales?
- (2)
  - (a) Has the United Kingdom's program of Health Department inspections to reduce the incidence of Hepatitis C infection spread been effective?
  - (b) Are there plans to introduce similar inspections in New South Wales?
- (3) What public education campaigns are conducted in NSW to raise awareness of the method of Hepatitis C infection spread and the health consequences to individuals?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) A range of educational resources are available addressing the risk of hepatitis C transmission via the reuse of razor blades, including factsheets produced by the Hepatitis C Council of NSW and the New South Wales Department of Health. The Department of Health has also developed a fact sheet specifically for hairdressers and barbers addressing hygiene standards. This fact sheet is distributed via the New South Wales Department of Health website. Additional information regarding prevention of blood borne viruses is available on request from Public Health Units.
- (2) and (3) inclusive The Department of Health is unaware of such a program in the United Kingdom. The Member's question may relate to a program implemented in London, Ontario, Canada. In addition to local initiatives run through various Area Health Services, the NSW Department of Health provides funding to the Hepatitis C Council of New South Wales to raise awareness of hepatitis C prevention and the health impact of hepatitis C acquisition. The Hepatitis C Council conducts an annual public education campaign on hepatitis C during National Hepatitis Awareness Week. The most recent campaign in NSW was conducted during the period 18-24 May 2009.

\*3291 CORRECTIVE SERVICES—NEEDLE SHARING IN PRISON—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

Prison needle sharing

- (1) What measures are in place in New South Wales prisons to reduce the incidence of needle sharing?
- (2) What educational programs are in place in New South Wales prisons to increase awareness of the risk of illicit drug usage and related unsafe practices?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Interdiction measures to prevent items of contraband entering the correctional system include strategies to prevent needles and syringes entering the correctional system. Regular searches of correctional centres for drugs also target drug usage implements, which are immediately confiscated and disposed of when found.
- (2) Education regarding the risks of illicit drug use and related unsafe practices is widely available in NSW correctional centres through a variety of mechanisms:
  - The Health Promotion Diary is provided to all offenders on reception to custody, and includes health promotion information in an engaging low literacy format;
  - The Health Survival Program is a 2 hour educational program delivered to offenders shortly after reception to custody which aims to reduce the risk of transmission of blood borne virus infections;
  - Information regarding the risk of illicit drug use and unsafe practices is included in the department's educational DVDs "Your first 24 hours" and "Doing your time";
  - "The Hepatitis Review" and "Transmission Magazine" produced by the NSW Hepatitis C Council are widely distributed in correctional centres along with fact sheets and information pamphlets;
  - "Transmission Magazine" is used as course material in basic literacy classes provided by the Adult Education and Vocational Training Institute;
  - The Prisons Hepatitis C Helpline is a free call on the inmate telephone system;
  - The Department of Corrective Services is piloting the broadcast of pre-recorded 'Jailbreak' radio shows containing health promotion and harm reduction messages via the in cell television system;
  - Pre-recorded 'Jailbreak' radio shows are also used as curriculum material for oracy education provided by the Adult Education and Vocational Training Institute;
  - The department provides a suite of evidence-based treatment programs addressing alcohol and other drug use and offending behaviour for medium to high risk offenders with high needs in relation to alcohol and other drug use.
  - The Health Promotion Diary is provided to all offenders on reception to custody, and includes health promotion information in an engaging low literacy format;

- The Health Survival Program is a 2 hour educational program delivered to offenders shortly after reception to custody which aims to reduce the risk of transmission of blood borne virus infections;
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- The Department of Corrective Services is piloting the broadcast of pre-recorded 'Jailbreak' radio shows containing health promotion and harm reduction messages via the in cell television system;
- Pre-recorded 'Jailbreak' radio shows are also used as curriculum material for oracy education provided by the Adult Education and Vocational Training Institute;
- The department provides a suite of evidence-based treatment programs addressing alcohol and other drug use and offending behaviour for medium to high risk offenders with high needs in relation to alcohol and other drug use.

\*3292 FINANCE—WORKCOVER LICENSING SYSTEMS—Ms Ficarra asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

#### WorkCover Licensing Systems

- (1) Has WorkCover attempted on three occasions to replace its licensing system?
  - (2)
    - (a) Was the first attempt to replace the "E Life" system abandoned after two years of work?
    - (b) Did this cost approximately \$5m? If not, what is the correct figure?
  - (3)
    - (a) Following the abandonment of the "E Life" system, were attempt made over the next three years to create a single licensing system?
    - (b) Did this cost approximately \$3m?
    - (c) If not, what is the correct figure?
  - (4)
    - (a) Over a year ago, was another project commenced to try and consolidate all license systems into one system?
    - (b) If so,
      - (i) did this system cost approximately \$2m for the 2008/09 financial year?
      - (ii) If not, what is the correct figure?
    - (c)
      - (i) Does this project have a continuing budget of approximately \$3m for the 2009/10 financial year and \$1m for the 2010/11 financial year?
      - (ii) If not, what is the correct figure?
  - (5)
    - (a) Has WorkCover spent, over the last six years, approximately \$10m on the development of licensing systems and that by the end of 2010 approximately \$14m will have been spent with no assurance as to the efficacy of the new system?
    - (b) If not, what are the correct figures?
  - (6)
    - (a) Does the Auditor General's Report on the Government Licensing system for the year ended 30 June 2008 state that "encourage all licensing agencies to finalise GLS implementation plans"?
    - (b) If so, why does WorkCover continue to develop its own licensing system when the Government is spending \$89m to introduce its Government Licensing System?

- (7) What discussions has WorkCover had with the Department of Commerce in order for WorkCover to implement the Government Licensing System?

Answer—

I'm advised WorkCover conducted a review of the Government Licensing System in 2005 and again in 2007, and determined the Government Licensing System solution would not align with the legislative framework required for WorkCover licenses.

WorkCover is currently upgrading its existing licensing system to enable better workflow and compliance to align with government objectives of more efficient client services and cutting red tape and duplication.

- \*3293 POLICE—POLICE IN PENRITH AND MULGOA ELECTORATES—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

Police Numbers in Penrith and Mulgoa Electorates

- (1) What has the Government done to honour its election commitments to deliver an additional 750 police, bringing the total commitment to 1500 more police by 2011?
- (2) For each of the following periods:
  - (a) 2005/2006;
  - (b) 2006/2007;
  - (c) 2007/2008;
  - (d) 2008 to present.
    - (i) What was the number of active police officers in the Penrith electorate?
    - (ii) What was the number of active police officers in the Mulgoa electorate?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me :

- (1) The NSW Government remains committed to its election commitment to deliver an additional 750 police by 2011 and continues to make progress towards that end. Since the last election, 2,093 police officers have attested from the Police Academy and authorised strength has increased to 15,306.
- (2) Police positions are allocated to Local Area Commands, not electorates. Details of police numbers at Local Area Commands are posted on the NSW Police Force internet site, [www.police.nsw.gov.au](http://www.police.nsw.gov.au).

- \*3294 POLICE—PENRITH AND BLUE MOUNTAINS LOCAL AREA COMMANDS—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

Penrith and Blue Mountains Local Area Commands

- (1) How much money has been allocated in the State Budget over the following periods to the Penrith and Blue Mountains Local Area Commands to ensure priority in the deployment of officers to crack down harder on street crime and anti-social behaviour:
  - (a) 2005/2006?
  - (b) 2006/2007?
  - (c) 2007/2008?
  - (d) 2008 to present?

Answer—

- (1) This Government has delivered a series of record budgets for the NSW Police Force. Allocation of funding within the police budget to Local Area Commands is a matter for the Commissioner of Police.

- \*3295 ATTORNEY GENERAL—REFURBISHMENT OF PENRITH COURTHOUSE—Ms Ficarra asked the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations—

Refurbishment of Penrith Courthouse

- (1) How much money has been spent in the following periods to refurbish Penrith Courthouse:



- (a) 2006/2007?
- (b) 2007/2008?
- (c) 2008 to present?

Answer—

I am advised:

I refer the member to the website of the Attorney General's department.

\*3296 CORRECTIVE SERVICES—COST ON TRANSPORTING PRISONERS—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—

Cost of Transporting Prisoners to Court from Emu Plains Correctional Centre

(1) For each of the following periods:

- (a) 2006/2007;
- (b) 2007/2008;
- (c) 2008 to present.

- (i) How much has it cost the Government to transport prisoners to Court appearances from Emu Plains Correctional Centres?
- (ii) How much money was spent on the development, installation and maintenance of the Video Link at Emu Plains Correctional Centre?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (i) The Department of Corrective Services does not conduct direct escorts to and from court from Emu Plains Correctional Centre unless in an emergency or if a late addition is required for court. Court escort security vehicles collect and deliver inmates from a number of outer metropolitan correctional centres on each journey, with the total number of inmates from each location varying from day to day. Each scheduled escort run is structured and co-ordinated to ensure as far as practicable the efficient usage of vehicles and seating capacity on each vehicle. Due to multiple pick-ups from numerous locations, the Department cannot calculate inmate transport costs to courts from a single correctional centre.
- (ii) The Emu Plains Video Link facility became operational in January 2007. The set-up cost of the facility (site preparation, building works, equipment installation and testing) was approximately \$136,000. To date, all maintenance has come under warranty provisions. The average monthly running cost of ISDN connections from January 2008 to April 2009 inclusive was \$1,936.00.

\*3297 POLICE—MOBILE POLICE STATION FOR PENRITH LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Ms Ficarra asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

Mobile Police Station for Penrith Local Area Command

- (1) On what date was the Mobile Police Station for the Penrith Local Area Command introduced?
- (2) How much money has the Government spent on the Mobile Police Stations for the Penrith Local Area Command over the following periods:
  - (a) 2006/2007?
  - (b) 2007/2008?
  - (c) 2008 to present?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) 17 April 2008.
- (2)

- (a) Not applicable.
- (b) - (c) Approximately \$115,000 in capital. Ongoing recurrent costs are met from the overall Penrith Local Area Command budget.

\*3298 LANDS—OPERATING STATEMENT FOR LAND AND PROPERTY INFORMATION—Mr Pearce asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) In relation to the Operating Statement for Land and Property Information New South Wales for 2008/09 which appears in 2009/10 Budget Paper No. 3 at page 18-59, can you please provide details of the origin, amount and purpose of the revenue described as "Grants and contributions" received by LPI in 2008/09?

Answer—

- (1) Revenue described as "Grants and contributions" in relation to LPI in Budget Paper No. 3 represent NSW Treasury funding of \$13.168 million for LPI's social program and non-commercial activities in 2008/09. The purpose of the funding was to:
  - (a) Maintain the State's topographic spatial information;
  - (b) Improve the quality of valuations;
  - (c) Supplement cadastral improvement;
  - (d) Maintain a register of place names; and,
  - (e) Maintain a photographic record of the State.

\*3299 LANDS—BALANCE SHEET FOR LAND AND PROPERTY INFORMATION—Mr Pearce asked the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

In relation to the Balance Sheet for Land and Property Information New South Wales which appears in 2009/10 Budget Paper No. 3 at page 18-60:

- (1) What is the difference between the Budget 2008/09 and Revised 2008/09 figures for "Accumulated funds"?

Answer—

- (1) The reduction in forecast accumulated funds between the original and revised LPI 2008/09 budgets was due to the following:
  - (a) Due to the deterioration in economic conditions, LPI's net superannuation assets were reduced by \$173.005 million in an actuarial loss adjustment;
  - (b) LPI's actual accumulated funds on 1 July 2008 were \$7.221 million lower than the original forecast figure of \$91.798 million; and,
  - (c) LPI's dividend rate for 2008/09 was increased from 85% to 100%, resulting in a \$1.946 million reduction in forecast retained earnings.

\*3300 FINANCE—RECORD OF WORKPLACES VISITED—Ms Rhiannon asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

- (1) Is a visit by two WorkCover inspectors to the same workplace at the same time recorded as two workplaces having been visited?
- (2) How many workplace visits recorded in 2008 involved a visit by two inspectors to the same workplace at the same time?
- (3) Does this method of recording of visits by WorkCover inspectors to workplaces inflate the number of workplaces visited by a Safety Inspector in New South Wales?
- (4) Does any other jurisdiction in Australia have a similar method of recording workplace visits?
- (5)
  - (a) Is this method of recording workplace visits supported by the Workplace Relations Ministers Council?
  - (b)

- (i) Will the Minister advocate at the meetings of the Workplace Relations Ministers Council for this method to be adopted as the national practice under the Occupational Health and Safety harmonisation arrangements?
- (ii) If not, why not?

Answer—

WorkCover NSW and all other Australian jurisdictions provide data against a set of enforcement indicators for the Comparative Performance Monitoring (CPM) Report compiled by Safe Work Australia.

Workplace visits are captured under "proactive workplace interventions", one of the indicators in the CPM report. The definition includes 'repeat visits to the same workplace [which] should be counted separately. If more than one officer attends a workplace, then these attendances should be counted as separate interventions.'

All Australian jurisdictions report through CPM against these definitions.

\*3301 FINANCE—NAMOI WATER CATCHMENT STUDY—Ms Rhiannon asked the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

- (1) Apart from Mal Peters, who else will be on the Ministerial Oversight Committee for the initial Namoi Water Catchment Study?
- (2)
  - (a) What are the terms of reference for the Namoi Water Catchment Study?
  - (b) Will the Water Study assess the potential economic impact of mining damage to water resources that feed agricultural lands in the Catchment area?
- (3) What is the timeline for the Namoi Catchment Water Study?
  - (a) When will an independent expert be appointed?
  - (b) When will the project be tendered?
  - (c) When will the Water Study be completed?
  - (d) When will the final Water Study be made public?
- (4)
  - (a) What is the 'initial' Namoi Water Catchment Study (as referred to in the Ministerial media release of 4 June, Chair appointed to Namoi Catchment Water Study)?
  - (b) What are the plans for the final Water Study?
- (5)
  - (a) Will the farming community on the Liverpool Plains be consulted as part of the Namoi Water Catchment Study?
  - (b) How will those community members be consulted?
  - (c) Will there be public meetings held?
- (6) Will the Namoi Water Catchment Study be made public once it is finalised?
- (7) What budget has been provided for the Namoi Water Catchment Study, for:
  - (a) administration?
  - (b) tender to conduct the Namoi Catchment Water Study?
- (8) Before the findings of the Water Study are released,
  - (a) will mining exploration be allowed to continue in the Namoi Water Catchment?
  - (b) will mining applications be considered and potentially granted in the Namoi Water Catchment?
  - (c) will the Minister liaise with the Planning Minister to oppose the granting of any mining application in the Namoi Water Catchment?

Answer—

This is a matter for the Minister for Mineral Resources.

**24 JUNE 2009**

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- 3302 HOUSING—HOUSING IN WOOLLOOMOOLOO—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 3303 CORRECTIVE SERVICES—ACCOMMODATION COST FOR CORRECTIONAL CENTRE MANAGER—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State—
- 3304 TRANSPORT—CARBON ACCOUNTING SYSTEM—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 3305 FINANCE—PRIVATE USE OF VEHICLES UNDER CONSENT AWARD—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 3306 FINANCE—2009 SAFETY SUMMIT—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 3307 FINANCE—WORKCOVER INSPECTORS—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 3308 FINANCE—RESTRUCTURE OF OH&S DIVISION—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 3309 FINANCE—2009 INSPECTOR RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 3310 ROADS—TRAFFIC MODELING FOR IRON COVER BRIDGE—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Roads—
- 3311 ROADS—COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS OF IRON COVE BRIDGE PROJECT—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Roads—
- 3312 ROADS—IRON COVE BRIDGE MAINTENANCE REPORT—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Roads—
- 3313 HEALTH—POLICY DIRECTIVE ON DENTURE PROVISION—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

- 3314 HEALTH—THERAPEUTIC TRIAL OF MEDICINAL CANNABIS—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 3315 ENERGY—PETROLEUM SUPPLY DISRUPTION RESPONSE PLAN—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3316 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—EXPENDITURE ON MARINE PARKS—Mr Gay to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3317 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—EXPENDITURE ON MARINE PARKS—Mr Gay to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 3318 ROADS—MAMRE ROAD OVERPASS OF M4 MOTORWAY—Ms Ficarra to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Roads—
- 3319 ROADS—MAJOR UPGRADE OF GLEMORE PARK—Ms Ficarra to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Roads—
- 3320 TRANSPORT—URBAN TRANSPORT STATEMENT—Ms Ficarra to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 3321 ROADS—IMPROVEMENT ON WESTERN SYDNEY ROAD CORRIDORS—Ms Ficarra to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Roads—
- 3322 TRANSPORT—302 BUSES FOR WESTERN SYDNEY—Ms Ficarra to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 3323 TRANSPORT—FITTING OF EMISSION CONTROL DEVICES ON BUSES—Ms Ficarra to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 3324 TRANSPORT—STUDY ON INTERCHANGE AT ST MARYS—Ms Ficarra to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 3325 TRANSPORT—UPGRADE WERRINGTON TRAIN STATION—Ms Ficarra to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 3326 TRANSPORT—COMMUTER PARKING WERRINGTON TRAIN STATION—Ms Ficarra to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 3327 TRANSPORT—UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY TRAIN STATION—Ms Ficarra to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- 3328 TRANSPORT—NEW RAIL CARRIAGES—Ms Ficarra to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 3329 TRANSPORT—M4 PUBLIC OWNERSHIP—Ms Ficarra to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 3330 COMMUNITY SERVICES—EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES FOR NEPEAN—Ms Ficarra to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Community Services—
- 3331 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—CLEAN WATER PROJECTS IN HAWKESBURY RIVER—Ms Ficarra to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 3332 WATER—WESTERN SYDNEY WATER RECYCLING INITIATIVE—Ms Ficarra to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 3333 ROADS—SAFETY UPGRADES OF PICTON ROAD—Mr Ajaka to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Roads—
- 3334 HOUSING—HOMELESS PEOPLE IN BONDI—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Housing, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 3335 PLANNING—SANDON POINT—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 3336 POLICE—POLICE STATION ADDRESS—Mr Gallacher to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 3337 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENT OPERATIONS ACT—Mr Gallacher to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 3338 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—SEWERAGE DUMPING INTO GEORGES RIVER—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 3339 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—COST OF GAME COUNCIL ADVERTISEMENTS—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3340 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—CONSERVATION HUNTING LICENCES—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—

- 3341 PORTS AND WATERWAYS—BASS & FLINDERS CRUISES—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 3342 HEALTH—REGISTERED NURSES AT STOCKTON HOSPITAL—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 3343 HEALTH—AMBULANCE IN HUNTER—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 3344 HEALTH—SINGLE AMBULANCE IN NSW—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 3345 PLANNING—NEWTOWN STATION REDEVELOPMENT—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 3346 PLANNING—LEVY ON COAL EXPORTS—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 3347 PLANNING—IMPACT STUDY ON COAL INDUSTRY—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 3348 MINERAL RESOURCES—IMPACT STUDY ON COAL INDUSTRY—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3349 MINERAL RESOURCES—LEVY ON COAL EXPORTS—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3350 TRANSPORT—NEWTOWN STATION UPGRADE—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 3351 TRANSPORT—NEWTOWN STATION REDEVELOPMENT—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Transport, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- 3352 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—NEWTOWN STATION DEVELOPMENT—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 3353 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—ADVERTISING BUDGET FOR TARONGA ZOO—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 3354 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT BY TREE REMOVAL—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—

- 3355 ROADS—ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT BY TREE REMOVAL—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Roads—
- 3356 LOCAL GOVERNMENT—ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT BY TREE REMOVAL—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs representing the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 3357 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—ILLEGAL CONSERVATION HUNTING—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3358 MINERAL RESOURCES—DRILLING PROGRAM—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3359 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—FUNDING FOR GAME COUNCIL—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3360 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—GAME COUNCIL FINANCE—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3361 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—COMPLAINTS ON SHOOTER CONDUCT—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3362 MINERAL RESOURCES—COAL EXPLORATION PROGRAM IN LAHEYS CREEK—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3363 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—FLOODPLAIN AND COASTAL HAZARD POLICY—Ms Cusack to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 3364 EMERGENCY SERVICES—COST OF NATURAL DISASTERS—Ms Cusack to ask the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State representing the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Small Business—
- 3365 FAIR TRADING—RESIDENTIAL GUTTERS—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State representing the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Citizenship, and Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts—
- 3366 ENERGY—SOLAR METERING ARRANGEMENTS—Dr Kaye to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3367 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—RENEWABLE ENERGY PRECINCT COMMUNITY CONSULTION—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—



- 3368 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—LEAFS GULLY AIR QUALITY MONITORING STATIONS—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- 3369 FINANCE—CONDITIONS OF SALE FOR POWER GENERATION SITES—Dr Kaye to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 3370 FINANCE—EXPECTED REVENUE FOR POWER GENERATION—Dr Kaye to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 3371 FINANCE—SALE POTENTIAL FOR POWER GENERATION SITES—Dr Kaye to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 3372 HEALTH—HEALTH TREATS FROM COLLIERY WATER—Dr Kaye to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 3373 PLANNING—RENEWABLE ENERGY PRECINCT COMMUNITY CONSULTATION—Dr Kaye to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 3374 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—CHEMICAL RESIDUE TESTING AT SYDNEY MARKETS—Dr Kaye to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3375 TREASURER—COOMA-BEGA POWER LINE AND NATIONAL PARKS—Dr Kaye to ask the Treasurer—
- 3376 TREASURER—COOMA-BEGA POWER LINE ROUTE DECISION—Dr Kaye to ask the Treasurer—
- 3377 TREASURER—COUNTRY ENERGY HV POWER LINE POLICY—Dr Kaye to ask the Treasurer—
- 3378 TREASURER—INTEGRAL ENERGY GRANVILLE SUBSTATION—Dr Kaye to ask the Treasurer—
- 3379 WATER—SYDNEY CATCHMENT AUTHORITY—Dr Kaye to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 3380 WATER—REVIEW OF NON METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY—Dr Kaye to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—
- 3381 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—STUDENT ACCESS TO HSC TEST RESULTS—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 3382 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—AUDITS OF REGISTERED TRAINING ORGANISATIONS BY VETAB—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- 3383 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—CONSERVATORIUM HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 3384 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—CONSERVATORIUM HIGH SCHOOL FUTURE—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 3385 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—CONSERVATORIUM HIGH SCHOOL YEAR 7 APPLICATION REVIEWS—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 3386 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—DISTANCE EDUCATION SUPPORT UNIT—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 3387 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—NATIONAL REGIONAL UNIVERSITY AT PORT MACQUARIE—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 3388 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—REGISTERED TRAINING ORGANISATIONS—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 3389 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—RTO LOSS OF ACCREDITATION—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 3390 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—SIR ERIC WOODWARD MEMORIAL SCHOOL—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- 3391 ENERGY—HIGH VOLTAGE POWER LINES POLICY—Dr Kaye to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3392 ENERGY—INTEGRAL ENERGY GRANVILLE SUBSTATION—Dr Kaye to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3393 ENERGY—PLANNED HIGH VOLTAGE TRANSMISSION LINES—Dr Kaye to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3394 ROADS—LOSS OF TRACTION IN WET WEATHER—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Roads—
- 3395 ROADS—SUITABLE E-TAGS FOR MOTORCYCLISTS—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Roads—

- 3396 ROADS—TOLLWAYS FOR MOTORCYCLES AND SCOOTERS—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Roads—
- 3397 ROADS—ILLEGAL TINTING OF WINDOWS—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Roads—
- 3398 ROADS—M4 TOLLWAY—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Roads—
- 3399 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—MINING IN GLOUCESTER AREA—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3400 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3401 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—FUEL MANAGEMENT FIRE—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- 3402 PLANNING—ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORTS—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 3403 HEALTH—REGISTERED NURSES AT STOCKTON HOSPITAL—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 3404 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—REVIEW OF GAME AND FERAL ANIMAL CONTROL ACT 2002—Ms Cusack to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—

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- 3405 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—SECURITY FENCE - ST CLAIR PUBLIC SCHOOL—Ms Ficarra to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- (1) When will the older style weldmesh fence at the side of the school be replace with the new style fence?
- 3406 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—AIR CONDITIONING IN DEMOUNTABLE CLASSROOMS IN PENRITH AND MULGOA—Ms Ficarra to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- How many demountable classrooms in public schools in the Penrith electorate have air conditioning?
  - How many demountable classrooms in public schools in the Mulgoa Electorate have air conditioning?
- 3407 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—AIR CONDITIONING IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN PENRITH AND MULGOA—Ms Ficarra to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- (1) How many class rooms (non-demountable) in public schools in the Penrith Electorate:
    - (a) have air conditioning?
    - (b) do not have air conditioning?
  - (2) How many class rooms (non-demountable) in public schools in the Mulgoa Electorate:
    - (a) have air conditioning?
    - (b) do not have air conditioning?
- 3408 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—UNFLUED GAS HEATERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN PENRITH AND MULGOA—Ms Ficarra to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- (1) How many class rooms (non-demountable) in public schools in the Penrith Electorate:
    - (a) have heating?
    - (b) have unflued gas heaters?
  - (2) How many class rooms (non-demountable) in public schools in the Mulgoa Electorate:
    - (a) have heating?
    - (b) do not have unflued gas heaters?
- 3409 FINANCE—WORKCOVER INVESTIGATION OF UNFLUED GAS HEATERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS—Ms Ficarra to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- (1) Which schools has WorkCover investigated in relation to unflued gas heaters?
  - (2) What action has WorkCover taken in relation to the issues of unsafe unflued heaters in Schools in New South Wales?
- 3410 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—UNFLUED GAS HEATERS—Ms Ficarra to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- (1) What is the Department of Education's response to the NSW Teachers' Federation and Parent and Citizens' Association's resolutions concerning unflued gas heaters in New South Wales public schools?
  - (2)
    - (a) Will the Department of Education remove all unflued gas heaters from New South Wales public schools due to the apparent health risk?
    - (b) If not, why not?
  - (3) What advice has the Department of Education received from WorkCover and NSW Health about the issues of unflued gas heaters in schools?
- 3411 FINANCE—WORKCOVER INVESTIGATIONS OF ASBESTOS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS—Ms Ficarra to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways—

- (1) Which schools, if any, in New South Wales has WorkCover investigated due to the identification of asbestos within buildings and/or grounds?
- (2) What is WorkCover doing to ensure the safety of teachers, staff and students in New South Wales schools where there is asbestos?
- 3412 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—ASBESTOS IN NSW PUBLIC SCHOOLS—Ms Ficarra to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- (1) How many public schools in New South Wales have asbestos in buildings and/or their grounds?
- (2) Which public schools in New South Wales have asbestos in buildings and/or their grounds?
- (3) What is the Department of Education doing to protect the safety of teachers, staff and parents from asbestosis?
- (4) Has the Department of Education received any advice from either WorkCover or NSW Health as to the health risks of asbestos in schools in New South Wales?
- (5)
- (a) Which Public Schools in New South Wales have been investigated by WorkCover due to the identification of asbestos?
- (b) what was the Department of Education's response to the respective investigations?
- 3413 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—SECURITY FENCING - HAWKESBURY HIGH SCHOOL—Ms Ficarra to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- (1) What date will works commence to erect a new security fence around Hawkesbury High School/Freemans Public School?
- (2) How much money has been allocated in the 2009/2010 Budget for the erection of a new security fence around Hawkesbury High School/Freemans Public School?
- 3414 WATER—SYDNEY CATCHMENT AUTHORITY STAFF—Ms Ficarra to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- Sydney Catchment Authority Staff Penrith Government Office:
- (1) How many officers of the Sydney Catchment Authority work permanently in the Penrith Government Office?
- (2) How many officers of the Sydney Catchment Authority have been made redundant in the last year?
- (3) How many Executive positions will be abolished/made redundant from the Sydney Catchment Authority as a result of the new Super Departments/and State Budget cuts?
- 3415 WATER—CONSULTANTS TO SYDNEY CATCHMENT AUTHORITY—Ms Ficarra to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Water, and Minister for Regional Development—
- (1) How many consultants have been used by the Sydney Catchment Authority in the last 12 months?
- (2) What are the names and or company names of the consultants used by the Sydney Catchment Authority in the last 12 months?
- (3) What is the total amount of money expended by the Sydney Catchment Authority in the last 12 months on Consultants?
- 3416 JUVENILE JUSTICE—SEXUAL ASSAULTS IN NSW JUVENILE JUSTIC FACILITIES—Ms Ficarra to ask the Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Public Sector Reform, Special Minister of State representing the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering, Minister for Youth, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

In relation to sexual assaults and rapes in New South Wales Juvenile Justice facilities:

- (1) Following the incident at Kurrajong Juvenile Detention Centre where a violent offender allegedly raped a 16-year-old boy as a result of overcrowding following the closure of Keelong Juvenile Detention Centre, what action has been taken to ensure the safety of inmates?
- (2) How many reports of sexual assault/rape in New South Wales Juvenile Justice Centres have been made in the following periods:
  - (a) 2004/05?
  - (b) 2005/06?
  - (c) 2006/07?
  - (d) 2007/08?
  - (e) 2008 present?
- (3) How many prisoners in New South Wales Juvenile Justice Centres have been charged for committing sexual assault/rape on fellow prisoners during the following periods:
  - (a) 2004/05?
  - (b) 2005/06?
  - (c) 2006/07?
  - (d) 2007/08?
  - (e) 2008 present?
- (4) What support for victims of sexual assault or rape is provided

3417 HEALTH—EDUCATION AND PREVENTION OF TRANSMISSION OF INFECTION—Ms Ficarra to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council—

Education and prevention of transmission of Infection in Indigenous Communities, I refer to Questions 3226 asked in the Legislative Council on 17 June 2009:

- (1) What is the Department of Health doing to educate and address the issues of transmission of infection, including pandemic influenza in indigenous communities in New South Wales?

3418 HEALTH—EDUCATION AND TRANSMISSION INFECTION PREVENTION IN NESB COMMUNITIES—Ms Ficarra to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council—

I refer to Question on Notice 3227 asked in the Legislative Council on 17 June 2009 on Education and prevention of transmission of infection in non-English speaking backgrounds (NESB) communities:

- (1) What is the Government doing to educate and prevent the transmission of infection, in NESB communities?

3419 LOCAL GOVERNMENT—COUNCIL GENERAL MANAGERS AND SENIOR EXECUTIVE SALARIES—Ms Ficarra to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs representing the Minister for Local Government, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) What is the Government doing in response to community concern as to the rising salaries of General Managers and Senior Executives in Councils across New South Wales?
- (2)
  - (a) Will the Government introduce a salary scale similar to the State Government's salary scale for Senior Executive Service Officers for General Managers and other Senior Executives in Councils?
  - (b) If not, why not?
- (3)
  - (a) Are all General Managers of Council's in New South Wales on the Standard Employment Contract issued by the Department of Local Government?
  - (b) If not, why not?

- 3420 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—HURLSTONE CONSULTANT REPORTS—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- (1) Will the Minister please provide a list of consultant reports commissioned by the Inquiry into future configuration of Hurlstone Agricultural High School?
  - (2) For each of these reports:
    - (a) what was the terms of reference or brief?
    - (b) who was commissioned to prepare the report?
    - (c) will the report be made public?
- 3421 ENERGY—CONNECTING SCHOOLS WITH SOLAR PANELS TO THE GRID—Dr Kaye to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for State Development—
- (1) Will the Minister please provide a list of all schools in New South Wales that have been fitted with roof top solar Photovoltaic (PV) panels?
  - (2) For each school fitted with roof top solar PV panels:
    - (a) are the panels currently connected to the state's electricity grid?
      - (i) If not connected to the state's grid, are the panels used to provide energy operating in stand-alone mode?
    - (b) When were the panels installed?
    - (c) When were they connected to the grid
- 3422 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—CONNECTING SCHOOLS WITH SOLAR PANELS TO THE GRID—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- (1) Will the Minister please provide a list of all schools in New South Wales that have been fitted with roof top solar Photovoltaic (PV) panels?
  - (2) For each school fitted with roof top solar PV panels:
    - (a) are the panels currently connected to the state's electricity grid?
      - (i) If not connected to the state's grid, are the panels used to provide energy operating in stand-alone mode?
    - (b) When were the panels installed?
    - (c) When were they connected to the grid?
- 3423 INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS—AIS CONTRACT ADVICE—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council—
- (1) Is the minister aware that on the advice of the Association of Independent Schools (AIS), Blacktown Youth College offered a contract to a teacher to fill the position of Creative Arts Coordinator to run a Circus Skills Project that will effectively see that teacher paid \$6 per hour for her time (all costs of the program are to be paid by the teacher with the contract providing for half the hours required to run the project)?
  - (2) What role does the minister play in ensuring that independent schools are paying teachers appropriately for their work?
  - (3) What action will the minister take to investigate the roll of AIS in providing employment and contract advice to principals of independent schools that results in sub-standard employment conditions?

3424 TREASURER—CALL FOR FORMAL EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN ELECTRICITY ASSETS—Dr Kaye to ask the Treasurer—

In relation to the Government's International Market Testing Update in respect of the call for formal expression of interest in electricity assets on 12 May 2009, which stated "the Government will call for formal Expressions of Interest in July–August this year":

- (1)
  - (a) Has the government called for formal expressions of interest in electricity assets?
  - (b) If so,
    - (i) For which assets have expressions of interest been called?
    - (ii) When were they called?
    - (iii) When do they close?
- (2) What organisations or companies have expressed interest in tendering for the power station development sites as part of the government's Energy Reform Strategy?
- (3) What organisations or companies have expressed interest in tendering for the generation trading rights to the state's power generators as outlined under the government's Energy Reform Strategy?
- (4) What organisations or companies have expressed interest in tendering for retail electricity services being sold as part of the government's Energy Reform Strategy?

3425 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—AIS CONTRACT ADVICE—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Is the minister aware that on the advice of the Association of Independent Schools (AIS), Blacktown Youth College offered a contract to a teacher to fill the position of Creative Arts Coordinator to run a Circus Skills Project that will effectively see that teacher paid \$6 per hour for her time (all costs of the program are to be paid by the teacher with the contract providing for half the hours required to run the project)?
- (2) What role does the minister play in ensuring that independent schools are paying teachers appropriately for their work?
- (3) What action will the minister take to investigate the roll of AIS in providing employment and contract advice to principals of independent schools that results in sub-standard employment conditions?

3426 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—CONNECTING SCHOOLS WITH SOLAR PANELS TO THE GRID—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) Will the Minister please provide a list of all schools in New South Wales that have been fitted with roof top solar Photovoltaic (PV) panels?
- (2) For each school fitted with roof top solar PV panels:
  - (a) are the panels currently connected to the state's electricity grid?
    - (i) If not connected to the state's grid, are the panels used to provide energy operating in stand-alone mode?
  - (b) When were the panels installed?
  - (c) When were they connected to the grid?

3427 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—HURLSTONE SUBMISSIONS—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—

- (1) At the closing date for submissions to the Inquiry into future configuration of Hurlstone Agricultural High School:



- (a) how many of the submissions received supported the sale of any land at Hurlstone Agricultural High School?
- (b) how many opposed the sale of any land at Hurlstone Agricultural High School?
- 3428 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—HURLSTONE CONFIDENTIAL SUBMISSIONS—Dr Kaye to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Women—
- (1) How many of the public submissions to the Inquiry into future configuration of Hurlstone Agricultural High School have asked to be kept confidential?
- 3429 ROADS—INNER WEST BUSWAY—Mr Harwin to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Roads—
- (1) Are current construction works associated with the Inner West Busway subject to the New South Wales Interim Construction Noise Guideline released in July 2009?
- (2) What actions have been undertaken by the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) with regard to compliance of the Inner West Busway construction works with the NSW Interim Construction Noise Guideline?
- (3) What community notification has been undertaken by the RTA with regard to noise associated with the Inner West Busway construction works, including the geographical catchment for notification?
- 3430 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—COMPLIANCE OF INNER WEST BUSWAY CONSTRUCTION—Mr Harwin to ask the Attorney General, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast and Vice President of the Executive Council representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister for Commerce—
- (1) What actions have been undertaken by the Department of Climate Change and the Environment with regard to compliance of the Inner West Busway construction works with the New South Wales Interim Construction Noise Guideline?
- (2) What community notification has been undertaken by the Department of Climate Change and the Environment with regard to noise associated with the Inner West Busway construction works, including the geographical catchment for notification?
- 3431 PLANNING—HILLVIEW AT SUTTON FOREST—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- (1) In relation to the current lease agreement on the property known as "Hillview" at Sutton Forest, when the rent free period ended in July 2002, why did the Heritage Office consider that the work was insufficient to recommend a lease?
- (2)
- (a) Did the Heritage Office express reservations about entering into a long term lease with Mr Damien Miller?
- (b) If so, what were these reservations?
- (3) Why has there been almost no public access to the site since 1999?
- (4) Did the former Director of the then Heritage Office, with the backing of the Crown Solicitor, in 2007 put a submission to then Planning Minister Frank Sartor that Mr Miller be removed from the site?
- (5) Why did the Planning Minister not act on that recommendation?
- (6) Will the current Planning Minister act on that recommendation?
- (7)
- (a) Given the lack of public access to Hillview for the last ten years, has Mr Miller been awarded a 40 year lease which he will be able to either operate or on-sell?

- (b) If so, when will that decision be made public?
- (8) Will the Minister reconsider the lease arrangement and encourage public submissions about the management of Hillview?
- (9) In the event that a long term lease is issued, what safeguards will be introduced into any lease to ensure the following:
- conservation of the site?
  - security of the house, contents, garden and grounds?
  - maximum public access to the house, garden and grounds?
  - maximum financial return to the government (while maximising public access)?
  - regular independent and honest monitoring of the running of Hillview?
  - provisions to terminate the lease in the event of on-compliance by the lessee?
- (10)
- Will details of the lease be made public?
  - If so, when?
- 3432 POLICE—FIREARMS SAFETY COUNCIL—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- (1)
- How much government money was provided for the establishment of the Firearms Safety Council?
  - When was this money provided?
- (2)
- Has the Firearms Safety Council accounted to the government for how this money was spent?
  - If so:
    - whom does the Firearms Safety Council report to?
    - has this report been made public?
- (3)
- How much government money has been provided for safety programs conducted by Firearms Safety Council?
  - Was all this money spent by the Firearms Safety Council on safety programs?
  - If not, how much was not utilised for safety programs?
- (4)
- Has the government asked for the money not used by the Firearms Safety Council to be returned to the government?
  - If so,
    - who asked for this money to be returned?
    - when did they ask?
  - Has this money been returned?
  - If this money has not been returned what steps has the government taken to ensure that the Firearms Safety Council does return this money?
- (5)
- Was the Shooters Party the only body that put in a tender to run the safety programs conducted by the Firearms Safety Council?
  - If there were other tenderers who were they?
- 3433 POLICE—POLICE FIREARMS REGISTRY—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for Lands, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) How many staff are employed at the Murwillumbah police firearms registry?
- (2) How many gun registrations are being submitted at the Murwillumbah police firearms registry each month?
- (3) How many gun registrations are being processed at the Murwillumbah police firearms registry each month?
- (4) How many people are requesting to have their gun licenses renewed at the Murwillumbah police firearms registry each month?
- (5) How many people, who have requested to have their gun licenses renewed at the Murwillumbah police firearms registry each month, have received a new licence?
- (6) How many calls are being handled by the Murwillumbah police firearms registry each day?
- (7) Is much of the data on the database at the Murwillumbah police firearms registry inaccurate as alleged in the Sydney Morning Herald of 19 September 2003?

Lynn Lovelock  
Clerk of the Parliaments

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Authorised by the Parliament of New South Wales