



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

**QUESTIONS  
AND  
ANSWERS**

No. 254

FRIDAY 15 MAY 2020

(The Questions and Answers Paper published every Tuesday of 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

<b>Publication of Questions</b>	<b>Answer to be lodged by</b>
Q & A No. 239 (Including Question Nos 1268 to 1280)	15 May 2020
Q & A No. 240 (Including Question Nos 1281 to 1297)	18 May 2020
Q & A No. 241 (Including Question Nos 1298 to 1311)	19 May 2020
Q & A No. 242 (Including Question Nos 1312 to 1312)	20 May 2020
Q & A No. 243 (Including Question Nos 1313 to 1320)	21 May 2020
Q & A No. 244 (Including Question Nos 1321 to 1365)	22 May 2020
Q & A No. 245 (Including Question Nos 1366 to 1373)	25 May 2020
Q & A No. 246 (Including Question Nos 1374 to 1381)	26 May 2020
Q & A No. 247 (Including Question Nos 1382 to 1386)	27 May 2020
Q & A No. 248 (Including Question Nos 1387 to 1391)	28 May 2020
Q & A No. 249 (Including Question Nos 1392 to 1394)	29 May 2020
Q & A No. 250 (Including Question Nos 1395 to 1399)	01 June 2020
Q & A No. 251 (Including Question Nos 1400 to 1409)	02 June 2020
Q & A No. 252 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 253 (Including Question Nos 1410 to 1413)	04 June 2020
Q & A No. 254 (Including Question Nos 1414 to 1416)	05 June 2020

**24 APRIL 2020**

(Paper No. 239)

\*1268 BETTER REGULATION AND INNOVATION—GREYHOUND RACING ACT 2017 REVIEW—Ms Hurst asked the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—

- (1) Section 102 of the Greyhound Racing Act 2017 states that the Minister must review the Act "as soon as possible after the period of three years from the date of assent". Given that three years has passed since the date of assent of the Act, can you please advise when the review of the Greyhound Racing Act 2017 will commence and what form this review will take?

Answer—

The Department of Customer Service is currently finalising preparatory work for the statutory review of the Greyhound Racing Act 2017 (the Act).

Information about the review, including how the public can provide feedback on the legislation, will be announced in due course.

\*1269 BETTER REGULATION AND INNOVATION—URGENT INVESTIGATION INTO CONDITIONS FOR JB HIFI WORKERS—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—

- (1) Can you please advise what steps SafeWork have taken to investigate the measures being taken at JB-Hi Fi stores to guard against infection with COVID-19 of staff and customers?

Answer—

SafeWork NSW has responded to work health and safety concerns relating to COVID-19 and JB HI-FI Group Pty Ltd (JB Hi-Fi).

A SafeWork NSW inspector visited two JB Hi-Fi stores in the Sydney metropolitan area and contacted the Group Safety Manager for JB Hi-Fi to investigate the concerns raised. The inspector requested relevant supporting documents relating to COVID-19 (including store cleaning, hygiene practices and infection control, consultation and resolution procedures).

The inspector observed that to assist managing the numbers of persons in stores, entrances have temporary barriers installed to separate the entrance and exit points to facilitate counting of customers and workers in and out the store using a counting app, the entrance is manned by a security officer or a staff member when required. It is understood this system is in place in stores throughout NSW.

Stores visited had floor markings at the counters as visual cues to assist with social distancing and had every second checkout register closed to assist social distancing measures. Information and advice was provided to store managers to strengthen measures already in place. SafeWork NSW has developed a number of resources to assist workplaces comply with their obligations under the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 during the global COVID-19 pandemic.

These resources are available on the SafeWork NSW website. <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/resource-library/Coronavirus-adviceand-guidance-for-NSW-workplaces> Kevin

\*1272 REGIONAL NEW SOUTH WALES, INDUSTRY AND TRADE—LIQUID FUEL RESERVES—Mr Primrose asked the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

- (1) How much liquid fuel such as diesel, petrol and jet fuel is used annually in New South Wales?  
 (2) What percentage of liquid fuel used in New South Wales is sourced from overseas for the following categories:

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- (a) Diesel?
  - (b) Petrol?
  - (c) Jet fuel?
  - (d) Crude oil?
- (3) In terms of consumption cover, how many days' supply of liquid fuel reserve does New South Wales have if these overseas supplies are interrupted for:
- (a) Diesel?
  - (b) Petrol?
  - (c) Jet fuel?
  - (d) Crude oil?
- (4) For each category of liquid fuel noted in question 2, what is the existing storage capacity of the various categories of liquid fuel in New South Wales ?
- (a) What are the geographical locations of the main storage facilities in New South Wales?
  - (b) Is the government aware of any current plans to increase this storage capacity?
    - (i) If so, what is the plan?
    - (ii) Is the plan publically available?
- (5) Is the government represented on the National Oil Supplies Emergency Committee (NOSEC), under the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Energy Council, or a body with a similar remit?
- (a) If not, why not?
  - (b) If so, when was the most recent meeting?
  - (c) Who represented New South Wales at that meeting?
  - (d) Where is the report of that meeting publicly available?
- (6) Is it the case that the Australian Government recently signed an agreement with the United States of America to grant Australia access to emergency oil supplies in times of major global disruption?
- (a) If so:
    - (i) What was the cost of this measure?
    - (ii) Was this payment include the cost of:
      - (i) Storage?
      - (ii) Transport to Australia when required?
  - (b) How many days reserve of oil does this deal cover?
  - (c) Is the NSW Government aware of what threshold causes the United States of America to be obliged to start supplying oil?
    - (i) If so, what is it?
    - (ii) If not, why has the NSW Government taken no interest in this issue given recent experiences of disasters in this state?
  - (d) Is the government aware of who will transport the oil to Australia?
    - (i) If so, what is it?
    - (ii) How long will this process take?
    - (iii) If not, why has the NSW Government not taken interest in this issue given recent experiences of disasters in the state?
  - (e) What amounts of each type of liquid fuel has the US Government agreed would be transferred, and what logistics have been agreed?
  - (f) Is it the case that if the United States of America Government approved the transfer and there were no logistical or military impediments, it would still take roughly three weeks for this oil to reach New South Wales and other states, defeating the entire purpose of having a 'strategic' stockpile to draw upon in the event of an emergency?
  - (g) Is the NSW Government aware of whether the oil will be refined to meet the various requirements in a state such as New South Wales?
    - (i) If so, where will this refining take place?
    - (ii) If not, why has the NSW Government taken no interest in this issue given recent experiences of disasters in this state?

- (7) Is it the case that severe fuel rationing would not only bring transport to a grinding halt in New South Wales, but would also cause serious disruptions for employment, schools and hospitals, as well as food supplies and medication stocks, and leave our emergency services unable to effectively act in times of disaster such as bushfires?
- (a) If so:
- (i) Is the Minister aware of the likely effects on industry and trade?
  - (ii) Has the government modelled what disruptions may be caused for rural and regional New South Wales?
  - (iii) What specific planning has the government undertaken to mitigate against these problems?
  - (iv) Who undertook this planning?
  - (v) Where is the detail of the planning available?

Answer—

This is a matter for the Minister for Energy and Environment.

\*1273 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—BULLI AND THIRROUL TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS—Mr Buttigieg asked the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) When will the results of the Bulli and Thirroul traffic improvement study be released to the public?
- (2) What measures will the Government implement to reduce traffic congestion along Lawrence Hargrave Drive?
  - (a) What will it cost?
  - (b) What is the timeline for this work?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Transport for NSW is investigating initiatives to improve the transport network along the existing road corridor. This forms part of the long term commitment to provide safe, efficient and reliable journeys through Bulli and Thirroul while maintaining the character and amenity of the town centres. A summary of community feedback is being prepared and will be published on the project webpage when completed. The community consultation map is available on the project webpage and shows feedback people have provided about Bulli and Thirroul.
- (2) Transport for NSW is investigating constraints and issues in each study area, including along Lawrence Hargrave Drive, including on-street parking, traffic queuing and delays in peak periods. This will identify options to reduce travel times, improve road safety, and maintain the amenity of town centres.
  - (a) Funding and timelines are not yet confirmed.
  - (b) Funding and timelines are not yet confirmed.

\*1274 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—ILLAWARRA SHOALHAVEN FUTURE TRANSPORT PLAN THIRROUL TO UNANDERRA NETWORK STRATEGY—Mr Buttigieg asked the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Can the Minister explain why the Thirroul to Unanderra Network Strategy is still not publicly available?
- (2) When was the Thirroul to Unanderra Network Strategy completed?
- (3) Is the Memorial Drive Extension part of the Thirroul to Unanderra Network Strategy analysis or Illawarra Shoalhaven Future Transport Plan?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Thirroul to Unanderra (Road) Network Strategy is not a standalone study and serves instead as an input into the development of the Illawarra-Shoalhaven Regional (Future) Transport Plan. The strategy is being considered alongside other investigations to inform this work.

The Illawarra-Shoalhaven Regional (Future) Transport Plan will provide a comprehensive strategic transport vision for the Illawarra-Shoalhaven region. This will be prepared in consultation with Local Government and Joint Organisations, as well as other state government agencies and Australian Government bodies.

\*1275 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—MEMORIAL DRIVE EXTENSION TO BULLI PASS, BULLI—Mr Buttigieg asked the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) When will the Government extend Memorial Drive to meet Bulli Pass?
- (2) Will the Government commit funding for the Memorial Drive Extension to Bulli Pass in the 2020/21 Budget?

Answer—

I am advised:

This information is publicly available.

\*1276 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—ROADS AND MARITIME SERVICES, ILLAWARRA PROJECTS - MOUNT OUSLEY INTERCHANGE ON THE M1 PRINCESS HIGHWAY—Mr Buttigieg asked the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) What work has occurred on the design of the Mount Ousley Interchange project in 2019 and 2020 to date?
  - (a) How much of the budgeted \$3 million has been spent?
- (2) Will the Government commit to funding the detailed design of the interchange in the 2020/21 Budget?
- (3) When will the detailed design of the interchange commence?
- (4) When will the construction of the interchange commence?
- (5) Is the Mount Ousley Interchange project a low priority for the Government?

Answer—

I am advised:

I refer you to the answers to LA 9268 and LA 8805.

\*1277 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—MALDON-DOMBARTON RAIL PROJECT—Mr Buttigieg asked the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Will the removal of freight services off the South Coast Rail Line provide wider opportunities for improved passenger services on that line?
- (2) Does the Minister plan to prioritise investment in the completion of the Maldon-Dombarton Rail project to establish a passenger-freight line in 2020/21?
  - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

Improvements to Picton Road are identified as an initiative for investigation under Future Transport in the zero to 10 year timeframe. Transport for NSW will assess all suitable options, including a potential upgrade to dual carriageway and cost estimates will be formulated as part of these investigations.

In the 2018/19 financial year the NSW Government completed \$1.3 million in improvements on Picton Road to provide more central median safety barrier to address continuing safety issues. The NSW Government has also announced \$3 million to start planning works for a bypass around Picton, between Picton Road and the Remembrance Driveway to improve safety and traffic flow.

The Minister provided the following further answer to this question on 18 May 2020:

This question was asked of the Minister for Transport and Roads, but has been referred to me, Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, for response.

I am advised:

- (1) Yes it would however, the NSW Government is already improving passenger services on the South Coast Line through its \$4.3 billion More Trains, More Services program. An additional 42 New Intercity Fleet carriages have been ordered which will enable us to operate 10-car trains in peak periods. The new carriages and improved services will provide a much needed extra 13,000 seats for South Coast customers across the busiest times of the week. In addition, improvements have been made to weekend services between Kiama, Wollongong and Sydney, with 22 four-car train services replaced with eight-car trains, providing an extra 20,000 seats.
- (2) Infrastructure Australia completed a review of the Maldon to Dombarton freight line in 2017 and found the project costs outweigh the economic benefits. As such, there is no plan to complete construction of the freight line at this time. Future Transport 2056 identifies completion of the line as a project for investigation in the 10 to 20 year horizon.

\*1278 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—UPGRADE OF PICTON ROAD—Mr Buttigieg asked the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) Does the Government plan to upgrade Picton Road to a four lane motorway?
  - (a) If so, how much will the Government spend on the upgrade of Picton Road in 2020/21?

Answer—

I am advised:

Improvements to Picton Road are identified as an initiative for investigation under Future Transport in the zero to 10 year timeframe. Transport for NSW will assess all suitable options, including a potential upgrade to dual carriageway and cost estimates will be formulated as part of these investigations.

In the 2018/19 financial year the NSW Government completed \$1.3 million in improvements on Picton Road to provide more central median safety barrier to address continuing safety issues. The NSW Government has also announced \$3 million to start planning works for a bypass around Picton, between Picton Road and the Remembrance Driveway to improve safety and traffic flow.

\*1279 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—ASBESTOS—Mr Buttigieg asked the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) The Minister please provide all figures in respect of current and former employees of Transport for NSW, Sydney Trains, NSW Trains Link, State Transit, Sydney Ferries, RailCorp, Sydney Metro and any related former entity, who are known to have:
  - (a) Contracted asbestos related diseases?
  - (b) Become deceased as a result of an asbestos related disease?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Transport Cluster's response to the Standing Order 52 Motion dated 25 February 2020 in relation to

asbestos management contains employee health monitoring records, including in relation to asbestos.

Information regarding deaths resulting from asbestos-related diseases is not available.

**\*1280 BETTER REGULATION AND INNOVATION—COVID19 STAFF ARRANGEMENTS FOR FAIR TRADING AND SAFEWORK—**Mr Mookhey asked the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—

- (1) How many additional staff have been engaged by Fair Trading to provide additional mediation services required to support negotiations between landlords and tenants under the tenancy support arrangements in place to respond to COVID19?
- (2) How many additional staff has SafeWork engaged to respond to the increased complaints relating to COVID19 in New South Wales workplaces?

Answer—

- (1) No additional staff have been engaged. Fair Trading is utilising existing resources, and specialist resources from other streams to support the service. An additional \$2.5 million has been provided to boost tenancy advocacy and advice services across NSW.
- (2) No additional staff have been engaged. SafeWork is utilising existing staff with the relevant skills and expertise to support the response and this work is complimentary to their usual functions.

**27 APRIL 2020**

(Paper No. 240)

**\*1293 BETTER REGULATION AND INNOVATION—GREYHOUNDS WELFARE INTEGRITY COMMISSION—**Mr Latham asked the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—

- (1) In 2017, how much did the Greyhounds Welfare Integrity Commission spend on:
  - (a) Office accommodation, both owned and rented?
  - (b) Travel expenses, both domestic and international?
  - (c) Entertainment expenses?
  - (d) Conferences and seminars?
  - (e) Office fit-outs and furniture?
  - (f) Board member fees and allowances?
  - (g) Senior management salaries and allowances?
  - (h) Consultancies?
- (2) In 2018, how much did the Greyhounds Welfare Integrity Commission spend on:
  - (a) Office accommodation, both owned and rented?
  - (b) Travel expenses, both domestic and international?
  - (c) Entertainment expenses?
  - (d) Conferences and seminars?
  - (e) Office fit-outs and furniture?
  - (f) Board member fees and allowances?
  - (g) Senior management salaries and allowances?
  - (h) Consultancies?
- (3) In 2019, how much did the Greyhounds Welfare Integrity Commission spend on:
  - (a) Office accommodation, both owned and rented?
  - (b) Travel expenses, both domestic and international?
  - (c) Entertainment expenses?
  - (d) Conferences and seminars?
  - (e) Office fit-outs and furniture?



- (f) Board member fees and allowances?
- (g) Senior management salaries and allowances?
- (h) Consultancies?

Answer—

No expenditure was incurred in the financial year 2016/17 as the Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission (the Commission) did not exist. The financial year 2017/18 was the first year the Commission incurred expenditure, which related to its initial establishment and start up.

Operational activity commenced at the Commission on 1 July 2018 with the financial year 2018/19 reflecting the first year of operational activity. As the current financial year is yet to conclude the 2019/20 expenditures in these areas are not finalised and therefore not provided.

2017/18	2018/19
000'	000'
\$1,757	\$2,606

### 15 MAY 2020

(Paper No. 254)

1414 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—NEW SCHOOL IN MURRUMBATEMAN—Ms Moriarty to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) What locations has the Department of Education looked at for the new school in Murrumbateman?
- (2) Has the Crown Reserve located between West St, Hercules St, Merriman Pl and North St footpath Fairley been considered?
  - (a) If so, is this location still currently being considered?
    - (i) What steps has or will the department take to reach out to local community groups who believe this land has a high conservation value?

1415 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—OVERCROWDING IN HUNTER VALLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS—Mr Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) How does the Government plan to solve the overcrowding problem in Hunter Valley schools, given 77 public schools in the region have exceeded their enrollment caps, based on permanent buildings?

1416 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—RESEARCH PROGRAM IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS LED BY MICHELLE BISHOP—Mr Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Which Government schools have participated in the research programs of Michelle Bishop from Macquarie University, embedding "Aboriginal community members" in schools to change the way in which Australian history and Indigenous studies are taught?
- (2) In question 1 above, how many of these community members were trained teachers or historians?
- (3) If Aboriginal representatives are needed in schools for the teaching of Australian history, will Italians now be recruited for the teaching of Ancient Rome and the Renaissance and Germans for the two world wars?
- (4) With unacceptably low attendance rates by Indigenous students in New South Wales, why has the Government cooperated with Ms Bishop given her message that we need to "overturn the harm schooling continues to inflict on many Indigenous people"?
- (5) Is the Government also considering adopting Ms Bishop's policy agenda to change the New South Wales curriculum so that "A critical dialogue of Cook's arrival that familiarises students with topics

like racial hierarchies and white supremacy is long overdue", as she stated in The Conversation website on 30 April 2020 ?

David Blunt  
Clerk of the Parliaments

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Authorised by the Parliament of New South Wales