



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

**QUESTIONS  
AND  
ANSWERS**

No. 209

WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH 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. 194 (Including Question Nos 1058 to 1059)	11 March 2020
Q & A No. 195 (Including Question Nos 1060 to 1063)	12 March 2020
Q & A No. 196 (Including Question Nos 1064 to 1067)	13 March 2020
Q & A No. 197 (Including Question Nos 1068 to 1070)	16 March 2020
Q & A No. 198 (Including Question Nos 1071 to 1071)	17 March 2020
Q & A No. 199 (Including Question Nos 1072 to 1072)	18 March 2020
Q & A No. 200 (Including Question Nos 1073 to 1074)	19 March 2020
Q & A No. 201 (Including Question Nos 1075 to 1075)	20 March 2020
Q & A No. 202 (Including Question Nos 1076 to 1076)	23 March 2020
Q & A No. 203 (Including Question Nos 1077 to 1079)	24 March 2020
Q & A No. 204 (Including Question Nos 1080 to 1080)	25 March 2020
Q & A No. 205 (Including Question Nos 1081 to 1081)	26 March 2020
Q & A No. 206 (Including Question Nos 1082 to 1086)	27 March 2020
Q & A No. 207 (Including Question Nos 1087 to 1088)	30 March 2020
Q & A No. 208 (Including Question Nos 1089 to 1117)	31 March 2020
Q & A No. 209 (Including Question Nos 1118 to 1128)	01 April 2020

**19 FEBRUARY 2020**

(Paper No. 194)

\*1059 HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH—TOTAL EMERGENCY PRESENTATIONS OVER SUMMER MONTHS—Mr Shoebridge asked the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) What is the total number of emergency presentations at all hospitals across New South Wales, by date, in:
- (a) November 2019?
  - (b) December 2019?
  - (c) January 2020?

Answer—

- (1) (a) - (c)

NSW Public Hospital performance and activity data is published on a quarterly basis by the Bureau of Health Information. The Bureau of Health Information will publish information for the October to December 2019 quarter on 18 March 2020. It will be available on the Bureau of Health Information website.

**11 MARCH 2020**

(Paper No. 209)

1118 REGIONAL NEW SOUTH WALES, INDUSTRY AND TRADE—CONDITION OF JARVIS STREET AND ADAM STREET IN OURA—Mr Veitch to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

- (1) What is the current condition of Jarvis Street and Adam Street, Oura that are identified as the main roads to the evacuation centre for the village of Oura?
- (a) When was work last completed on these roads?
  - (b) Is there any work scheduled for these roads?
- (2) Are there any crown roads that are used to get to the evacuation centre for the village of Oura?
- (a) If so, what condition are they in?
  - (b) When was work last completed on these roads?
  - (c) Is there any work scheduled for these roads?

1119 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—HERITAGE TUNNEL LINKING YOUNG JAILHOUSE AND YOUNG COURTHOUSE—Mr Veitch to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm there is a heritage tunnel that links the old Young Jailhouse (currently the TAFE) and the old Young Courthouse (currently Young High School Hall)?
- (2) Has this tunnel received a heritage listing?
- (3) How will this tunnel be preserved during the construction of the new education precinct?

1120 ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT—ESSENTIAL ENERGY CEO BUSINESS TRAVEL—Mr Buttigieg to ask the Special Minister of State, Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts, Vice-President of the Executive Council representing the Minister for Energy and Environment—

- (1) The Essential Energy Chief Executive Officer (CEO), John Cleland, was unable to appear at Budget Estimates on 6 March 2020 due to an international business trip:
- (a) What was the nature of the international business trip attended by Mr Cleland?

- (b) How many total days was that trip?
- (c) What was the total budget for Mr Cleland's trip?
- (d) What mode and class of transportation was used by Mr Cleland?

1121 WATER, PROPERTY AND HOUSING—WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT FACILITIES MANAGEMENT CLEANING CONTRACT—Mr Buttigieg to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Water, Property and Housing—

- (1) The new Whole of Government Facilities Management (Cleaning Services) contract started last year. Contractors are currently embarking on widespread cuts to hours as proposed by Government during the tendering process. Please advise:
  - (a) What sites will be affected by these cuts through the life of the agreement?
    - (i) What will be the impact will on each site?
  - (b) What steps are the Government taking to ensure that these cuts do not result in unsafe workplaces by increasing workloads?
  - (c) What is the total estimated budget expenditure on Whole of Government Facilities Management (Cleaning only) under the contract beginning in 2019 for each of the following financial years:
    - (i) 2019-20?
    - (ii) 2020-21?
    - (iii) 2021-22?
    - (iv) 2022-23?
  - (d) What is the mechanism in the contract to fund wages increases for workers?
  - (e) Contractors tendered on the legal minimum of the Award. Is the Government increasing the funding in the contract in line with the Annual Wage Increase as decided by Fair Work Australia each June to enable contractors to maintain legal compliance?

1122 ATTORNEY GENERAL—RESCINDING OF AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD—Mr Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning representing the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

- (1)
  - (a) Has the Minister written to the Governor General seeking to rescind Bettina Arndt's Australia Day award because, in part, she described the domestic violence industry as a 'feminist cash cow' and paid domestic violence leave as 'a racket'?
  - (b) Why do these opinions warrant loss of the award?
  - (c) If so, why?
- (2) Does the Minister find other statements, as made by award winners at local, State and Federal Government level unacceptable?
- (3) What representations has the Minister made acting on his concerns in (2) above?
- (4) Which domestic violence programs and policies in New South Wales are aimed at stopping powerful men from seeking to dominate women by taking away their rights of free speech, expression and opinion?
  - (a) What are the details of these policies?
  - (b) Why has the Minister introduced them?
- (5) Given that Our Watch has said that sexist jokes add to the problem of domestic violence, does the Minister intend to request that all local, State and Federal award winners in New South Wales who have told a sexist joke be now stripped of their awards?

1123 MENTAL HEALTH, REGIONAL YOUTH AND WOMEN—MENTAL HEALTH FUNDING—Ms Moriarty to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women—

- (1) According to the report by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, mental health funding across New South Wales was lower than other states. Why has funding for residential mental health services in New South Wales fallen by 7.7% between 2013-14 and 2017-18 (per capita)?

- (2) Why has funding for public psychiatric hospitals fallen by 2.2% between 2013-14 and 2017-18 (per capita)?
- (3) Why is New South Wales spending less than the national average on mental health being \$234 in New South Wales and \$243 nationally per capita?
- (4) Why are mental health nurses per 100,000 population lower than any other state being 82.4 in NSW while the national average 85.8?
- (5) Why do we have the lowest spending on community mental health care in the country other than Tasmania?
- 1124 MENTAL HEALTH, REGIONAL YOUTH AND WOMEN—COMMUNITY MANAGED ORGANISATIONS—Ms Moriarty to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women—
- (1) How many community based mental health services are there across New South Wales?
- (2) How many community based mental health services are there in each local health district?
- (3) The Mental Health Coordinating Council report titled 'the NSW CMO Mental Health Workforce' revealed that approximately half of the staff employed by community managed organisations were employed on a part time basis:
- (a) Is this accurate?
- (b) How many staff in the community managed organisations funded by the State Government are employed on a:
- (i) Fulltime basis?
- (ii) Part-time basis?
- (iii) Casual basis?
- (4) How many volunteers work in community managed organisations?
- (a) What is the average volunteer hours per week across community managed mental health organisations funded by the State Government?
- (5) Does the government keep track of waiting lists for community managed mental health organisations?
- (a) If so, what is the average waiting time to access a mental health community based service per local health district?
- (b) If not, has the department or Minister received any correspondence regarding waiting time of mental health community based services?
- (6) Has the department looked into or investigated waiting times for mental health community based service in the last two years?
- (a) If so, what has the results been?
- 1125 MENTAL HEALTH, REGIONAL YOUTH AND WOMEN—MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS—Ms Moriarty to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women—
- (1) Please provide a breakdown of where the \$15.2 million in bushfire mental health relief has been allocated?
- (a) How much is each local health district is receiving?
- (2) \$20 million has been allocated as part of the Therapeutic Environment Fund:
- (a) What hospitals have been upgraded as part of this fund
- (i) What was their completion date?
- (b) What hospitals are currently being upgraded?
- (i) What is the expected completion date?
- (c) What hospitals have not begun upgrades?
- (i) When do they expect to begin upgrades?
- (3) \$10.2 million has been allocated to eliminate suicides and suicide attempts whilst an individual is in care. How much did each local health district get as part of this initiative?
- (4) \$9 million has been allocated for after care services for those who have had a suicide attempt:

- (a) What is the percentage of patients that are followed up after a suicide attempt?
  - (b) How much is each local health district receiving as part of this program?
  - (c) It was mentioned during Budget Estimates that two new services will open in April as part of this funding. Where will these services open?
  - (d) Dr Lyons also mentioned that there is 'staged implementation of those services'. What is the roll out of these services?
- (5) \$25 million has been allocated to the 'Safe Haven concept':
- (a) Where are the five new services opening?
    - (i) What are the set completion dates?
  - (b) Where are the 15 new services opening next year?
    - (i) What are their completion dates?
- (6) \$4.6 million has been allocated to suicide bereavement services. How much is each local health receiving as part of this funding?
- (7) \$21 million has been allocated to Assertive Suicide Prevention Outreach Teams:
- (a) How funding is each local health district getting as part of this program?
  - (b) How many people are employed as part of this program?
    - (i) In which local health districts are they employed by?

1126 MENTAL HEALTH, REGIONAL YOUTH AND WOMEN—MENTAL HEALTH PRESENTATIONS TO EMERGENCY AND IN PATIENT CARE—Ms Moriarty to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women—

- (1) How many presenting with a mental health crisis, or for physical or mental health treatment after suicide attempts, or co-occurring mental health and/or substance use issues, and nonsuicidal self-harm, are discharged from emergency departments with:
  - (a) No admission?
  - (b) No referral?
  - (c) No follow up in the community?
- (2) What percentage of Emergency Department's business do these groups constitute?
- (3) How many dual diagnosis rehabilitation services are there in New South Wales?
  - (a) What are the waiting lists?
- (4) How many people are discharged from acute hospitals into homelessness?
- (5) How many people are discharged from in-patient care while still experiencing symptoms that make them a risk of harm to self or others?
  - (a) How many people are not admitted to care in spite of experiencing symptoms that make them a risk of harm to self or others?
- (6) Is there a limit to how long an individual can be involuntarily detained?
- (7) Why are some consumers involuntarily detained in a Mental Health in care unit (MHICU) for long periods of time despite family and peer support carers requesting their release?
- (8) In what situation would hospitals in a referring Local Health District (LHD) reject the repatriation of MHICU consumers?
- (9) In 2019 in New South Wales, how many consumers were involuntarily detained for a duration of more than three months in a Mental Health in care unit?
- (10) What assurances can the Minister provide to Mental Health in care unit consumers that once stabilisation of symptoms and/or reduction in the level of clinical risk is achieved, they will be repatriated to a less restrictive environment in their LHD?

1127 MENTAL HEALTH, REGIONAL YOUTH AND WOMEN—SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL—Ms Moriarty to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women—

- (1) Sutherland Hospital offers a 24 hour phone line for their Acute Care Team. How many calls do they receive on average each day?

- (2) What is the average wait time for this hotline?
- (3) How many calls go unanswered?
- (4) How many other hospitals offer this or a similar service?
- (5) For each hospital that provides this service could the Minister provide a breakdown of:
  - (a) The average number of calls per day?
  - (b) The number of calls to the service each year for the last five years?
  - (c) The average wait time for calls each year for the last five years?
  - (d) How many calls went unanswered each year for the last five years?

1128 MENTAL HEALTH, REGIONAL YOUTH AND WOMEN—VICTORIAN ROYAL COMMISSION INTO MENTAL HEALTH—Ms Moriarty to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women—

- (1) Has the Minister read the recommendations made by the Royal Commission into the Mental Health system in Victoria?
- (2) Has the Government looked into whether or not they should implement some of the recommendations in New South Wales?
- (3) One of the recommendations addressed the issue of workplace and skill shortages within the sector. Are there mental health workplace and skill shortages in New South Wales?
- (4) The Royal Commission discussed the idea of scholarships, funded graduate placements, and junior medical offices undertaking psychiatric rotations. Does New South Wales currently have programs like this?
  - (a) Would it be something that the Government would consider?

David Blunt  
Clerk of the Parliaments