



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

**QUESTIONS
AND
ANSWERS**

No. 334

MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 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

Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
Q & A No. 319 (Including Question Nos 1880 to 1886)	07 September 2020
Q & A No. 320 (Including Question Nos 1887 to 1902)	08 September 2020
Q & A No. 321 (Including Question Nos 1903 to 1908)	09 September 2020
Q & A No. 322 (Including Question Nos 1909 to 1916)	10 September 2020
Q & A No. 323 (Including Question Nos 1917 to 1924)	11 September 2020
Q & A No. 324 (Including Question Nos 1925 to 1934)	14 September 2020
Q & A No. 325 (Including Question Nos 1935 to 1939)	15 September 2020
Q & A No. 326 (Including Question Nos 1940 to 1940)	16 September 2020
Q & A No. 327 (Including Question Nos 1941 to 1951)	17 September 2020
Q & A No. 328 (Including Question Nos 1952 to 1987)	18 September 2020
Q & A No. 329 (Including Question Nos 1988 to 2000)	21 September 2020
Q & A No. 330 (Including Question Nos 2001 to 2012)	22 September 2020
Q & A No. 331 (Including Question Nos 2013 to 2065)	23 September 2020
Q & A No. 332 (Including Question Nos 2066 to 2072)	24 September 2020
Q & A No. 333 (Including Question Nos 2073 to 2094)	25 September 2020
Q & A No. 334 (Including Question Nos 2095 to 2098)	28 September 2020

17 AUGUST 2020

(Paper No. 319)

***1880 COUNTER TERRORISM AND CORRECTIONS—COVID-19 MINISTERIAL PAROLE DECISIONS**—Mr Latham asked the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning representing the Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections—

- (1) Under the extraordinary powers granted to the Corrections Commissioner under the COVID-19 Legislation Amendment (Emergency Measures) Bill 2020, 2.5 Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Act 1999 No 93, what parole orders have been made from 3 August 2020 to 17 August 2020?
 - (a) For which inmates were these orders made?
 - (b) What reasons were there for the orders?
 - (c) How is parole supervision being administered?
 - (d) For what crime was each paroled inmate originally convicted?
 - (i) How long was that sentence?

Answer—

- (1) Nil.

***1881 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—BURLEY GRIFFIN WAY**—Mr Veitch asked the Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council, 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 Transport and Roads—

- (1) With regard to bridge and road works on the Burley Griffin Way at Demondrille Bridge also known as the Willian Bradford Bridge:
 - (a) When will the works commence?
 - (b) What is the budget for these roadworks?
 - (c) What is the timeframe of the completed works?
 - (d) What is the scope of the works, for example, safety enhancements and major reconstruction?
 - (e) Which fund is the road works being generated from in the New South Wales Budget?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)
 - (a) Monday, 17 August 2020.
 - (b) \$1.1 million.
 - (c) Mid-October, weather permitting.
 - (d) The scope is maintenance work to improve safety and efficiency for all road users, and to extend the life of the bridge. Work includes replacing damaged safety barriers and kerb on both sides of the bridge, concrete patching and joint repairs to help ensure the bridge remains safe and serviceable.
 - (e) The NSW Government's Asset Management – Bridge Maintenance Initiative.

***1882 ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT—EMPOWERING HOMES PROGRAM**—Mr Latham asked the Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council, 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) When did the Government's Empowering Homes Program commence?
- (2) How many home owners have taken up the offer of interest-free loans to install solar battery systems?

Answer—

- (1) The Empowering Homes Program launched a pilot program in the greater Hunter and Mid Coast

regions on 28 February 2020.

- (2) As at 20 August 2020, 150 homeowners have had interest-free loans approved to install solar battery systems at their homes under the Empowering Homes pilot.

*1883 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—TEACHER STRESS LEAVE STATISTICS—Mr Latham asked the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) So far in 2020, how many Government school teachers have taken stress leave?

(a) What were the comparable figures in:

(i) 2018?

(ii) 2019?

Answer—

The employment conditions of teachers in NSW does not include "stress leave" as a specific leave type. If teachers are absent from the workplace, appropriate leave must be applied for, through the Department of Education's leave management system. Teachers are able to access a range of leave including sick leave, FAGS leave or extended leave depending on the reason for their absence.

In the case of sick leave, teachers may access this leave for a variety of reasons, including stress. However, the Department does not record the underlying medical reasons why teachers claim access to their accrued sick leave entitlement.

*1884 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—GENDER BALANCE AT ENDEAVOUR SPORTS HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Latham asked the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) At Endeavour Sports High School:

- (a) What is the gender balance of students?
 (b) What is the gender balance of teachers at the school?
 (c) What is the gender balance of the school executive?
 (d) What has been the gender of the last eight executive appointments at the school?

Answer—

- (1) The gender makeup at Endeavour Sports High School is:

- (a) Students: Female - 407 and Male - 709
 (b) Teachers: Female - 41 and Male - 28
 (c) School Executive: Female - 13 and Male - 3
 (d) The last eight executive appointments at the school are female. This includes seven through open merit and one as a nominated transfer.

*1885 PUBLIC SERVICE AND EMPLOYEE RELATIONS, ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS, AND THE ARTS—MINISTERIAL FLEET COSTS—Mr Latham asked the Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council, Special Minister of State, Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts, Vice-President of the Executive Council—

- (1) What are the relative costs to the Government in its ministerial fleet of each of the car models in use for:

- (a) Capital costs?
 (b) Leasing costs?
 (c) On-road costs?
 (d) Average petrol consumption?
 (e) Average maintenance costs?

- (2) Who funds the electricity costs for any Tesla being used in accessing the charging station in New South Wales Parliament House?

Answer—

I am advised:

This matter should be referred to the Premier.

*1886 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—LIFE READY TEACHING PROGRAM—Mr Latham asked the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) What does the mandatory Life Ready teaching program in Years 11 and 12 hope to achieve in Government schools?
 - (a) What is taught in this program?
- (2) Why is Life Ready a responsibility of teachers and not parents?
- (3) Given the Government's intent to de-clutter the curriculum, will Life Ready be kept during the Curriculum Review process?

Answer—

- (1) The Life Ready mandatory 25-hour course aims to help prepare senior students to gain important skills that will enable them to thrive in their life after school, whether it is future study or employment.
 - (a) The core skills students develop through the program are:
 - Communication and interpersonal skills,
 - Decision-making, problem-solving and critical thinking skills, and
 - Coping, transition and self-management skills.
- (2) Teachers have expert knowledge on how to provide this learning, which is crucial to providing students with a holistic education which prepares them to confidently and successfully transition to post-school employment.
- (3) Life Ready will remain mandatory for students in Years 11 and 12.

7 SEPTEMBER 2020

(Paper No. 334)

2095 TREASURER—JOB ACCELERATION FUND—Mrs Houssos to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Treasurer—

- (1) In relation to the \$3 billion Infrastructure and Job Acceleration Fund as announced on 31 May 2020 (<https://www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases/3-billion-boost-creates-100-billion-infrastructure-and-jobs-pipeline>):
 - (a) Can the Minister please provide an itemised detailed list of projects to be funded from this \$3 billion fund, including the details, cost, number of jobs created, and location of each project?
 - (b) What percentage of projects and funding will be allocated to newly announced projects, meaning those projects that were not announced prior to the establishment of the fund on 31 May 2020?
 - (c) What percentage of the steel, concrete, and other construction materials to be used in these projects will be manufactured in New South Wales?

2096 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—COMMUTER CAR PARK PROGRAM—Mrs Houssos to ask the Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council, 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 Transport and Roads—

- (1) In relation to the Commuter Car Park program:
 - (a) Will 8,000 car parking spots in the most recent Commuter Car Park program (<https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/news-and-events/media-releases/commuter-car-parks-to-be-fast-tracked>) be funded from the three billion dollar Infrastructure and Job Acceleration Fund announced on 31 May 2020 (<https://www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases/3-billion-boost-creates-100-billion-infrastructure-and-jobs-pipeline>)?

- (b) How much will the 8,000 car parking spots in the most recent Commuter Car Park program (<https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/news-and-events/media-releases/commuter-car-parks-to-be-fast-tracked>) cost?
- (c) Of these most recent Commuter Car Parks which will make up the additional 8,000 car parking spots, how many were announced or committed to prior to 31 May 2020?

2097 LOCAL GOVERNMENT—CENTRAL COAST ANIMAL FACILITY—Mr Pearson to ask the Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council, 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 Local Government—

- (1) Have complaints been received from members of the public about the operations of the Central Coast Animal Care Facility managed under contract for the Central Coast Council?
- (2) Is it the case that on 17 May 2020:
 - (a) The Central Coast Animal Care Facility took into its care a surrendered female Staffordshire Terrier with her puppies, and the mother dog was recovering from a caesarian section with stitches in her abdomen?
 - (b) The mother dog was placed into a cage but without standard veterinary practice being followed in that the mother dog was not put into a collared snood to prevent her from pulling out her stitches?
 - (c) The puppies were placed in with her, again this is against accepted practice given the risk that a post-operative mother may fall asleep, roll onto and suffocate her pups?
 - (d) During the night whilst she was not being observed, the mother dog pulled out her stitches and died from shock and blood loss, and her dead body crushed and suffocated several of the puppies?
 - (e) The manager of the facility described these events on her Facebook page and also admits in posts that dogs escape from the facility into the bush and also stray onto the busy roads and public areas?
- (3) Did the RSPCA conduct an investigation into the above incidents and find no negligence on the part of the facility or their contracted veterinarian?
 - (a) If so:
 - (i) What were the reasons for the RSPCA's determination that there was no negligence in regards to the deaths of the mother dog and her puppies?
 - (ii) Does the Minister have confidence in the ability of the Central Coast Animal Care Facility to discharge its responsibility to animals in their care, given the complaints raised?
 - (iii) What are the contractual relationships between the manager of the facility, the Central Coast Animal Facility and the Central Coast Council?
 - (iv) Is there an employment contract between the manager of the facility and the Central Coast Council?
 - (i) If not, is the Central Coast Council paying the manager's wages?
 - (v) Is the manager of the facility a member of the Central Coast Council's Companion Animals Advisory Committee?

2098 FINANCE AND SMALL BUSINESS—NSW GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT SPEND—Mr Mookhey to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business—

- (1) What is the total NSW Government Procurement spend for the following financial years, broken down by category, including goods and services, construction, health, and information and communications technology:
 - (a) Financial year 2016-17?
 - (b) Financial year 2017-18?
 - (c) Financial year 2018-19?
 - (d) Financial year 2019-20?
- (2) For the following financial years, what is the total NSW Government Procurement spend:
 - (a) Financial year 2016-17:

- (i) Small businesses with 0-19 employees?
 - (ii) Medium businesses with 20-199 employees?
 - (iii) All other large businesses with 200 or more employees?
 - (b) Financial year 2017-18:
 - (i) Small businesses with 0-19 employees?
 - (ii) Medium businesses with 20-199 employees?
 - (iii) All other large businesses with 200 or more employees?
 - (c) Financial year 2018-19:
 - (i) Small businesses with 0-19 employees?
 - (ii) Medium businesses with 20-199 employees?
 - (iii) All other large businesses with 200 or more employees?
 - (d) Financial year 2019-20:
 - (i) Small businesses with 0-19 employees?
 - (ii) Medium businesses with 20-199 employees?
 - (iii) All other large businesses with 200 or more employees?
- (3) For the following financial years, what is the total NSW Government Procurement spend:
- (a) Financial year 2016-17:
 - (i) Regional New South Wales businesses as defined in the procurement guidelines as all areas within New South Wales outside the Newcastle, Sydney and Wollongong metropolitan areas?
 - (ii) All other businesses?
 - (b) Financial year 2017-18:
 - (i) Regional New South Wales businesses as defined in the procurement guidelines as all areas within New South Wales outside the Newcastle, Sydney and Wollongong metropolitan areas?
 - (ii) All other businesses?
 - (c) Financial year 2018-19:
 - (i) Regional New South Wales businesses as defined in the procurement guidelines as all areas within New South Wales outside the Newcastle, Sydney and Wollongong metropolitan areas?
 - (ii) All other businesses?
 - (d) Financial year 2019-20:
 - (i) Regional New South Wales businesses as defined in the procurement guidelines as all areas within New South Wales outside the Newcastle, Sydney and Wollongong metropolitan areas?
 - (ii) All other businesses?
- (4) In relation to Aboriginal-owned businesses, what are the percentages for money spent and contracts awarded for the following financial years:
- (a) Financial year 2016-17:
 - (i) Percentage of money spent with Aboriginal-owned businesses?
 - (ii) Percentage of number of contracts awarded to Aboriginal-owned businesses?
 - (b) Financial year 2017-18:
 - (i) Percentage of money spent with Aboriginal-owned businesses?
 - (ii) Percentage of number of contracts awarded to Aboriginal-owned businesses?
 - (c) Financial year 2018-19:
 - (i) Percentage of money spent with Aboriginal-owned businesses?
 - (ii) Percentage of number of contracts awarded to Aboriginal-owned businesses?
 - (d) Financial year 2019-20:
 - (i) Percentage of money spent with Aboriginal-owned businesses?
 - (ii) Percentage of number of contracts awarded to Aboriginal-owned businesses?

David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliaments

Authorised by the Parliament of New South Wales