



## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2019-20-21

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 494

MONDAY 10 MAY 2021

(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. 479 (Including Question Nos 5429 to 5437)	10 May 2021
Q & A No. 480 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 481 (Including Question Nos 5438 to 5440)	12 May 2021
Q & A No. 482 (Including Question Nos 5441 to 5444)	13 May 2021
Q & A No. 483 (Including Question Nos 5445 to 5452)	14 May 2021
Q & A No. 484 (Including Question Nos 5453 to 5460)	17 May 2021
Q & A No. 485 (Including Question Nos 5461 to 5485)	18 May 2021
Q & A No. 486 (Including Question Nos 5486 to 5499)	19 May 2021
Q & A No. 487 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 488 (Including Question Nos 5500 to 5587)	21 May 2021
Q & A No. 489 (Including Question Nos 5588 to 5589)	24 May 2021
Q & A No. 490 (Including Question Nos 5590 to 5590)	25 May 2021
Q & A No. 491 (Including Question Nos 5591 to 5592)	26 May 2021
Q & A No. 492 (Including Question Nos 5593 to 5594)	27 May 2021
Q & A No. 493 (Including Question Nos 5595 to 5620)	28 May 2021
Q & A No. 494 (Including Question Nos 5621 to 5623)	31 May 2021

**19 APRIL 2021**

(Paper No. 479)

\* 5431 FINANCE AND SMALL BUSINESS—ELECTRIC VEHICLE FLEET—The Hon. Courtney Houssos to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business—

- (1) For every financial year since 2011-12 to 2020-21, what is:
- The percentage of new purchased fleet vehicles by the NSW Government across all Departments and Agencies that were electric vehicles?
  - The percentage of the total existing NSW Government fleet vehicles across all Departments and Agencies that are electric vehicles?

Answer—

- (1) NSW Procurement has been responsible for Fleet Management and Leasing from FY 2016/17 and has no access to data relating to the State Fleet which was decommissioned at the end of FY2015/16.

Financial Year	(a) Percentage of new purchased fleet vehicles that were electric vehicles	(b) Percentage of the total fleet that were electric vehicles
2016-17	5.00%	2.81%
2017-18	3.05%	2.86%
2018-19	7.03%	3.37%
2019-20	30.03%	8.02%
2020-21 (as at 28 February 2021)	43.44%	13.76%

- Electric vehicles include Battery Electric Vehicles, Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles and Hybrid Electric Vehicles.
- This data includes light commercial vehicles and passenger vehicles only. It excludes NSW Police vehicles.
- The NSW Government Resource Efficiency Policy set a target from 2020–21 that 10 percent of **new general purpose passenger fleet cars** purchased or leased by agencies are to be electric or hybrid vehicles. This target was exceeded in Calendar Year 2020 with 57% of new general purpose passenger fleet cars being electric or hybrid vehicles.

\* 5433 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—WESTCONNEX—The Hon. Courtney Houssos to ask the Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts representing the Minister for Transport and Roads—

- (1) What is the status of Westconnex Residual Site 2: Underwood Road?
- Is it still undecided?
  - Is disposal still recommended?
  - When will it be decided?
- (2) What is the status of Westconnex Residual Site 3: Ismay Avenue?
- Is it still undecided?
  - Is disposal still recommended?

- (c) When will it be decided?
- (3) What is the status of Westconnex Residual Site 6: Sydney Street?
  - (a) Is it still undecided?
  - (b) Is disposal still recommended?
  - (c) When will it be decided?
- (4) What is the status of Westconnex Residual Site 8: Concord Road?
  - (a) Is it still undecided?
  - (b) Is disposal still recommended?
  - (c) When will it be decided?
- (5) What is the status of Westconnex Residual Site 12a: Parramatta Road?
  - (a) Is it still undecided?
  - (b) Is disposal still recommended?
  - (c) When will it be decided?
- (6) What is the status of Westconnex Residual Site 12b: Parramatta Road
  - (a) Is it still undecided?
  - (b) Is disposal still recommended?
  - (c) When will it be decided?

Answer—

I am advised:

Transport for NSW-owned land that is no longer required for the operation of the New M4 tunnels is being managed in accordance with the M4 East Residual Land Management Plan, which was prepared to meet the project's Conditions of Approval.

Future use of these sites is subject to consideration of agencies through the whole of NSW Government process that applies to property.

\* 5434 PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES—WESTCONNEX—The Hon. Courtney Houssos to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

- (1) What is the status of Westconnex Residual Site 2: Underwood Road?
  - (a) Is it still undecided?
  - (b) Is disposal still recommended?
  - (c) When will it be decided?
- (2) What is the status of Westconnex Residual Site 3: Ismay Avenue?
  - (a) Is it still undecided?
  - (b) Is disposal still recommended?
  - (c) When will it be decided?
- (3) What is the status of Westconnex Residual Site 6: Sydney Street?
  - (a) Is it still undecided?
  - (b) Is disposal still recommended?
  - (c) When will it be decided?
- (4) What is the status of Westconnex Residual Site 8: Concord Road?

- (a) Is it still undecided?
  - (b) Is disposal still recommended?
  - (c) When will it be decided?
- (5) What is the status of Westconnex Residual Site 12a: Parramatta Road?
- (a) Is it still undecided?
  - (b) Is disposal still recommended?
  - (c) When will it be decided?
- (6) What is the status of Westconnex Residual Site 12b: Parramatta Road
- (a) Is it still undecided?
  - (b) Is disposal still recommended?
  - (c) When will it be decided?

Answer—

I am advised:

This matter should be referred to the Minister for Transport and Roads.

\* 5435 TREASURER—COAL ROYALTY REVENUE COLLECTED AND RETURNED TO LGAS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Treasurer—

I refer the Minister to his answer to Question 937 (18 December 2019) concerning coal royalty revenue returned to the Singleton and Muswellbrook Local Government Areas (LGAs):

- (1) Can the Minister now update this data please for the:
- (a) 2019-20 financial year? and the
  - (b) 2020-21 NSW Budget projections?

Answer—

Treasury has advised me as follows:

- (1) In 2019-20, the NSW government collected \$0.86 billion in coal royalties from mines in the Singleton and Muswellbrook Local Government Areas (LGAs), accounting for 57 per cent of total coal royalties collected in 2019-20. These estimates include revenue from mines that operate across LGA borders.

In 2020-21, the NSW government expects to collect around \$0.69 billion in coal royalties from mines in the Singleton and Muswellbrook LGAs, accounting for 55 per cent of total coal royalties expected to be collected in 2020-21. These estimates include revenue from mines that operate across LGA borders.

The corresponding expected outcomes for 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 (reflecting the 2020-21 Half-Yearly Review forecasts) are as follows:

**Approximate proportion of forecast coal royalties, estimated to be generated from locations in Singleton and Muswellbrook LGAs**

Fiscal Year	Forecast coal Royalties	Percentage of total coal royalties
2021-22	\$0.76 billion	55 per cent
2022-23	\$0.77 billion	55 per cent
2023-24	\$0.79 billion	55 per cent

- (2) Revenue collected from coal royalties is not hypothecated for infrastructure expenditure and instead goes directly into consolidated revenue.

The Local Government Areas of Singleton and Muswellbrook fall within the Upper Hunter Electorate. Capital expenditure allocated to the Upper Hunter electorate was \$91.7 million in 2019-20 and \$45.4 million in 2020-21.

Major projects funded through this expenditure include:

- Muswellbrook Land and New Fire Station
- Muswellbrook Hospital Redevelopment Stage 2
- New England Highway upgrade between Belford and the Golden Highway
- New England Highway Singleton Bypass
- New England Highway Muswellbrook Bypass
- Muswellbrook South Public School Upgrade

These allocation totals do not include funding that provides benefits to multiple electorates including the Upper Hunter.

\* 5436 ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT—LOCAL LAND SERVICES ACT—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts representing the Minister for Energy and Environment—

- (1) On 13 September 2019, the Hon. Matt Kean advised the Northern New South Wales Agricultural Alliance by email letter that as at 17 August 2019 there were 176 outstanding matters either under investigation or before the Courts in relation to alleged clearing of native vegetation. By reference to the regions identified in Schedule 1 of the Local Land Services Act 2013 (Schedule 1), how many of the 176 matters concerned land situated in:
- (a) The North West Region?
  - (b) The Central West Region?
  - (c) Any other region as defined by Schedule 1?
- (2) In relation to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's (DPIE's) Policy for resolving investigations under the now repealed Native Vegetation Act 2003 (Policy):
- (a) How many of the 176 matters referred to above have been resolved under the Policy?
  - (b) How many of the 176 matters referred to above have been resolved by the Courts?
  - (c) How many of the 176 matters remain outstanding before the Courts?
  - (d) How many of the 176 matters referred to above remain outstanding but are proposed to be resolved under the Policy?
  - (e) How many of the matters which have been resolved under the Policy have resulted in the State and the landholder entering into a Conservation Agreement under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (Conservation Agreement)?
  - (f) How many hectares of land in the State of New South Wales are currently subject to a Conservation Agreement as a result of the implementation of the Policy?
  - (g) How many hectares of land in the State of New South Wales are otherwise currently subject to a Conservation Agreement?
- (3) Since the commencement of Part 5A of the Local Land Services Act 2013 how many land holders in the following regions/areas have applied for and obtained a mandatory code complaint certificate to clear native vegetation under Division 4 of Part 5 of the Land Management (Native Vegetation Code) 2018 in:
- (a) The North West Region?
  - (b) The Central West Region?

- (c) Any other region as defined by Schedule 1?
- (4) Referring to question 3 above, and by reference to each of the regions identified in 3a.– c. above, how many hectares are or have been cleared or the subject of mandatory code complaint certificates?
- (5) Referring to question 3 above, and by reference to each of the regions identified in 3a.– c. above, how many hectares of land have been set aside in set aside areas as the result of the landholder being given permission to clear under a mandatory code complaint certificates ?

Answer—

- (1-2) The policy referred to in these questions is about getting the balance right between enforcing the law and giving certainty to landholders.

While the bulk of the cases being dealt with under the policy are now resolved, there remain a number that are outstanding:

All conservation agreements are published on the Biodiversity and Conservation Trust website.

- (3-5) These questions should be referred to the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales.

\* 5437 AGRICULTURE AND WESTERN NEW SOUTH WALES—LOCAL LAND SERVICES ACT—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales—

- (1) On 13 September 2019, the Hon. Matt Kean advised the Northern New South Wales Agricultural Alliance by email letter that as at 17 August 2019 there were 176 outstanding matters either under investigation or before the Courts in relation to alleged clearing of native vegetation. By reference to the regions identified in Schedule 1 of the Local Land Services Act 2013 (Schedule 1), how many of the 176 matters concerned land situated in:
  - (a) The North West Region?
  - (b) The Central West Region?
  - (c) Any other region as defined by Schedule 1?
- (2) In relation to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's (DPIE's) Policy for resolving investigations under the now repealed Native Vegetation Act 2003 (Policy):
  - (a) How many of the 176 matters referred to above have been resolved under the Policy?
  - (b) How many of the 176 matters referred to above have been resolved by the Courts?
  - (c) How many of the 176 matters remain outstanding before the Courts?
  - (d) How many of the 176 matters referred to above remain outstanding but are proposed to be resolved under the Policy?
  - (e) How many of the matters which have been resolved under the Policy have resulted in the State and the landholder entering into a Conservation Agreement under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (Conservation Agreement)?
  - (f) How many hectares of land in the State of New South Wales are currently subject to a Conservation Agreement as a result of the implementation of the Policy?
  - (g) How many hectares of land in the State of New South Wales are otherwise currently subject to a Conservation Agreement?
- (3) Since the commencement of Part 5A of the Local Land Services Act 2013 how many land holders in the following regions/areas have applied for and obtained a mandatory code complaint certificate to clear native vegetation under Division 4 of Part 5 of the Land Management (Native Vegetation Code) 2018 in:
  - (a) The North West Region?
  - (b) The Central West Region?
  - (c) Any other region as defined by Schedule 1?

- (4) Referring to question 3 above, and by reference to each of the regions identified in 3a.– c. above, how many hectares are or have been cleared or the subject of mandatory code complaint certificates?
- (5) Referring to question 3 above, and by reference to each of the regions identified in 3a.– c. above, how many hectares of land have been set aside in set aside areas as the result of the landholder being given permission to clear under a mandatory code complaint certificates ?

Answer—

- (1) This is a matter for the Minister for Energy and Environment.
- (2) This is a matter for the Minister for Energy and Environment.
- (3)
- (a) 25.
- (b) 45.
- (c) 184.
- (4)
- (a) 1006 hectares authorised under Part 5, Division 4.
- (b) 1889 hectares authorised under Part 5, Division 4.
- (c) 26,804 hectares authorised under Part 5, Division 4 in all other LLS regions.
- (5)
- (a) 2203 hectares set aside under Part 5, Division.
- (b) 4510 hectares set aside under Part 5, Division 4.
- (c) 53,203 hectares set aside under Part 5, Division 4 in all other regions.

**28 APRIL 2021**

(Paper No. 486)

\* 5494 FINANCE AND SMALL BUSINESS—REVENUE NSW—The Hon. Daniel Mookhey to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business—

- (1) Does Revenue NSW use any automated debt raising or recovery systems to collect fine or tax revenue?

Answer—

- (1) No

**10 MAY 2021**

(Paper No. 494)

5621 ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT—TALLAWARRA B—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts representing the Minister for Energy and Environment—

- (1) In the announcement of Tallawarra B proceeding:
- (a) How much money has the New South Wales Government committed to the project?
- (i) What are the terms and conditions of the financial commitment?
- (b) Has the project been deemed as eligible for support under the Government's Electricity Roadmap?
- (i) If so, what are the details?
- (c) When is Tallawarra B expected to be operational?



- (d) What percentage of hydrogen mix will the gas turbines at Tallawarra B commence at?
  - (i) Is the technology available to increase the hydrogen mix?
  - (ii) If so, when will this occur?
  - (iii) Where will the hydrogen come from?
  - (iv) What carbon emissions will be produced in the making of the hydrogen?
- (e) Given the Minister's statement on 4 Corners last month that New South Wales needs to end all fossil fuel use in the mid-2030s, will Tallawarra B cease production in 2035?
  - (i) If not, what is the expected lifespan of the gas turbine plant?

5622 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—LINDFIELD LEARNING CENTRE—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) What action has the Minister taken against the Principal and primary classroom teacher, Kirsten Ammann, at the Lindfield Learning Centre for the active promotion of homosexuality and gender fluidity among the students?

5623 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—SCHOOLS SUCCESS MODEL—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Under the new Schools Success Model, when will New South Wales government schools publish their:
  - (a) New performance targets?
  - (b) School plans?

David Blunt  
Clerk of the Parliament