



## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 499

MONDAY 17 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. 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
Q & A No. 495 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 496 (Including Question Nos 5624 to 5627)	2 June 2021
Q & A No. 497 (Including Question Nos 5628 to 5629)	3 June 2021
Q & A No. 498 (Including Question Nos 5630 to 5634)	4 June 2021
Q & A No. 499 (Including Question Nos 5635 to 5642)	7 June 2021

**26 APRIL 2021**

(Paper No. 484)

- \* 5453 FAMILIES, COMMUNITIES AND DISABILITY SERVICES—CHILD SAFE STANDARDS GUIDELINES—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning representing the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

Further to the Minister's answer to Question 5017 relating to the Child Safe Standards Guidelines:

- (1) Why has the Minister failed to answer any of the questions asked and the details sought, especially given they concerned the sexualisation of 3 and 4 year olds at a child care centre in NSW and the likelihood of child abuse?
- (2) Will the Minister now answer the questions given the seriousness of the matters raised?
- (3) Why has the Minister failed to intervene when a child care centre chain operating in NSW has taken a general statement about "equity is upheld and diverse needs are taken into account", as distributed by the NSW Office of the Children's Guardian, as a mandate and reason for teaching gender fluidity books to 3 and 4 year old children?
- (4) Does the Minister regard the teaching of gender fluidity books to 3 and 4 year olds as a form of child abuse?
- (5) Is the Minister still "proud of the work of the Office of the Children's Guardian" (OCG) given its failure to act to prevent the reading of gender fluidity books to infant children, seemingly encouraged and facilitated by OCG documents sent to NSW child care centres?
- (6) What action will the Minister now take concerning OCG, given its complicity in the sexualisation of very young people in NSW through age inappropriate learning materials in the promotion of gender fluidity among 3 and 4 year olds?
- (7) In establishing OCG, did the Government ever contemplate circumstances in which its child protection functions would result in the facilitation of child abuse?
  - (a) What are the details?
- (8) Given the seriousness of the matters raised in questions (1) to (7) above, will the Minister now close down the Office of the Children's Guardian and the Children's Advocate, and also recognise that he himself is unfit to be the Minister responsible for the best interests of NSW children?
- (9) Does the Minister understand the anger and dismay of the parents of children affected by the matters raised in questions (1) to (8) above?

Answer—

I reject the premise of these questions and refer the Member to the answer provided in response to question LC 5017.

- \* 5454 PREMIER—REDEVELOPMENT OF SYDNEY FISH MARKET—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 Premier—

- (1) In the redevelopment of the Sydney Fish Market by Infrastructure NSW, who is the successful construction tenderer?
- (2) How much will be spent on the project?
- (3) Is there a requirement for the successful tenderer to source their steel from New South Wales?
  - (a) If not, where will the steel for the project be supplied from, broken down by:
    - (i) Country of origin?
    - (ii) The value of the steel sourced from outside New South Wales?

Answer—

- (1) Multiplex.
- (2) \$750 million.

- (3) I am advised that Multiplex is required to have an Australian Industry Participation Plan which sets out requirements to ensure there is full, fair and reasonable opportunities for Australian industry to compete for work on the project. Multiplex is also required to consult with the Industry Capability Network and other relevant industry associations.

\* 5455 FAMILIES, COMMUNITIES AND DISABILITY SERVICES—OFFICE OF THE CHILDREN'S GUARDIAN: A GUIDE FOR FAITH-BASED ORGANISATIONS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning representing the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

- (1) Why did the Office of the Children's Guardian (OCG) in its list of consultations with faith-based organisations for the production of its 'A Guide for Faith-Based Organisations' (page 4):
- (a) Not include any peak Catholic or Anglican bodies in New South Wales?
  - (b) Not include any Islamic bodies or representatives?
  - (c) Cherry-pick out the involvement of 'progressive' Far-Left clerics, such as Peter Stuart of the Newcastle Anglican Diocese?
- (2) In the above mentioned OCG Guide, at page 20, how do statements and policies of LGBTIQ+ welcome and training practices further child protection outcomes in New South Wales?
- (a) What is the evidence base for this belief?
- (3) Where is the page 20 statement on LGBTIQ+ recommended in the Commonwealth Royal Commission upon which the Guide relies?
- (4) Why has a picture of an Islamic woman been presented at page 20 of the Guide if no Islamic representatives were involved in developing the Guide?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Office of the Children's Guardian (OCG) consulted a diverse range of faith-based stakeholders on the development of the Guide for Faith-based Organisations. Representatives from Catholic, Anglican, Baptist, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Jewish, Islamic and Buddhist faiths were invited to comment on the draft guide. Stakeholders listed in the guide are those that provided feedback.

The OCG is no longer using this guide. If the sector indicates that such a tool is still required, it will be redeveloped at a later time.

\* 5456 FAMILIES, COMMUNITIES AND DISABILITY SERVICES—GENDER FLUIDITY BOOKS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning representing the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

- (1) Is there an age considered appropriate to read gender fluidity books to children?
- (a) Do these books sexualise children?
- (2) Has the Minister taken any action against the Only About Children care chain in New South Wales given its practice of reading gender fluidity books to 3 and 4 year old children?
- (a) If so, what?
  - (b) If not,
    - (i) Why not?
    - (ii) Does the Minister condone the sexualisation of children?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Department of Education, as the NSW Regulatory Authority, regulates children's education and care services under the National Quality Framework (NQF) and the Children (Education and Care Services) National Law and National Regulations. The Department also assesses and rates services against the National Quality Standard (NQS).

The Department of Education, under the National Law or Regulations, does not have the authority to specify which activities an individual education and care service chooses to implement as part of their educational program. Individual services make their own decisions about which learning activities are

implemented at their service, provided they are in line with the objectives of the NQF and NQS and the approved learning frameworks.

The Office of Children's Guardian is an independent statutory agency and reports to a Joint Parliamentary Committee. Questions related to the performance of the Office of the Children's Guardian should be directed to the appropriate joint committee.

\* 5457 TREASURER—HOTEL QUARANTINE DEBTS—The Hon. Rod Roberts to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Treasurer—

- (1) What is the Government doing to recover the debts owed to New South Wales by the States and Territories that are not part of the interstate reimbursement working group?

Answer—

Treasury has advised me as follows:

- (1) NSW Treasury is actively considering options to recover the debts owed to NSW by those States and Territories that are not part of the interstate reimbursement working group.

\* 5459 SPECIAL MINISTER OF STATE—BAROONA HOMESTEAD—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—

- (1) What State heritage listings apply to the Baroona homestead at Singleton?
- (2) What Federal heritage listings apply to the Baroona homestead at Singleton?
- (3) What restrictions do these place on alterations to the buildings?
- (4) What items on the property are subject to the listings?
  - (a) Do they apply to the stables that once housed the mighty Peter Pan (Melbourne Cup winner 1932 and 1934)?
  - (b) Do they apply to Peter's burial site on the property?

Answer—

- (1) There are no State Heritage listings that apply to the Baroona Homestead at Singleton.
- (2) There are no Federal heritage listings that apply to the Baroona Homestead at Singleton.
- (3) There are no restrictions on alterations of the buildings at Baroona as a result of State or Federal heritage listings, however there are restrictions on alterations to the buildings due to local heritage listing on the *Singleton Local Environmental Plan 2013*.
- (4) The local heritage listing applies to the whole of the property.

\* 5460 FAMILIES, COMMUNITIES AND DISABILITY SERVICES—CHILD DEATHS IN THE HUNTER 2020 AND 2021—The Hon. Penny Sharpe to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning representing the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

- (1) How many children and young people who were known to the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ), and/or were assessed to be at risk of significant harm (RoSH), have died in the Hunter district during 2021?
- (2) How many children and young people who were known to, and/or were assessed to be at risk of significant harm (RoSH), have died in the Hunter district during 2020?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Department of Communities and Justice publishes reportable deaths data in the Child Deaths Annual Report, which is tabled in Parliament in November of each year. The 2020 reportable deaths data will be published in November 2021 and the 2021 reportable deaths data will be published in November 2022.

**27 APRIL 2021**

(Paper No. 485)

\* 5463 TREASURER—FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORT—The Hon. Courtney Houssos to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Treasurer—

- (1) What free public transport options are being considered?
- (2) What would be the boundaries or mechanisms of any free public transport options?
- (3) What would a free public transport program cost?

Answer—

I am advised that this question is more appropriately directed to the Minister for Transport.

\* 5475 TREASURER—WORKERS COMPENSATION—The Hon. Daniel Mookhey to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Treasurer—

- (1) What were the workers compensation premiums paid for or by Treasury, and each agency within the Treasury cluster, in the following financial years:
  - (a) 2018/19?
  - (b) 2019/20?
  - (c) 2020/21 to date?
- (2) How many workers compensation claims have been made in Treasury, and each agency inside the Treasury cluster, in the following financial years:
  - (a) 2018/19?
  - (b) 2019/20?
  - (c) 2020/21 to date?
- (3) Of those claims made by staff in Treasury, and each agency inside the Treasury cluster, please provide a breakdown of:
  - (a) How many required time off work in the following financial years:
    - (i) 2018/19?
    - (ii) 2019/20?
    - (iii) 2020/21 to date?
  - (b) How many attended work on suitable duties or reduced hours in the following financial years:
    - (i) 2018/19?
    - (ii) 2019/20?
    - (iii) 2020/21 to date?
  - (c) How many did not require time off work in the following financial years:
    - (i) 2018/19?
    - (ii) 2019/20?
    - (iii) 2020/21 to date?
- (4) Of those claims made by staff in Treasury, and each agency inside the Treasury cluster, please provide a breakdown of whether they were:
  - (a) A physical injury in the following financial years:
    - (i) 2018/19?

- (ii) 2019/20?
  - (iii) 2020/21 to date?
- (b) A psychological injury in the following financial years:
  - (i) 2018/19?
  - (ii) 2019/20?
  - (iii) 2020/21 to date?
- (5) How many staff in Treasury, and any agency inside the Treasury cluster, are currently claiming workers compensation?
  - (a) Of those, how many are not attending work?
  - (b) Of those, how many are attending work on suitable duties or reduced hours?
  - (c) Of those, how many did not require time off work?

Answer—

Please refer to the agencies' annual reports for information related to WH&S.

**17 MAY 2021**

(Paper No. 499)

5635 COUNTER TERRORISM AND CORRECTIONS—FUNDING FOR COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAM—Mr David Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning representing the Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections—

- (1) What additional budget has been allocated to the Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network to roll out the COVID-19 vaccination program in New South Wales Prisons in each of the following financial years:
  - (a) 2019/2020?
  - (b) 2020/2021?
  - (c) 2021 to date?
- (2) What additional budget has been allocated to Aboriginal Community Health Organisations to roll out the COVID-19 vaccination program in New South Wales Prisons in each of the following financial years:
  - (a) 2019/2020?
  - (b) 2020/2021?
  - (c) 2021 to date?
- (3) Which Aboriginal Community Health Organisations were allocated an additional budget?
  - (a) What was the amount in each of the following financial years:
    - (i) 2019/2020?
    - (ii) 2020/2021?
    - (iii) 2021 to date?

5636 HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH—FUNDING FOR COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAM—Mr David Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) What additional budget has been allocated to the Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network to roll out the COVID-19 vaccination program in New South Wales Prisons in each of the following financial years:

- 
- (a) 2019/2020?
  - (b) 2020/2021?
  - (c) 2021 to date?
- (2) What additional budget has been allocated to Aboriginal Community Health Organisations to roll out the COVID-19 vaccination program in New South Wales Prisons in each of the following financial years:
- (a) 2019/2020?
  - (b) 2020/2021?
  - (c) 2021 to date?
- (3) Which Aboriginal Community Health Organisations were allocated an additional budget?
- (a) What was the amount in each of the following financial years:
    - (i) 2019/2020?
    - (ii) 2020/2021?
    - (iii) 2021 to date?
- 5637 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—LINDFIELD LEARNING VILLAGE—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—
- (1) Further to the Minister's Answer to Question 5443 (13 May 2021).
- (a) Can the Minister please list the evidence-based classroom practices being implemented at the Lindfield Learning Village?
    - (i) What are the details of the supporting evidence-base in each case?
- 5638 ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT—NET ZERO CARBON 2050 STRATEGY—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) Further to the Minister's Answer to Question 5347 (29 April 2021).
- (a) Why is the Minister unable to specify the impact of the Net Zero Carbon 2050 policy on New South Wales, Australian and global average surface temperatures in combating climate change?
- 5639 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—LIFE READY COURSE—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—
- (1) What is the content of the Life Ready course in the New South Wales schools curriculum?
  - (2) What is the purpose of the Life Ready course in the New South Wales schools curriculum?
  - (3) When decluttering is required, what is the justification for the continuation of this course?
- 5640 ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT—RENEWABLE ENERGY SECTOR BOARD REPORT—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 announcing the members of the Renewable Energy Sector Board (RESB) earlier this year, did the Minister commit to the Board delivering its first report in March?
    - (a) If not, when will the first report be delivered?
  - (2) In the RESB March report what were the:
    - (a) Contents?
    - (b) Findings?
    - (c) Recommendations?



5641 ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT—SMART ENERGY CONFERENCE—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) At the Smart Energy Conference on 12 May 2021:
  - (a) What outlook did the Minister project for the development of carbon capture and storage in New South Wales?
  - (b) Did the Minister support Green Hydrogen development “which only comes from using renewables”?
- (2) When does the Minister expect 100% renewable energy to be available in New South Wales to make his Green Hydrogen ambitions feasible?
  - (a) What are the details?

5642 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—LINDFIELD LEARNING VILLAGE—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Further to the Minister’s Answer to Question 5439 (12 May 2021).
  - (a) What has been the outcome of the Department of Education’s Professional and Ethical Standards (PES) Directorate’s investigation into Kirsten Ammann’s classroom at the Lindfield Learning Village?
    - (i) What were the findings and recommendations?

David Blunt  
Clerk of the Parliament