



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2019-20-21

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 507

THURSDAY 27 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.

Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
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
Q & A No. 500 (Including Question Nos 5643 to 5973)	8 June 2021
Q & A No. 501 (Including Question Nos 5974 to 6529)	9 June 2021
Q & A No. 502 (Including Question Nos 6530 to 6534)	10 June 2021
Q & A No. 503 (Including Question Nos 6535 to 6535)	11 June 2021
Q & A No. 504 (Including Question Nos 6536 to 6536)	14 June 2021
Q & A No. 505 (Including Question Nos 6537 to 6538)	15 June 2021
Q & A No. 506 (Including Question Nos 6539 to 6551)	16 June 2021
Q & A No. 507 (Including Question Nos 6552 to 6554)	17 June 2021

6 MAY 2021

(Paper No. 492)

* 5593 BETTER REGULATION AND INNOVATION—REGISTERED PRACTITIONERS AND CLASS 2 BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS—The Hon. Peter Primrose to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—

- (1) In respect of registered practitioners (which include licenced tradespeople, registered certifiers and builders) working on Class 2 Building and Construction projects, in the last 12 months:
 - (a) How many investigations have been undertaken?
 - (b) How many findings have been made?
 - (c) How many licenses have been suspended?
 - (d) How many licenses have been cancelled or withdrawn?

Answer—

- (1)
 - (a) In the last 12 months, NSW Fair Trading has undertaken 23 investigations involving licensed tradespeople, registered certifiers or builders working on Class 2 Building and Construction projects.
 - (b-d) Two investigations resulted in certifiers issued with Penalty Infringement \$10,500. Two investigations were finalised as no further action was warranted. The remaining 19 investigations are ongoing.

* 5594 REGIONAL NEW SOUTH WALES, INDUSTRY AND TRADE—ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW COAL RELEASE IN WOLLAR AREA—Ms Abigail Boyd to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning representing the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade—

- (1) With the recent announcement of a new coal release area in Wollar, why was the Wollar community denied the right to participate in a Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment?
- (2) What community consultation was conducted in regard to the development of the Competitive Allocation Guideline released on 22 December 2020?
- (3) Why does the statement on the decision to release the Wollar allocation area, signed on April 20, state that the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) was requested to conduct an Initial Suitability Assessment (ISA) in accordance with the Competitive Allocation Guideline, when the Wollar area ISA had been produced in November 2020?

Answer—

- (1) The Competitive Allocation pathway is only used in specific circumstances i.e. sites adjacent to an existing mining or exploration project where multiple parties are interested in the resource; or where a licence is cancelled or relinquished. In these circumstances, information is already available to help the government evaluate the risks and opportunities associated with allowing exploration to occur there.
- (2) The Department of Regional NSW consulted key industry stakeholder groups prior to the release of the guideline.
- (3) The Wollar Initial Suitability Assessment (ISA) was conducted in accordance with the agreed policy parameters of the Competitive Allocation pathway.

7 MAY 2021

(Paper No. 493)

* 5607 BETTER REGULATION AND INNOVATION—JULIE BISHOP REPRESENTATIONS—The Hon. Daniel Mookhey to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation—

- (1) Since June 2019, has the Minister had any official meetings with The Hon. Julie Bishop or any representative of Julie Bishop and Partners?
 - (a) If so:
 - (i) On what date?
 - (ii) Where?
 - (iii) What was discussed?
 - (iv) What were the outcomes of the meeting?
 - (v) Was anything agreed at the meeting?
 - (vi) Was Ms Bishop representing any person or business?
- (2) Since June 2019, has the Minister encountered Ms Bishop in a social setting?
 - (a) If so:
 - (i) On what date?
 - (ii) Where?
 - (iii) Were any discussions held?
 - (iv) What was discussed?
 - (v) What were the outcomes of the interaction?
 - (vi) Was anything agreed to?
 - (vii) Was Ms Bishop representing any person or business?
 - (viii) Did Ms Bishop make any representation on behalf of any person or business?

Answer—

Summaries of scheduled meetings are published quarterly on the Department of Premier and Cabinet's website.

27 MAY 2021

(Paper No. 507)

6552 PREMIER—TERMINATION OF STAFF MEMBER IN THE OFFICE OF THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION—The Hon. Walt Secord to ask the Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts representing the Premier—

As the Minister responsible for the administration of the Members of Parliament Act 2013, and given that staff resources in the Office of the Leader of the Opposition are provided by the Department of Premier and Cabinet, in relation to the confirmation from the Leader of the Opposition on 26 May that a senior shadow ministerial staffer ceased his employment with the Office of Deputy Opposition Leader on the evening of May 25 in relation to the distribution of a dirt file to the NSW Parliamentary Press Gallery:

- (1) What were the terms of his termination?
- (2) Did he resign or was he dismissed?
- (3) If he was dismissed, what were the terms of that dismissal?
- (4) Did he receive a redundancy – and what was the total size of that redundancy?

(5) Did he receive a severance payment?

6553 PREMIER—PREMIER'S OFFICE FORMER STAFF MEMBER—The Hon. Adam Searle to ask the Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts representing the Premier—

In relation to the former staff member in the Premier's office who has been charged with multiple child sexual abuse offences:

- (1) Did the Premier become aware at any time during his employment in the Premier's office that this staff member was being investigated by NSW Police in relation to multiple allegations of child sexual abuse?
- (2) What date did the Premier first become aware that this staff member was being investigated by NSW Police in relation to multiple allegations of child sexual abuse?
- (3) Did any other current or former staff in the Premier's office become aware at any time during his employment in the Premier's office that this staff member was being investigated by NSW Police in relation to multiple allegations of child sexual abuse?
 - (a) If so, which other current or former staff member(s) and on what date(s)?

6554 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—ANIMATION VIDEOS ON THE NATIONAL QUALITY RATINGS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES—The Hon. Peter Primrose to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) The Department of Education has released animation videos to promote the National Quality Ratings for early childhood services.
 - (a) How many animation videos have been produced?
 - (i) What is the purpose of each animation video?
 - (b) What was the total cost of producing each of these animation videos?
 - (c) If these videos were produced outside of the Department of Education, who was awarded the contract?
 - (i) On what basis was the contract to produce the videos awarded?
 - (ii) Did the contract for production of the videos go to tender?

David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliament