



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 511

WEDNESDAY 2 JUNE 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. 496 (Including Question Nos 5624 to 5627)	2 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
Q & A No. 508 (Including Question Nos 6555 to 6557)	18 June 2021
Q & A No. 509 (Including Question Nos 6558 to 6561)	21 June 2021
Q & A No. 510 (Including Question Nos 6562 to 6563)	22 June 2021
Q & A No. 511 (Including Question Nos 6564 to 6567)	23 June 2021

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* 5624 LOCAL GOVERNMENT—DEMERGER PROPOSALS FOR SNOWY VALLEYS COUNCIL AND THE COOTAMUNDRA GUNDAGAI REGIONAL COUNCIL—The Hon. Peter Primrose 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 Local Government—

(1) In the Tumut & Adelong Times article titled “Council merger ‘was never going to work’” dated 11 May 2021, Minister Tudehope is reported saying:

For the benefit of the House, the Minister committed at budget estimates to make the reports [Boundaries Commission reports and its recommendations into Snowy Valleys Council and the Cootamundra Gundagai Council demergers] public.

- (a) On what date will the reports be made public?
- (2) On what date will the Minister make their statement/ decision in relation to the Boundaries Commissions reports into the possible demerger of these two councils?
- (a) Will it be done before the September 2021 council elections?
- (i) If not, why not?

Answer—

The NSW Government will release the reports following their consideration.

* 5625 ATTORNEY GENERAL—COST OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE DRUG 'ICE'—Mr David Shoebridge to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning representing the Attorney General, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence—

(1) What was the total cost to the New South Wales Government for the Government’s Special Commission of Inquiry into the Drug “Ice”, under Commissioner Professor Dan Howard SC?

Answer—

I refer the Member to the Premier’s response to LC Question on Notice 5626.

* 5626 PREMIER—COST OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE DRUG 'ICE'—Mr David Shoebridge 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) What was the total cost to the New South Wales Government for the Government’s Special Commission of Inquiry into the Drug “Ice”, under Commissioner Professor Dan Howard SC?

Answer—

The NSW Government will respond to the Inquiry's report this year. This will include announcement of specific budget initiatives.

* 5627 HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH—CHILDREN GENDER DYSPHORIA—Reverend the Hon. Fred Nile to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that Stockholm's Astrid Lindgren Children's hospital in Sweden is ceasing the routine treatment of gender dysphoric children with puberty blocking drugs and cross sex hormones due to infertility and cancer concerns?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that last week Australian gender clinicians from Westmead Hospital criticised the medicalisation of children's gender dysphoria?
- (3) In both cases the Health Minister was asked by the media for a response to these developments and declined to comment.

- (a) Why is the New South Wales government not speaking to the media about this important issue of child well-being?

Answer—

(1-3)

I am aware of the matters being raised by the Member.

Treatment and care of children and adolescents with gender dysphoria is a complex issue which must always be handled with the greatest level of care and sensitivity.

NSW Health supports practice that is consistent with advice from the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) on care and treatment for children and adolescents with gender dysphoria. This care should be based on evidence and advice from medical and other health professionals with specific expertise, in consultation with the affected child or adolescent and their family.

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6564 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—ABORIGINAL RETENTION RATES—The Hon. Courtney Houssos to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) How many Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander students in New South Wales government schools completed the HSC in 2020?
- (a) Broken down by:
- (i) Region?
- (ii) Gender?

6565 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—COVID-19 PROTOCOLS—The Hon. Courtney Houssos to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) What is the current guidance for schools to allow parents on to school grounds?
- (2) What additional requirements are in place to ensure COVID-19 protocols are followed?
- (3) Are schools allowed to establish their own additional requirements?
- (4) Is any monitoring or checking being conducted to see if schools are not allowing parents on the school grounds?
- (5) Are any schools not allowing students on school grounds?

6566 EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING—RESEARCH PROGRAMS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning—

- (1) Which New South Wales government high schools are cooperating with the following 'research programs' at Western Sydney University (WSU):
- (a) Gender Matters: Changing Gender Equity Policies and Practices in Australian Secondary Schooling?
- (b) The project to allow Safe Schools to be taught in New South Wales, run by Tania Ferfolja and Jacqueline Ullman?
- (2) Given that both these projects are contrary to the NSW Government decision to ban Safe Schools, will the Minister now instruct all government schools not to participate in the WSU gender fluidity promotional work?

6567 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—HEXHAM BRIDGE AND EXPECTED TRAFFIC VOLUMES FOR VARIOUS DATES IN 2022—The Hon. Peter Primrose 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 are the expected traffic volumes travelling northbound and southbound at the Hexham Bridge for each of the following dates:
- (a) 1 January 2022?
 - (b) 2 January 2022?
 - (c) 3 January 2022?
 - (d) 7 January 2022?
 - (e) 8 January 2022?
 - (f) 9 January 2022?
 - (g) 14 January 2022?
 - (h) 15 January 2022?
 - (i) 16 January 2022?
 - (j) 21 January 2022?
 - (k) 22 January 2022?
 - (l) 23 January 2022?
 - (m) 26 January 2022?
 - (n) 8 April 2022?
 - (o) 9 April 2022?
 - (p) 10 April 2022?
 - (q) 15 April 2022?
 - (r) 16 April 2022?
 - (s) 17 April 2022?/
 - (t) 18 April 2022?
 - (u) 22 April 2022?
 - (v) 23 April 2022?
 - (w) 24 April 2022?
 - (x) 25 April 2022?
 - (y) 10 June 2022?
 - (z) 11 June 2022?
 - (aa) 12 June 2022?
 - (bb) 13 June 2022?
 - (cc) 30 September 2022?
 - (dd) 1 October 2022?
 - (ee) 2 October 2022?
 - (ff) 3 October 2022?
 - (gg) 22 December 2022?
 - (hh) 23 December 2022?
 - (ii) 24 December 2022?
 - (jj) 26 December 2022?
 - (kk) 27 December 2022?

- (ll) 28 December 2022?
- (mm) 29 December 2022?
- (nn) 30 December 2022?
- (oo) 31 December 2022?

David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliament