



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 575

WEDNESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2021

(The Questions and Answers Paper published on Monday to Friday of each week will contain, by number and title, all questions to which answers have been received the previous day and any new questions asked that 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. 560 (Including Question Nos 7147 to 7168)	1 September 2021
Q & A No. 561 (Including Question Nos 7169 to 7178)	2 September 2021
Q & A No. 562 (Including Question Nos 7179 to 7188)	3 September 2021
Q & A No. 563 (Including Question Nos 7189 to 7191)	6 September 2021
Q & A No. 564 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 565 (Including Question Nos 7192 to 7196)	8 September 2021
Q & A No. 566 (Including Question Nos 7197 to 7206)	9 September 2021
Q & A No. 567 (Including Question Nos 7207 to 7212)	10 September 2021
Q & A No. 568 (Including Question Nos 7213 to 7218)	13 September 2021
Q & A No. 569 (Including Question Nos 7219 to 7272)	14 September 2021
Q & A No. 570 (Including Question Nos 7273 to 7275)	15 September 2021
Q & A No. 571 (Including Question Nos 7276 to 7278)	16 September 2021
Q & A No. 572 (Including Question Nos 7279 to 7289)	17 September 2021
Q & A No. 573 (Including Question Nos 7290 to 7342)	20 September 2021
Q & A No. 574 (Including Question Nos 7343 to 7345)	21 September 2021
Q & A No. 575 (Including Question Nos 7346 to 7349)	22 September 2021

11 AUGUST 2021

(Paper No. 560)

- * 7148 PREMIER—EXPENSES AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE—The Hon. Daniel Mookhey 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) As you have joint responsibility for Investment NSW:
- (a) What is the detailed breakdown of the \$61.6 million in expenses and capital expenditure for 2020-21, including:
- (i) A list of projects funded?
- (ii) A list of capital expenditure?
- (iii) A list of any funding recipients and the criteria for funding?
- (iv) Employee costs?

Answer—

I am advised:

Information in relation to expenditure can be found in the Budget papers.

- * 7149 REGIONAL NEW SOUTH WALES, INDUSTRY AND TRADE—EXPENSES AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE—The Hon. Daniel Mookhey 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) As you have joint responsibility for Investment NSW:
- (a) What is the detailed breakdown of the \$61.6 million in expenses and capital expenditure for 2020-21, including:
- (i) A list of projects funded?
- (ii) A list of capital expenditure?
- (iii) A list of any funding recipients and the criteria for funding?
- (iv) Employee costs?

Answer—

I am advised:

Information in relation to expenditure can be found in the Budget papers.

- * 7151 PREMIER—R&D MATCHMAKING PLATFORM—The Hon. Daniel Mookhey 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 is the status of the online R&D matchmaking platform listed in the 2020-21 Budget?
- (2) Of the \$2 million allocated in 2020-21:
- (a) How much was spent?
- (b) What was it spent on?
- (3) Was an allocation made to the online R&D matchmaking platform in the 2021-22 Budget?
- (a) If so:
- (i) How much?
- (ii) What will it be spent on?

(b) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

Information in relation to expenditure can be found in Budget papers and annual reports.

* 7152 REGIONAL NEW SOUTH WALES, INDUSTRY AND TRADE—GLOBAL NSW STRATEGY—The Hon. Daniel Mookhey 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) What was the outcome of the cost benefit analysis for the Global NSW Strategy undertaken by Deloitte Access Economics Pty Ltd for the sum of \$110,805 in 2019-20?

Answer—

The Cost-benefit analysis undertaken for the Global NSW Strategy is consistent with the NSW Government Guide to Cost-Benefit Analysis.

* 7154 PREMIER—R&D IN NEW SOUTH WALES ACTION PLAN—The Hon. Daniel Mookhey 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 relation to the five Priority Actions announced in the Accelerating R&D in New South Wales Action Plan:
- (a) How much of the \$24 million announced in the 2020-21 Budget has been spent on the Small Business Innovation Research program?
 - (b) Which organisations received funding under the Small Business Innovation Research program in 2020-21?
 - (c) Which individuals received funding under the Small Business Innovation Research program in 2020-21?
 - (d) What action has been taken and money spent on Priority Action 2: Boost open data help businesses improve decision making, allows entrepreneurs to think up new businesses?
 - (e) What action has been taken and money spent on Priority Action 3: Turbocharge precincts – attract global and national technology industries and investment?
 - (f) What action has been taken and money spent on Priority Action 4: Target specific support for NSW universities?

Answer—

I am advised:

Information in relation to expenditure can be found in Budget papers and annual reports.

This year, the NSW Government established Investment NSW and released our Data Strategy to support our R&D Action Plan.

* 7155 REGIONAL NEW SOUTH WALES, INDUSTRY AND TRADE—ABS FACADE—The Hon. Daniel Mookhey 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 regards to the \$3 million grant from the Government's Regional Job Creation Fund to facilitate the relocation of ABS Façade from the ACT to Queenbeyan:
- (a) Of the claimed 150 new jobs:
 - (i) Where did this figure of 150 new jobs come from?
 - (ii) Are only New South Wales residents able to fill these new positions? If not, why not?
 - (iii) Over what period of time will these claimed new 150 be created?

- (b) Of the claimed 30 new apprenticeships:
 - (i) What trades will these be in?
 - (ii) Will the apprenticeships only be open to New South Wales residents? If not, why not?
 - (iii) Over what period of time will these new apprenticeships be created?
- (c) Was a business case prepared to assess the merit of the granting ABS Façade the \$3 million grant?
 - (i) If not, why not?
- (d) Did the Minister, the minister's office or staff have any role in the assessment of the merits of granting ABS Façade the grant?
- (e) How long has ABS Façade committed to staying in New South Wales?

Answer—

- (1) Expected outcomes are provided by applicants to the Regional Job Creation Fund.

Project outcomes must be achieved over three years. A cost-benefit analysis was completed by Investment NSW. The likelihood of some employees residing outside of NSW was considered in the project assessment. The new apprentices will be for a Certificate III in Carpentry.

Further details regarding the assessment of applications to the Regional Job Creation Fund is available on the Invest Regional NSW website.

* 7157 REGIONAL NEW SOUTH WALES, INDUSTRY AND TRADE—NSW TRADE AND INVESTMENT OFFICES—The Hon. Daniel Mookhey 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) Of the 10 additional overseas NSW Trade and Investment offices announced in November 2020:
 - (a) How many have been set up?
 - (i) In what locations?

Answer—

Details of the NSW Government's international network and expansion information is available on the Invest NSW website and within the Global NSW Strategy.

* 7159 REGIONAL NEW SOUTH WALES, INDUSTRY AND TRADE—NSW TRADE AND INVESTMENT OFFICES LOCATED OVERSEAS—The Hon. Daniel Mookhey 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) For each of the NSW Trade and Investment offices located overseas:
 - (a) How much was spent on hospitality and catering in 2020-21?
 - (b) How much was spent on limousine and chauffeur services?
 - (c) How much was spent on rent?
 - (d) How many new investors were signed up to receive New South Wales exports?

Answer—

- (1)
 - (a-c) Operational expenditure will be found in the Annual Report.
 - (d) It is not a core function of Investment NSW to support NSW businesses seek private investment from overseas sources.

* 7161 REGIONAL NEW SOUTH WALES, INDUSTRY AND TRADE—VACCINATION OF CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IN IDENTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS—The Hon. Mark Latham 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) What indemnities has the Government provided to employers against possible adverse employee reactions to vaccines arising from the NSW Public Health Order requiring workers from the restricted eight Sydney local government areas (LGAs) attending construction sites to be COVID-19 vaccinated?
- (2) If no State indemnities have been provided, where does the legal liability rest for the potential employee health impacts described in (1) above?

Answer—

Please refer to the answer to Question on Notice 7162.

* 7162 HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH—VACCINATION OF CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IN IDENTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) What indemnities has the Government provided to employers against possible adverse employee reactions to vaccines arising from the NSW Public Health Order requiring workers from the restricted eight Sydney local government areas (LGAs) attending construction sites to be COVID-19 vaccinated?
- (2) If no State indemnities have been provided, where does the legal liability rest for the potential employee health impacts described in (1) above?

Answer—

- (1-2) The Australian Government leads the vaccine rollout nationally and is responsible for the supply of COVID-19 vaccines to NSW vaccination clinics, general practitioners and community pharmacies. I am advised the COVID-19 vaccines remain the property of the Australian Government, and any indemnity arrangements would be the Commonwealth's responsibility should there be acute adverse reactions to the vaccine.

I am further advised that the NSW Government is self-insured under the NSW Treasury Managed Fund, which would cover any unexpected liabilities should they arise regarding NSW Health COVID-19 vaccination hubs.

* 7163 TREASURER—VACCINATION OF CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IN IDENTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Treasurer—

- (1) What indemnities has the Government provided to employers against possible adverse employee reactions to vaccines arising from the NSW Public Health Order requiring workers from the restricted eight Sydney local government areas (LGAs) attending construction sites to be COVID-19 vaccinated?
- (2) If no State indemnities have been provided, where does the legal liability rest for the potential employee health impacts described in (1) above?

Answer—

This question is best directed to the Minister for Health.

* 7164 PUBLIC SERVICE AND EMPLOYEE RELATIONS, ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS, AND THE ARTS—MODERN SLAVERY AMENDMENT BILL—Reverend the Hon. Fred Nile to ask the Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts—

- (1) Is the Government committed to introducing the Modern Slavery Amendment Bill?
 - (a) If so, when?

(2) What specific measures is the Government planning to minimise modern slavery?

Answer—

As outlined in the NSW Government's response to the Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Social Issues Report number 56, the NSW Government is committed to implementing a Modern Slavery Regime in NSW.

The Government supported a great many of the Committee's 17 recommendations, including its principal recommendation that the Government proceed with amending and then commencing the *Modern Slavery Act 2018 (NSW)* (the Act).

This includes the following:

- Establishing the NSW Anti-slavery Commissioner together with its advisory and advocacy functions;
- Ensuring that goods and services procured by NSW Government agencies are not the product of modern slavery; and
- Increasing support for victims.

On 8 June 2021 the NSW Government gave notice in the Legislative Council of its intent to introduce the Modern Slavery Amendment Bill 2021 (the Bill). I anticipate that the Bill will be introduced once Parliament resumes.

The Bill proposes to amend the Act to implement the NSW Government response to the recommendations of Committee, to resolve technical legal deficiencies in the Act, and to enable the Act to commence.

* 7165 TRANSPORT AND ROADS—BUSWAYS—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) Given reduced patronage due to COVID, how is Busways revenue being ensured?
 - (a) Will the state provide supplementary funding to Busways?
- (2) Until what date are current bus routes and schedules operated by Busways guaranteed to remain in place?
- (3) When and how can Busways request amendments to routes and schedules?
- (4) Will resident representations to local State Members now be referred to Busways for response as the operator?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Revenue from patronage is received by Transport for NSW (TfNSW) and is not an operator risk. TfNSW will continue to pay all contracted Sydney Metropolitan Bus Operators for delivering services as per usual contract requirements.
- (2) There are currently no plans to change the level of services provided by Busways. TfNSW has confirmed with Sydney Metropolitan contracted bus operators, including Busways, that all regular passenger bus routes and schedules will remain in place.
- (3) This is set out in the contract between TfNSW and Busways.
- (4) Representations to the local State Member continue to be referred to TfNSW, who can then work with Busways to determine an appropriate response.

* 7166 COUNTER TERRORISM AND CORRECTIONS—COVID-19 POSITIVE CASES IN CORRECTIONS—The Hon. Tara Moriarty to ask the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans representing the Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections—

- (1) Please advise how many inmates have tested positive for COVID-19 while in custody as of 11 August 2021, broken down by:
 - (a) the name of each correctional facility?
 - (i) the date of the positive case?
- (2) Please advise how many employees working in a correctional facility have tested positive for COVID-19 as of 11 August 2021, broken down by:
 - (a) the name of the correctional facility they work at?
 - (i) the date of the positive case?
- (3) Please advise how many young people detained in a Youth Justice Centre have tested positive for COVID-19 as of 11 August 2021, broken down by:
 - (a) the name of each Youth Justice facility?
 - (i) the date of the positive case?
- (4) Please advise how many employees working within a Youth Justice Centre have tested positive for COVID-19 as of 11 August 2021, broken down by:
 - (a) the name of the Youth Justice facility they work at?
 - (i) the date of the positive case?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1-2) As these questions relate to COVID19 case numbers, the Honourable Member should direct her questions to the Hon Brad Hazzard MP, Minister for Health and Medical Research.
- (3-4) As these questions relate to Youth Justice NSW, the Honourable Member should direct her questions to the Hon Alister Henskens MP, Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services.

* 7167 FAMILIES, COMMUNITIES AND DISABILITY SERVICES—COVID AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES—The Hon. Penny Sharpe to ask the Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans representing the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services—

- (1) What additional financial and other supports are available to people in disability in New South Wales whose regular supports are unavailable due to the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure food relief and other personal care services are available?
- (2) Has the Minister made any representations to the Federal Government about facilitating COVID-19 vaccinations to be delivered to people with disability living in congregate arrangements such as group homes and boarding houses?
 - (a) If so, what representations have been made?
- (3) What representations has the Minister made to the Minister for Health and Medical Research to ensure disability liaison officers are available within NSW Health to coordinate COVID-19 vaccination access for people with disability and their families?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) On 27 July 2021, the NSW Government announced additional funding of \$2.5 million for food relief providers, including FoodBank and OzHarvest to ensure food relief is available across NSW. The NSW Government is coordinating efforts with these providers, local governments and

community organisations to ensure that food relief is available to vulnerable people in a variety of accessible ways, and with consideration for an individual's circumstances.

Continuity of National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) funded supports and services are the responsibility of the National Disability Insurance Agency and the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission.

- (2-3) People with disability and workers in disability residential settings are prioritised under the Commonwealth Governments COVID-19 Vaccination Program for Phase 1a.

Phase 1b includes NDIS participants (16 years and over) and other people with disability.

The Commonwealth Government is coordinating an in-reach vaccination service for both participants and workers at either group homes or vaccination hubs. Registered NDIS providers have been encouraged to contact the Commonwealth Department of Health to discuss in-reach options.

I have continually advocated to the Commonwealth Minister for the NDIS and Commonwealth Department of Health, about increased vaccine access for people with disabilities, their families and carers in in NSW.

* 7168 HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH—PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY AND COVID—The Hon. Penny Sharpe to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) Has the Minister made any representations to the Federal Government about facilitating COVID-19 vaccinations to be delivered to people with disability living in congregate arrangements such as group homes and boarding houses?
 - (a) If so, what representations have been made?
- (2) How many and what proportion of people with disability have been partially and fully vaccinated against COVID-19 who are living in congregate arrangements such as group homes and boarding houses?
- (3) Are there disability liaison officers available within NSW Health to coordinate COVID-19 vaccination access for people with disability and their families?
 - (a) If so, please provide information regarding the number of workers carrying out this function and where they are located?
- (4) Are supported employment work centres and other congregate disability facilities in the Greater Sydney Area and other areas of New South Wales subject to lockdown able to remain open under the current public health orders?
- (5) How many and what proportion of people with disability have been partially and fully vaccinated against COVID-19 who are under the age of 65 and living in an aged care facility?
- (6) How many and what proportion of people with disability have been partially and fully vaccinated against COVID-19 who are currently incarcerated in a New South Wales prison?
- (7) How many and what proportion of people with disability have been partially and fully vaccinated against COVID-19 who are currently incarcerated in a NSW Youth Justice Centre?
- (8) What proportion of NSW Health vaccination centres are physically accessible for people with disability?
 - (a) Which NSW Health vaccination centres are not physically accessible for people with disability?

Answer—

- (1-8) The Commonwealth Government is responsible for the vaccination of people with disability in congregated settings (such as group homes) and disability workers. Published information about vaccination rates in relation to the disability sector is available on the Australian Government website at: <https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/australias-covid-19-vaccine-rollout>.

NSW Health has been meeting regularly with the Commonwealth on the vaccination rollout to the disability sector. In addition, each local health district has a disability lead that assists people with disability, and their families to access vaccination services.

Information on the types of premises that must be closed is publicly available on the NSW Government website and in the public health order. NSW Health also publishes guidance to disability support providers to help them manage the continuing provision of disability supports during the pandemic at <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/disability-support.aspx>.

All NSW Health operated vaccination centres or hubs are physically accessible for people with disability. Access for people with a disability at mobile and pop-up outreach clinics in community locations may vary.

1 SEPTEMBER 2021

(Paper No. 575)

7346 HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH—PUBLIC MATERNITY CARE OPTIONS—Ms Cate Faehrmann to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) What proportion of women receive care through continuity of care programs at New South Wales public hospitals?
- (2) What percentage of women per year would access each of these models of care within public hospitals:
 - (a) GP/Obstetrician care?
 - (b) GP/Hospital shared care?
 - (c) Midwifery Group Practice/Caseload Midwifery?
- (3) What percentage of the total births in the state occur in:
 - (a) Public hospitals?
 - (b) Birth centres?
 - (c) The six publicly funded New South Wales homebirth programs?

7347 JOBS, INVESTMENT, TOURISM AND WESTERN SYDNEY—BLUE WREN FARM—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney—

- (1) Why has the Government granted \$146,980 to the Blue Wren Farm in Mudgee for the creation of a Barn Restaurant?
 - (a) What funding program was the money allocated from?
 - (b) Who initiated the grant?
- (2) Why can't the Blue Wren Farm as a profitable enterprise fully fund its own business expansion and capital works into the Barn Restaurant?
- (3) What role did the Member for Dubbo play in securing the government money for Blue Wren Farm?
- (4) Was there a competitive process in the determination of funding?
- (5) In the 2020-21 financial year:
 - (a) What other private enterprises in New South Wales have received government funding for capital works and facility expansion?
 - (i) What are the details?

7348 CUSTOMER SERVICE—COVID-19 TRANSMISSIONS ON SERVICE NSW PREMISES—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Finance and Small Business representing the Minister for Customer Service, and Minister for Digital—

- (1) How many COVID-19 transmissions have been recorded on Service NSW premises among:
 - (a) Staff in the following periods:
 - (i) January 2020 to 31 May 2021?
 - (ii) 1 June 2021 to date?
 - (b) Customers for the following periods:
 - (i) January 2020 to 31 May 2021?
 - (ii) 1 June 2021 to date?

7349 HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH—COVID-19 TRANSMISSIONS ON SERVICE NSW PREMISES—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women representing the Minister for Health and Medical Research—

- (1) How many COVID-19 transmissions have been recorded on Service NSW premises among:
 - (a) Staff in the following periods:
 - (i) January 2020 to 31 May 2021?
 - (ii) 1 June 2021 to date?
 - (b) Customers for the following periods:
 - (i) January 2020 to 31 May 2021?
 - (ii) 1 June 2021 to date?

David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliament