



## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2019-20-21-22

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 851

THURSDAY 20 OCTOBER 2022

(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.

---

<b>Publication of Questions</b>	<b>Answer to be lodged by</b>
Q & A No. 836 (Including Question Nos 9570 to 9571)	20 October 2022
Q & A No. 837 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 838 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 839 (Including Question Nos 9572 to 9615)	25 October 2022
Q & A No. 840 (Including Question Nos 9616 to 9617)	26 October 2022
Q & A No. 841 (Including Question Nos 9618 to 9629)	27 October 2022
Q & A No. 842 (Including Question Nos 9630 to 9634)	28 October 2022
Q & A No. 843 (Including Question Nos 9635 to 9637)	31 October 2022
Q & A No. 844 (Including Question Nos 9638 to 9638)	1 November 2022
Q & A No. 845 (Including Question Nos 9639 to 9640)	2 November 2022
Q & A No. 846 (Including Question Nos 9641 to 9646)	3 November 2022
Q & A No. 847 (Including Question Nos 9647 to 9648)	4 November 2022
Q & A No. 848 (Including Question Nos 9649 to 9651)	7 November 2022
Q & A No. 849 (Including Question Nos 9652 to 9657)	8 November 2022
Q & A No. 850 (Including Question Nos 9658 to 9659)	9 November 2022
Q & A No. 851 (Including Question Nos 9660 to 9664)	10 November 2022

**28 SEPTEMBER 2022**

(Paper No. 836)

\* 9570 EMERGENCY SERVICES AND RESILIENCE—VACANT POSITIONS IN RFS—The Hon. Mark Buttigieg to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

- (1) How many full-time equivalent positions currently exist in the Rural Fire Service?
- (2) How many full-time equivalent positions are currently vacant in the Rural Fire Service?
  - (a) At what location does each current vacancy exist?
  - (b) What is the position title of each currently vacant full-time equivalent position in the Rural Fire Service?
  - (c) Can the data regarding the number of currently vacant full-time equivalent positions in the Rural Fire Service also be presented in an organisational chart?

Answer—

(1) 1,386.

(2)

(a-c) Due to the NSW Rural Fire Service's flexible and dynamic nature of resourcing and staffing deployment, many staff work across districts and zones.

As part of the 2022-23 NSW Budget, the NSW Government announced \$75.4 million for permanent RFS mitigation crews, as part of a \$315.2 million commitment to complete recommendations from the NSW Bushfire Inquiry.

To facilitate that, the RFS is currently undertaking a significant recruitment drive of more than 140 mitigation crew leaders and members.

During periods of heightened bush fire risk and activity, the RFS can draw upon its volunteer and staff base of more than 70,000, to ensure continuity of front line operations. This can include secondments from other districts to meet any need. Any vacancies are publicly advertised at <https://iworkfor.nsw.gov.au>.

\* 9571 EDUCATION AND EARLY LEARNING—STANDARDS OF NSW TEACHERS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) What progress has the Government made with the implementation of the 2018 announcement by Minister Stokes, the Minister for Education at the time, that only university graduates with a 70-plus Grade Point Average could teach in New South Wales schools?
  - (a) Have exceptions been made to this policy?
    - (i) If so, how many exceptions have been made?

Answer—

The Teacher Success Profile (TSP) sets the benchmark that university graduates must meet to be eligible for employment in NSW public schools. The policy required graduates entering initial teacher education from 2019 to attain a minimum credit grade point average by completion of their studies, as a condition of eligibility for permanent employment in NSW public schools.

Initial teacher education students who enrolled in their course from January 2019 and are completing a Bachelor of Education in 2022 are the first exiting cohort to which the credit average requirement comes into place.

**20 OCTOBER 2022**

(Paper No. 851)

9660 EMERGENCY SERVICES AND RESILIENCE—ENGAGEMENT OF DR MARC STIGTER—The Hon. Mark Buttigieg to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

- (1) During the procurement process that led to the engagement of Dr Marc Stigter to develop strategy, how many quotes were obtained from other providers?
- (2) What were the terms of reference for Dr Marc Stigter's engagement?
- (3) How much was Dr Marc Stigter paid for the entirety of his engagement by Fire and Rescue NSW?

9661 EMERGENCY SERVICES AND RESILIENCE—FREQUENT FLYER POINTS—The Hon. Mark Buttigieg to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads representing the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

- (1) Have any Fire and Rescue NSW executive officers received Frequent Flyer points during their business trips in the past 24 months?
  - (a) If so, who?
- (2) Have any Fire and Rescue NSW executive officers sought Frequent Flyer points during their business trips in the past 24 months?
  - (a) If so, who?
- (3) Have there been any breaches of Fire and Rescue NSW's policy on the acceptance of Frequent Flyer points in the past 24 months?
  - (a) If so, how many breaches?
  - (b) What was the outcome of any breach, including any warning or disciplinary action taken?
- (4) Have there been any investigations into a potential breach of Fire and Rescue NSW's policy on the acceptance of Frequent Flyer points in the past 24 months?
  - (a) If so, how many investigations were conducted?
  - (b) What was the outcome of each investigation, including any warning or disciplinary action taken?

9662 TRANSPORT—PORTABLE RAMPS INJURY—The Hon. Mark Buttigieg to ask the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) How many incidents or personal injuries have occurred or have been sustained whilst using portable ramps to allow mobility access along the:
  - (a) Blue Mountains Line?
  - (b) Central Coast and Newcastle Line?
  - (c) Hunter Line?
  - (d) South Coast Line?
  - (e) Southern Highlands Line?
- (2) How many of these incidents or personal injuries have occurred on:
  - (a) Sydney Trains?
  - (b) Countrylink Trains?
  - (c) New South Wales TrainLink trains?

9663 CUSTOMER SERVICE AND DIGITAL GOVERNMENT—CERTIFICATES OF TITLE—The Hon. Rod Roberts to ask the Minister for Finance, and Minister for Employee Relations representing the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) Given the recent Optus Hack and other well documented data breaches, what security measures are in place to protect Certificates of Title held by the:
  - (a) Office of the Registrar General?
  - (b) NSW Land Registry Services?
- (2) In the event of a data breach, what policies are in place to prevent changes or modifications to Certificates of Title?
- (3) In addition to electronic Certificates of Title, will the Government consider providing a secondary paper-based document to those who request it?

9664 EDUCATION AND EARLY LEARNING—LANTITE TEST—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) Referring to the Government's commitment to attract highly skilled industry professionals into teaching positions:
  - (a) Why are mature-age teaching graduates who already have Masters and PhD specialisations still required to sit (and pay for) the LANTITE test, despite demonstrating a clear capacity to produce peer-reviewed theses as part of their qualifications?
  - (b) What rationale and justification does the Government provide that requires these industry experts to sit for this test to assess their basic writing and numeracy skills?
  - (c) Will the Government commit to eliminating this costly and unnecessarily hindering red tape to facilitate the transition of these highly lucrative and valuable industry experts into teaching?

David Blunt  
Clerk of the Parliament