



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

2019-20-21-22

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 181

WEDNESDAY 21 DECEMBER 2022

The Questions and Answers Paper is published at the end of each sitting day and will contain, by number and title, all unanswered questions, together with questions to which answers have been received on that sitting day and any new questions. Consequently the full text of any question will be printed only twice: when notice is given; and, when answered. During any adjournment of two weeks or more, a Questions and Answers Paper will be published from time to time containing answers received.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
Q & A No. 171 (Including Question Nos 8875 to 8934)	17 November 2022
Q & A No. 172 (Including Question Nos 8935 to 8972)	22 November 2022
Q & A No. 173 (Including Question Nos 8973 to 9009)	23 November 2022
Q & A No. 174 (Including Question Nos 9010 to 9055)	24 November 2022
Q & A No. 175 (Including Question Nos 9056 to 9106)	13 December 2022
Q & A No. 176 (Including Question Nos 9107 to 9127)	14 December 2022
Q & A No. 177 (Including Question Nos 9128 to 9207)	15 December 2022
Q & A No. 178 (Including Question Nos 9208 to 9232)	20 December 2022
Q & A No. 179 (Including Question Nos 9233 to 9252)	21 December 2022
Q & A No. 180 (Including Question Nos 9253 to 9334)	22 December 2022
Q & A No. 181 (Including Question Nos 9335 to 9402)	25 January 2023

13 OCTOBER 2022

(Paper No. 171)

* 8879 NEW SOCIAL HOUSING—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) In relation to the 18 new homes that were built in East Maitland:
 - (a) Have tenants moved into all homes?
 - (i) If not, why not?
 - (ii) If not, how many are vacant as at 13 October 2022
 - (iii) If not, when will they be leased?
 - (b) Which local government areas did/will any tenants living in the new homes previously come from?
 - (c) Were all new tenants previously on the social housing priority wait list?
 - (i) If not, why not?
 - (d) How many people are on the social housing priority wait list as at 13 October 2022?

Answer—

I am advised:

This is a matter for Minister Natasha Maclaren Jones.

* 8885 VICTIMS SERVICES SCHEME—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Attorney General—

- (1) With regard the Counselling support provided by Victims Services Scheme – NSW Department of Communities and Justice:
 - (a) When did the support of up to 22 hours of counselling for the victim (survivor) become the maximum amount per perpetrator?
 - (i) Why did this change?
 - (ii) Was this a Department decision with or without consultation with professionals in the field ie Trauma, Anxiety, Sexual Abuse Counsellors etc?
 - (1) If with, how many professionals were consulted and over what period of time?
 - (2) If without, why?
 - (iii) Why is support after the initial 22 hours of counselling dependant on the number of perpetrators that the survivor has had to endure and name?
 - (iv) Why is the support after the initial 22 hours of counselling dependant on whether the assault occurred in New South Wales when the survivor is a New South Wales resident?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)
 - (a) Since the Victims Support Scheme commenced in 2013, legislation has provided a maximum of 22 hours counselling (under the earlier Victims Rights and Support Regulation 2013, and the present Victims Rights and Support Regulation 2019). The Commissioner of Victims

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Rights must not authorise payments for more than 22 hours of counselling services for an act of violence against a person unless satisfied there are exceptional reasons for doing so.

In 2019, regulatory amendments commenced to provide that the Commissioner may authorise approved counselling services on an ongoing basis for victims of child sexual or physical abuse.

- (i) – (ii) There has been no change to maximum counselling hours as set by Regulation, except for the 2019 amendment noted above in relation to victims of child sexual or physical abuse.
- (iii) Under the Victims Rights and Support Regulation 2019:
 - If victims experience more than one act of violence, the Commissioner may authorise up to 22 hours counselling for each act of violence committed in respect of the person.
 - For victims of child sexual or physical abuse, the Commissioner may (following request for additional counselling hours) authorise payments for approved counselling services on an ongoing basis for that claim. Otherwise, for other victims, the Commissioner must not authorise more than 22 hours counselling unless satisfied there are exceptional reasons.
- (iv) The NSW Victims Support Scheme is available to victims of crime who experienced an act of violence in NSW.

* 8898 STRATA SCHEMES RECOMMENDATIONS—Mr Jihad Dib to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) What progress has been made in implementing the recommendations of the 2021 review of the Strata Schemes Management Act 2015?
 - (a) What is the status of the implementation of recommendation 114?
 - (b) What is the status of the implementation of recommendation 115?

Answer—

(1)

The recommendations of the statutory review of strata laws are being implemented in phases. A draft Phase 1 bill has been developed. Stakeholder feedback is currently being considered. The Bill is expected to be ready for introduction to Parliament in 2023.

A draft Phase 2 bill is proposed for public consultation in 2023.

The recommendations of the statutory review that require amendments to the Strata Schemes Management Regulation 2016 (Regulation) will be implemented in a later phase.

The Department of Customer Service will continue to refine this phased approach, including assessing the appropriateness of, and including specific recommendations in each of the separate Bills. The Bills will be introduced to Parliament in 2023 subject to Government and Parliamentary priorities.

- (a) The Department is currently working on implementing recommendation 114 as an amendment to the regulation.
- (b) The Department is currently working to implement recommendation 115. It is anticipated as part of the Phase 2 Bill, and will be the subject of further consultation.

- * 8917 CHESTER SQUARE PROPOSAL—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

With respect to the Chester Square Proposal (1 Leicester Street, Chester Hill), when will the Department of Planning finalise its assessment?

Answer—

I am advised:

The status of the planning proposal is publicly available on the NSW Planning Portal website at www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/ppr/under-assessment/chester-square-1-leicester-street-chester-hill

18 OCTOBER 2022

(Paper No. 172)

- * 8935 BUDGET ALLOCATION—Mr Stephen Bali to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) What monies and projects was expended from the New South Wales 2021/22 budget – \$186 million allocation for Road Asset Maintenance program (Recurrent) identified as Multi-electorate transport programs for Blacktown, was actually allocated to the Blacktown electorate?
- (2) What monies and projects was expended from the New South Wales 2021/22 budget – \$96 million budget allocation for Easing Sydney's Congestion identified as Multi-electorate transport programs for Blacktown, was actually allocated to the Blacktown electorate?
- (3) For the Prospect Highway upgrade:
 - (a) To the end of the financial year 2021/22 what has been the Government expenditure on the project?
 - (b) What is the Commonwealth Government financial contribution to the project?
 - (c) What is the anticipated total cost of the project?
- (4) What monies and projects was expended from the New South Wales 2021/22 budget – \$370 million budget allocation for Pinch points and Clearways as identified in the Multi-electorate Restart NSW programs for Blacktown, was actually allocated to the Blacktown electorate?
- (5) What monies and projects was expended from the NSW 2021/22 budget – \$140 million budget allocation for Traffic Management Upgrades (for intelligent congestion management program stage 2 and SCATS congestion improvement program) as identified in the Multi-electorate Restart NSW programs for Blacktown, was actually allocated to the Blacktown electorate?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1), (2), (4) and (5) Transport for NSW does not hold this information in the form requested.

- (3) This information is publicly available in the 2022-23 NSW Budget Paper 3 and the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, and the Arts website.

- * 8936 AUDIO TACTILE ROAD MARKINGS—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) With regard to audio tactile line markings, otherwise known as rumble strips:

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (a) What is the estimated risk benefit of rumble strips being in place to assist with crash prevention?
- (b) Approximately what percentage of New South Wales metropolitan State roads and/or what kilometre distance of total metropolitan State roads have rumble strips installed?
- (c) What plans are in place to further expand rumble strips on New South Wales metropolitan State Roads?
 - (i) How much funding is allocated to this purpose?
 - (1) What is the source of any such funding?
 - (2) Is any of it linked to fines that are issued?

Answer—

I am advised:

Audio tactile line markings can reduce the likelihood of crashes associated with fatigue as well as distraction.

The NSW Government has invested \$822 million in the Safer Roads Program between 2018-19 and 2022-23. This program delivers road safety infrastructure, including rumble strips on NSW regional roads. In August 2022, the NSW Government announced a further \$196 million to the Safer Roads Program.

Approximately 507 linear kilometres of total metropolitan State roads have rumble strips installed. There is currently 2,500 kilometres of rumble strip planned for delivery under the Saving Lives Action Plan in 2022-23, weather permitting. As at 19 October 2022, 347 kilometres of rumble strip has been delivered under the Audio Tactile Line Markings Mass Action Program in 2022-23.

* 8937 **CHILDCARE IN BROKEN HILL**—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) Considering the recent announcement of a \$5 billion funding boost for the childcare sector over the next decade is based on subsidising centres that expand or hire more staff in areas with a critical shortage of places, can you define the determinants of a “critical shortage”?
- (2) Considering Broken Hill currently has 1 available childcare space for every 7.45 children in the age range requiring early childhood education and care, will this funding benefit the childcare sector in Broken Hill?
 - (a) If so, how much of this funding will be directed to addressing the shortage of childcare places in Broken Hill?

Answer—

The Childcare and Economic Opportunity Fund (the Fund) will support a range of opportunities for the sector including building larger facilities, offering more attractive employee packages, assisting with operator staffing costs and forming new partnerships to deliver more access to childcare places.

The NSW Government will identify priority areas and release detailed guidelines for accessing the Fund after consultation with the sector.

We expect these priorities will include improving the quality and viability of existing services and helping providers start new services in areas where there are shortages of places and where providers are struggling to operate, such as some regional and rural communities.

The Department of Education is in the process of enhancing its own data capability to identify gaps in supply and ensure we are investing in the communities that need it most.

The Fund will open from financial year 2023-2024.

- * 8938 ESSENTIAL ENERGY—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

On three occasions IPART has sought independent reports into Essential Energy's excessive corporate costs. These were in 2010, 2014 and 2019. In the 2019 report Aither said "the lack of information to justify changes in operating expenditure is a consistent theme for Essential Water and a concern looking forward". In 2022 Essential Water, part of Essential Energy, plan to further increase the price of untreated water by 49.5%. This will make the cost of raw river water almost that of treated water. Can the Minister advise how much of these Essential Energy corporate overheads are paid for by residents of Broken Hill using the services of Essential Water?

Answer—

Corporate overheads currently recovered by Essential Water charges are less than the allocation approved under the Australian Energy Regulatory (AER) methodology.

- * 8939 RADAR COVERAGE—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

Considering the weather events that have taken areas of the far west of New South Wales by surprise over the last year, due partly to the gap in radar coverage over that part of the state, when will the Government commit funds for the installation of a Doppler radar which will provide better coverage and weather predictive capabilities for Broken Hill, Central Darling Shire and Unincorporated New South Wales?

Answer—

In this term of Government, three new Doppler Radars in Yeoval, Brewarrina and Hillston were built covering a combined 230,000 square kilometres at 30 percent of the total area of NSW.

This is part of the NSW Government ongoing commitment to building stronger, more resilient regional communities.

- * 8940 FIRE AND RESCUE STATIONS—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

- (1) What was the reason Ingleburn Fire and Rescue Station was closed between October 10 and October 13?
- (2) How many days has Ingleburn Fire and Rescue Station been closed in the 2022 calendar year to date?
 - (a) What were the reasons for the closures?
- (3) How many days was Ingleburn Fire and Rescue Station closed in the 2021 calendar year?
 - (a) What were the reasons for the closures?
- (4) What suburbs are serviced by Ingleburn Fire and Rescue Station?
 - (a) Which fire stations service those suburbs when Ingleburn Fire and Rescue Station is closed?
- (5) What is the operating budget for Ingleburn Fire and Rescue Station in the 2022-23 financial year?
 - (a) If the answer refers to a document, including but not limited to an annual report or budget papers, what is the specific web address and page number to access the requested information?
- (6) What was the operating budget for Ingleburn Fire and Rescue Station in the 2021-22 financial year?
 - (a) If the answer refers to a document, including but not limited to an annual report or budget papers, what is the specific web address and page number to access the requested information?
- (7) What was the operating budget for Ingleburn Fire and Rescue Station in the 2020-21 financial year?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (a) If the answer refers to a document, including but not limited to an annual report or budget papers, what is the specific web address and page number to access the requested information?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) Ingleburn fire station was taken offline temporarily due to availability of on call firefighters.
- (2) From 01/01/2022 to 31/10/2022 Ingleburn fire station was taken offline temporarily an equivalent of 60 days.
 - (a) Availability of on call firefighters.
- (3) From 01/01/2021 to 31/12/2021 Ingleburn fire station was taken offline temporarily an equivalent of 22 days.
 - (a) Availability of on call firefighters.
- (4) Each fire truck and its crew are a mobile resource available to respond wherever needed, ensuring emergency coverage is always provided irrespective of fixed station locations. When Ingleburn is temporarily offline, FRNSW's remaining network of 333 other fire stations serves the Ingleburn area including Macquarie Fields, St Andrews, Narellan, Liverpool, Horningsea Park, Campbelltown, Rosemeadow, Busby.
- (5) The 2022-23 operating budget is \$346,980.
- (6) The 2021-22 operating budget was \$335,861.
- (7) The 2020-21 operating budget was \$367,404.

* 8941 STATE OF RURAL ROADS—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) Will the Government acknowledge rural roads are dangerous and falling into a state of disrepair across the state?
- (2) Will the Government provide additional funding for local councils this financial year to repair rural roads affected by the La Nina event occurring across the state?

Answer—

I am advised:

Recent flooding, significant rainfall events and persistent wet weather conditions have impacted our road network.

Transport for NSW has a robust pavement renewal strategy and program to ensure the conditions of NSW's state roads are managed to a safe and satisfactory level regardless of seasonal conditions.

The new \$50 million Fixing Local Roads - Pothole Repair Round was announced on 25 October to assist councils with addressing priority potholes on local and regional roads. The \$50 million program will provide a funding boost to regional councils to supplement their repair program for potholes on damaged local and regional roads.

Fixing Local Roads is a \$500 million NSW Government program enabling councils to accelerate upgrades and maintenance on their local road network. Rounds 1, 2 and 3 have seen a total of

\$546 million allocated to almost 500 projects. Further, successful projects under Round 4 of the program are being finalised by Transport for NSW and will be announced in due course. Successful projects will help, repair, patch, maintain and seal priority local council roads, while making the local road network more resilient to natural disasters.

Fixing County Roads is a key \$543 million NSW Government program to unlock the economic potential of regional NSW by delivering projects that improve freight capacity, access and efficiency. To date, \$462.3 million has been committed to 322 projects, with over 270 projects delivered and another 52 projects in delivery. Round 6 of the program opened on 22 August 2022 and closed on 14 October 2022, with successful projects anticipated to be announced soon.

The NSW Government continues to work with flood-affected local councils, and Transport for NSW is advancing cash to flood-affected councils to help with the immediate reconstruction as well as response works.

- * 8942 GRIFFITH AMBULANCE VEHICLES—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health—

Will the Government acknowledge the need to invest in fit for purpose four wheel drive ambulances in rural stations including Griffith and across the Murray electorate.

Answer—

There are 7 specialised 4WD ambulances and 4 all-wheel drive (AWD) ambulances with patient stretcher capacity, and a further 12 operational support vehicles with off-road capability located within the Murrumbidgee Zone, which covers the Griffith area. NSW Ambulance does not deploy its workforce based on the boundaries of an electorate.

- * 8943 REGIONAL HEALTH MINISTERIAL ADVISORY PANEL—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health—

Will the minister consider appointing a representative from Griffith or Leeton to the Regional Health Ministerial Advisory Panel?

Answer—

The Panel is comprised of up to 15 appointed members, and all positions are currently filled. Appointed members come from many different regions of NSW, including three members from the Murrumbidgee district who are based in Temora, Deniliquin and Young.

Applicants can express their interest in future appointment to the Panel by submitting an expression of Interest to the Ministry of Health which will be considered when positions become available.

- * 8944 SUPPORT FOR SPORT IN NEW SOUTH WALES SCHOOLS—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

(1) What was the (i) income and (ii) expenditure of the School Sport Unit of the Department of Education in each of the following years:

- (a) 2019/20?
- (b) 2020/21?
- (c) 2021/22?
- (d) 2022/23?

(2) How many full time equivalent (FTE) were employed in the School Sport Unit on the following dates:

- (a) 1 July 2019?
- (b) 1 July 2020?
- (c) 1 July 2021?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (d) 1 July 2022?
- (3) What funding has been provided to the following organisations to provide opportunities for students to participate in competitive sport at the state level and above in each of the past four financial years:
- (a) Primary Schools Sports Association?
 - (b) NSW Combined High Schools Sports Association?
 - (c) School Sport Australia?
 - (d) the following School Sports Associations:
 - (i) Hunter?
 - (ii) North Coast?
 - (iii) North West?
 - (iv) Riverina?
 - (v) South Coast?
 - (vi) Sydney East?
 - (vii) Sydney North?
 - (viii) Sydney South West?
 - (ix) Sydney West?
 - (x) Western?
 - (xi) Barrier?
 - (xii) West Darling?
 - (e) Sport Inclusion Australia?
 - (f) Independent Sporting Association?
 - (g) NSW Combined Independent Schools Sports Council
 - (h) NSW Combined Catholic Colleges (NSWCCC) and/or NSW Catholic Primary School Sports Council and/or Catholic Schools NSW Sport
 - (i) State Sporting Organisations and State Sporting Organisations for people with Disability
 - (j) Sport NSW?

Answer—

- (1) Departments units and teams are funded within the Department of Education's operational budget, the details of which are available in the Department's annual report.
- (2) The number of full time equivalent (FTE) staff in the School Sport Unit is sourced from the Workforce Profile data as at 30 June each year. The Workforce Profile data is submitted to the Public Service Commission in June each year.
 - (a) 15.7 FTE
 - (b) 18.7 FTE
 - (c) 37 FTE*
 - (d) 38.5 FTE

* Increase due to regional staff moving into SSU.

- (3) (3)(a-d) All of the listed agencies are part of the School Sport Unit. There is no additional funding to support these agencies.
- (e) Nil
- (f) Nil
- (g) Nil
- (h) Nil
- (i) Nil
- (j) Nil

* 8945 SERVICE TRANSACTIONS—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

- (1) Is the Government committed to maintaining the option of cash payments for transactions for Government services?
- (2) Does the Government require all agencies and contracted service providers to allow cash transactions?
- (3) Does the Government require all agencies and contracted service providers to provide for fee free electronic transactions?
- (4) What plans does the Government have to ensure cash and fee free options are available for all Government service transactions?

Answer—

- (1) There is no legislative direction requiring the State to maintain the option of cash payments for Government services. In the spirit of providing inclusive services accessible for all NSW citizens, the Government will endeavour to maintain this option where feasible.
- (2) There is no explicit government requirement for agencies and contracted service providers to allow cash transactions. Wherever practical the option for citizens to retain the option of cash transactions will be maintained, noting the benefits that digital alternatives can provide in terms of security, convenience, and timeliness. The introduction of Opal Cards across the State Transport system demonstrates a good example of digital alternatives providing ease and additional benefit to citizens with respect to Transit payments.
- (3) Payment surcharges are regulated by Part IVC of the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Cth). The object of these provisions is to ensure that surcharges for processing certain electronic payments are not excessive and reflect the cost of using the payment methods for which they are charged. NSW Government operates within these guidelines. Agencies that choose to surcharge will generally offer alternative payment methods that are fee free. Consistent with requirements under the Australian Consumer Law, agencies are required to prominently disclose the terms of any surcharge. A citizen who wishes to avoid paying a surcharge should ask the agency to identify an alternative non-surcharged payment method. Government is currently reviewing its surcharging policy.
- (4) Government has an ongoing commitment to payments modernisation and reform. One of the guiding principles of NSW's payments policy is the need to provide cost effective financial services and options for citizens and provision of a wide variety of payment options to support this.

* 8946 URBAN ENVIRONMENT DECLINE—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) What programs does the Government provide to support improvements in the urban environment and biodiversity, protect threatened species and provide natural habitat?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (2) What assessment has the Government made of the 2021 State of the Environment report that notes declining green canopy, habitat and wildlife corridors?
- (3) What assessment has the Government made of the Nearmap national artificial intelligence data analysis of tree cover rankings that shows Greater Sydney tree cover at only 44 per cent?
- (4) What incentives will the Government provide to retain trees in new development where they would be removed under current construction processes?
- (5) What additional incentives will the Government provide to encourage private property owners to plant trees and provide pockets of natural habitat on their land?
- (6) What additional programs or support will the Government provide in response to the evidence of poor and deteriorating urban environment?

Answer—

I am advised:

Information about the Greening our City Program is publicly available at www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/premiers-priorities/greening-our-city

* 8947 COVID-19 SUPPORT FUNDING—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Finance, and Minister for Employee Relations—

- (1) How many New South Wales businesses have been required to pay back funds provided to them as support during the COVID-19 lockdown of 2021?
- (2) What is the total value of the funding that has been required to be paid back due to the audit?
- (3) How many requests for money to be repaid have been challenged?
- (4) How many challenges have been upheld?

Answer—

As at 31 October 2022, the 9,253 compliance review audits conducted by Revenue NSW of JobSaver and COVID-19 Business Grants have resulted in the identification of 5,078 cases of overpayments totalling \$164,735,831; 1,114 cases of underpayment totalling \$28,919,002.

Underpayments and overpayments have generally resulted from applicants unintentionally submitting incorrect information, for example giving a monthly payroll figure instead of a weekly payroll figure. All applicants were advised when lodging that payments may be subject to postpayment compliance checks.

Where a business has difficulty making repayments, Revenue NSW will offer extended payment arrangements.

There is no appeal process. However, at any stage, including after an audit has been completed, any further supporting documentation provided by a customer will be considered and the outcome adjusted if required.

Additionally, 151 cases were referred to the ServiceNSW fraud team.

* 8948 CITY WEST HOUSING—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

- (1) Who are the current shareholders in City West Housing (CWH)?
 - (a) Of these, which have decision making capacity?
- (2) Do all shareholders currently participate in shareholder meetings, or is attendance and decision making authority delegated to other individuals/entities?
 - (a) If so, who are these?
- (3) How much public funding, if any, has CWH received over the past 5 years?

- (4) Are there any plans to expand, contract, or otherwise modify the remit of CWH given the growing scale of the housing affordability crisis?
- (a) Namely, are there any plans to:
- (i) Revisit the CWH operational and governance models?
- (ii) Expand the remit of CWH beyond essential workers?
- (5) Given CWH was originally established to provide affordable housing for essential workers in the City of Sydney local government area (LGA) and is largely funded by developer contributions from within this LGA:
- (a) What is the process for deciding which other LGAs to expand CWH operations into? Noting that CWH now owns and operates properties in the Canterbury Bankstown and Bayside LGAs.
- (b) How are CWH developments in LGAs other than the City of Sydney funded?
- (i) Do they benefit from developer contributions made within the City of Sydney LGA?

Answer—

Please refer to the response to Question on notice 8949.

* 8949 CITY WEST HOUSING—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Corrections representing the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services—

- (1) Who are the current shareholders in City West Housing (CWH)?
- (a) Of these, which have decision making capacity?
- (2) Do all shareholders currently participate in shareholder meetings, or is attendance and decision making authority delegated to other individuals/entities?
- (a) If so, who are these?
- (3) How much public funding, if any, has CWH received over the past 5 years?
- (4) Are there any plans to expand, contract, or otherwise modify the remit of CWH given the growing scale of the housing affordability crisis?
- (a) Namely, are there any plans to:
- (i) Revisit the CWH operational and governance models?
- (ii) Expand the remit of CWH beyond essential workers?
- (5) Given CWH was originally established to provide affordable housing for essential workers in the City of Sydney local government area (LGA) and is largely funded by developer contributions from within this LGA:
- (a) What is the process for deciding which other LGAs to expand CWH operations into? Noting that CWH now owns and operates properties in the Canterbury Bankstown and Bayside LGAs.
- (b) How are CWH developments in LGAs other than the City of Sydney funded?
- (i) Do they benefit from developer contributions made within the City of Sydney LGA?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Current shareholders in CWH
- Ordinary Shareholders

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- NSW Minister Families, Communities and Disability Services
- NSW Treasurer

Preference Shareholders

- Australian Chinese Community Association of NSW Inc.
 - Churches Housing Incorporated
 - City of Sydney
 - Shelter NSW Incorporated
 - The Star Pty Ltd
 - St George Bank Ltd
 - The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (NSW)
 - Australand Corporation (NSW) Pty Ltd.
- (a) CWH has an independent Board that sets its own strategy and provides oversight on operations. CWH Constitution outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Ordinary and Preference Shareholders.
- (2) Preference Shareholders or their delegates participate in meetings as required. Meeting records are held by CWH
- (3) Please refer to CWH Annual report for details of funds received by the organisation.
<https://citywesthousing.com.au/publications>
- (4) Plans to expand or modify the remit of CWH is a matter for its independent Board.
The CWH Board sets its future strategy please refer to CWH Annual report
(<https://citywesthousing.com.au/publications>)
- (5) (a) CWH has contracts in place with the City of Sydney, relating to funds sourced from developer levies in the City of Sydney. The NSW Government is not directly involved in the day to day business and investment decisions of CWH. The independent Board makes these decisions.
- (b) CWH has other sources of funds including commercial rent, grant funding and debt finance.

* 8950 OPTUS HACK—Mr Jason Li to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) Was information regarding the Optus hack and its implications provided to the public in languages other than English?
- (a) If so, what languages?
- (2) What was the nature of the information that was provided?
- (3) Where was this information published?
- (4) When was the information provided in languages other than English?
- (a) How long after the hack occurred?
- (b) How long after the equivalent English language information was provided?

Answer—

- (1) Yes
- (a) Information was provided in 61 languages:

- English
- Afrikaans
- Albanian
- Arabic
- Armenian
- Azerbaijani
- Basque
- Belarusian
- Bosnian
- Bulgarian
- Catalan
- Chinese (Simplified)
- Chinese (Traditional)
- Croatian
- Czech
- Danish
- Dutch
- Estonian
- Filipino
- Finnish
- French
- Galician
- Georgian
- German
- Greek
- Haitian Creole
- Hebrew
- Hindi
- Hungarian
- Icelandic
- Indonesian
- Irish
- Italian
- Japanese
- Korean

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- Latvian
 - Lithuanian
 - Macedonian
 - Malay
 - Maltese
 - Nepali
 - Norwegian
 - Persian
 - Polish
 - Portuguese
 - Punjabi
 - Romanian
 - Russian
 - Serbian
 - Slovak
 - Slovenian
 - Spanish
 - Swahili
 - Swedish
 - Thai
 - Turkish
 - Ukrainian
 - Urdu
 - Vietnamese
 - Welsh
 - Yiddish
- (2) The information provided was advice to NSW residents on the current Optus situation, including how they could replace their licence if required. This information was updated in line with ID Support NSW information that was available from Optus.
- (3) On the Service NSW Website <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/optus-breach>
- (4) Friday 23 September 2022
- (a) The breach occurred on Thursday 22 September 2022 and the information was published on the Service NSW website on Friday 23 September 2022.
- (b) Information in the languages listed above were available simultaneously as the information was provided in English.

- * 8952 RESIDUAL WESTCONNEX LAND—Mr Jason Li to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

When will the residual Westconnex land adjacent to Underwood Road, Ismay Ave, and the M4 Motorway in Homebush be returned to the Strathfield Community as promised by the Government?

Answer—

I am advised:

On 14 October 2022, Transport for NSW provided a draft Deed of Agreement to provide access to the M4 East residual land adjacent to Underwood Road, Ismay Avenue and the M4 Motorway to Strathfield Council for their review and comment.

At their Tuesday 1 November 2022 Council meeting, Strathfield Council endorsed the recommendation for the General Manager to finalise and execute the Deed of Agreement for access to the residual land via a Care Control and Management arrangement. Negotiations will now occur to finalise the Deed of Agreement.

Transport will continue to manage the sites at Underwood Road and Ismay Avenue until the Care, Control and Management agreement is executed.

- * 8953 ANACTA STRATEGIES—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

Does the Government have any contracts, consultancies or like arrangements with ANACTA Strategies?

Answer—

Having reviewed their financial and contract records, the NSW Department of Customer Service (DCS) does not have any arrangements with ANACTA Strategies.

DCS can only respond on arrangements pertaining to DCS. Should the Member seek a Whole of Government response, this question should be referred to the Premier.

- * 8954 MOBILE SPEED CAMERA FINES—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

In the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022, how many mobile speed camera fines were issued to drivers who reside in the 2170 postcode area?

Answer—

I am advised that this question is more appropriately directed to the Minister for Finance, and Minister for Employee Relations.

- * 8955 VACANT POSITIONS AT LIVERPOOL HOSPITAL—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Health—

(1) What is the number as at 1 October 2022 of vacant positions at Liverpool Hospital for:

- (a) Full time positions?
- (b) Part time positions?
- (c) Casual positions?

Answer—

Local health districts and hospitals vary staffing profiles and numbers to appropriately meet operational needs as required. South Western Sydney Local Health District has mechanisms in place to identify vacancies and recruit to positions in accordance with service delivery needs and models of care at Liverpool Hospital.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

* 8956 PRIVACY LEGISLATION—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General—

When will you introduce legislation to amend the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act (1998)?

Answer—

NSW Parliament passed the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Amendment Bill 2022 on Wednesday 16 November 2022.

Further information is available on NSW Parliament's website at <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/bills/Pages/bill-details.aspx?pk=4040>

* 8957 CATARACT SURGERIES—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Health—

How many cataract surgeries were performed at Liverpool Hospital in the period 1 July 2021- 30 June 2022?

Answer—

The Bureau of Health Information provides quarterly updates on elective surgery activity and performance. More information is publicly available at: www.bhi.nsw.gov.au

* 8958 NEW SCHOOL LOCATION—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

In relation to the Answer to Question on Notice no. 8242, what is the geographic location of the "New school in the Liverpool electorate"?

Answer—

The Department of Education is building a new primary school in Liverpool adjacent to the existing Liverpool Boys and Girls High Schools.

* 8959 PALLIATIVE CARE NURSES—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Health—

In relation to the new palliative care nurses as referred to in the 2019-20 NSW Budget Papers, how many have been allocated to Liverpool Hospital?

Answer—

As part of the 2019-20 NSW Budget, NSW Health allocated funding over 4 years to enhance workforce capacity of palliative care nursing in South Western Sydney Local Health District.

Local health districts and hospitals vary staffing profiles and numbers to appropriately meet operational needs as required. South Western Sydney Local Health District has mechanisms in place to identify vacancies and recruit to positions in accordance with service delivery needs and models of care at Liverpool Hospital. I am advised that Liverpool Hospital provides a palliative care outpatient service in addition to inpatient services.

* 8960 HOSPITAL BED MAINTENANCE—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Health—

When is maintenance carried out on electric beds at Liverpool Hospital?

Answer—

I am advised that Liverpool Hospital undertakes maintenance on electric beds annually. In addition, service calls can be submitted requesting maintenance when required.

* 8962 BIGGE STREET SPEED CAMERAS—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

In the period 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022 how many mobile speed camera fines and for what total amount were issued to drivers by the speed camera located in Bigge St, Liverpool?

Answer—

I am advised that this question is more appropriately directed to the Minister for Finance, and Minister for Employee Relations.

* 8963 BATEAU BAY SQUARE FATALITY—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

A fatality occurred at a pedestrian crossing at Bateau Bay Square in my electorate on 19/8/22. I have made representations to both Central Coast Council and Charter Hall (the owner of the Shopping Centre) on this matter. Central Coast Council advises that as the location is privately owned, its involvement was limited to the DA stage.

I understand that there is an Office of Transport Safety Investigations (OTSI) team from Transport for NSW involved and working with Charter Hall on the matter. Can you please advise: -

- (1) If a review of the area has been conducted?
- (2) If yes: -
 - a. have there been any safety improvements identified?
 - b. Will the outcome of the review be made publically available?
- (3) If not, will a review be undertaken?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Office of Transport Safety Investigations (OTSI) is a statutory NSW Government agency which operates independently of Transport for NSW. OTSI's purpose is to improve safety in the passenger and freight rail, and passenger bus and ferry sectors.

OTSI investigates to understand why an accident or incident occurred and to make recommendations for systemic safety improvements to prevent similar events from happening again. 'No-blame' investigations offer valuable insights and provide advice on measures which can be adopted by operators, manufacturers, government, and other stakeholders to reduce risk and improve safety.

The fatal collision which occurred at Bateau Bay on 19 August 2022 was reported to OTSI. After receiving the report, OTSI contacted the bus operator, The Entrance Red Bus Service, and sought further information to review, including the CCTV bus footage.

Upon completion of its review, OTSI determined not to proceed with an investigation into the incident because it did not appear there were any opportunities to identify lessons for systemic safety improvements that could benefit the bus industry.

The reasons behind OTSI's decision not to investigate was based on several factors, including:

- OTSI investigates transport safety incidents under the Passenger Transport Act 1990 (NSW) looking for systemic factors (causal or contributory) which may lead to sector wide safety lessons for dissemination and action. OTSI considered the matter closed as no additional safety issues were identified for investigation that might lead to further system safety improvements.
- OTSI investigators noted:
 - high visibility pedestrian markings at the incident site
 - high visibility signposting of the pedestrian crossing point
 - a separate right turn lane (with waiting area) for traffic
 - CCTV footage clearly showed the sequence of events leading directly to the incident

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- the incident is in the hands of Police and the Coroner.

OTSI is aware of the significant risk arising from interactions between pedestrians, buses and other vehicles, especially in high activity areas such as shopping precincts. Several OTSI investigations have made recommendations aimed at reducing the risk of collisions between buses and pedestrians in recent years, and OTSI continues to engage with Transport for NSW, peak industry groups including BusNSW and the Bus Industry Confederation, and individual operators on initiatives to reduce collisions between pedestrians and buses.

In June 2021, OTSI released a Safety Advisory titled 'Safety Advisory: Accidents involving buses and pedestrians on and near designated crossings' aimed at stakeholders in the bus sector who can influence safety improvements. The information in this advisory remains current.

OTSI is also engaging with the Transport for NSW's Centre for Road Safety on ways it can support their ongoing pedestrian safety awareness campaigns which highlight the risk of crossing roads (irrespective of signal lights or 'zebra' crossing areas) and the need for pedestrians to remain vigilant.

* 8964 ENERGY PARTNERSHIPS—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

- (1) Could the Minister provide the names of energy providers, energy funds, and energy consultants that Canterbury-Bankstown Council has entered into partnership with for its following projects:
 - (a) Solar and Energy Efficiency Project?
 - (b) Community Battery Project?
 - (c) Bankstown Town Centre Redevelopment?

Answer—

- (1) Please refer to the answer provided to the Legislative Assembly Question on Notice No. 8915.

* 8965 INTERIM LICENCES—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) Transport for NSW issues interim drivers licences to residents which are valid for the period until their licence arrives via post, what other licences or permits are there similar arrangements for?
- (2) Why are Mobility Parking Scheme permit holders not eligible for an interim permit to be issued in instances where their current permit may expire before a renewed one arrives?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Transport for NSW also issues newly authorised bus drivers' authority cards, newly licenced driving instructors' licences and replacement driving licences where loss or damage occurred as a result of declared natural disasters.
- (2) The Mobility Parking Scheme (MPS) permit is a parking permit that provides the holder of the permit with additional parking concessions in time designated and metered parking areas. The MPS permit also allows a vehicle to stop in a designated disability parking space. The following actions have been introduced to minimise any inconvenience for MPS permit holders while waiting to receive a new or replacement permit:
 - the notice period for renewals of MPS permits was extended to ensure people had extra time to apply for and receive their new permit
 - express post solution was introduced for all MPS permits to minimise the time a person is without a permit.

- for renewals, customers are now allowed to retain their permit and continue to use it until their new permit arrives or it expires, whichever occurs first. This exempts the permit holder from the regulatory requirements that the permit be cancelled and returned before the new permit is issued.

* 8966 OUT-OF-HOME-CARE IN THE KIAMA ELECTORATE—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Corrections representing the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services—

- (1) With respect to Out-of-Home-Care (OOHC) in the Kiama electorate:
- (a) How many children were in OOHC in the years 2021 and 2022 in the Kiama electorate?
- (i) How many of these children were aboriginal?
 - (ii) How many of these children have leaving care plans?
 - (iii) How many of these children have had parents in the criminal justice system?
 - (iv) How many of these children have had an interaction with police or the youth justice system?
 - (v) How many of these children are NDIS participants?
 - (vi) How many of these children were suspended or expelled from school?
 - (vii) How many of these children were ever reported as missing?
 - (viii) How many of these children fell pregnant before the age of 18?
 - (ix) How many of these children have ever experienced homelessness?
 - (x) How many of these children were in residential care?
 - (xi) How many children were in Alternative Care arrangements in 2021 and 2022?
 - (xii) With respect to part (vii), what was the longest period any child was an Alternative Care Arrangements?
- (b) Will the Minister consider raising the leaving care age from 18 to 21?
- (i) If not, why not?
- (c) Will the Minister consider raising the leaving care age for children in residential care only?
- (i) If not, why not?
- (d) Will the Minister consider a foyer model development for the Kiama electorate?
- (i) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

The requested data is not available by electorate. Data on children in out of home care (OOHC) by the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) District is available via the Annual Statistical Report at the following link: <https://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/resources/statistics>

(b) (i)

The NSW Government has secured \$100 million of funding over five years for Your Choice, Your Future, which provides more leaving care support for young statutory care leavers until they reach the age of 21. Increasing this support for young people until they turn 21 will mean that they feel better connected, supported and well-prepared for their future.

The \$100 million package, delivered over the next five years, includes:

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- a new 'staying on' care allowance to support young people who remain with their carers until they are 21
- a financial assistance package for any young person who lives independently and needs assistance until the age of 21
- expansion of the Specialist Aftercare Program – increasing the availability and location of supports for young people with complex needs when they leave care.
- funding for additional caseworkers to further support a young person's plan for the transition to leaving care.

The 'Your Choice, Your Future' package builds on what is already available to provide a tailored response to young people with a history in care. Find links and more on the leaving care website.

DCJ will work with young people, carers and funded agencies to introduce the program from February 2023. Young people in statutory care who would normally be eligible for leaving care support will also be eligible for the new assistance.

(c) (i)

Young people leaving care who live independently will be eligible to receive a financial assistance package until they reach 21 years of age if they need assistance with rent and essential items. This means that young people leaving residential out of home care services are eligible to receive the new supports.

(d) (i)

In 2022-23 NSW Government will invest \$394.8 million to deliver a range of homelessness services across NSW, including Specialist Homelessness Services and NSW Homelessness Strategy initiatives. The SHS program is the primary NSW Government response to homelessness. Non-government organisations (NGOs) are funded to deliver a range of services to support people who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless, including young people, families, single men, and single women, with or without children. Services may include outreach, case management, links to education and training, crisis and transitional accommodation.

The electorate of Kiama includes the LGAs of Shellharbour, Shoalhaven and Nowra. In 2022-23 the NSW Government will provide \$3.6M to three youth services who provide homelessness support to these LGAs.

Future foyer model developments will be subject to feasibility assessment and availability of funding.

* 8967 HISTORICAL AIRCRAFT RESTORATION SOCIETY—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Premier—

(1) With respect to the Community Building Partnerships Application by the Historical Aircraft Restoration Society:

- (a) Is the Premier aware of the grant request by this local volunteer group in my electorate?
- (b) Will the Premier join with me in supporting the grant request?

Answer—

I am advised:

I understand the Historical Aircraft Restoration Society submitted two applications for funding in the Community Building Partnership program 2022 round.

Applications for funding under the Community Building Partnership program were assessed by the relevant State Member of Parliament against published merit selection criteria. Members have made funding recommendations for projects in their electorate for my consideration.

Organisations will be notified of the outcome of their application in December 2022.

* 8968 BERRY TO BOMADERRY PRINCES HIGHWAY UPGRADE—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) With respect to the Berry to Bomaderry Princes Highway upgrade:
- (a) Were there any breaches of the contract?
 - (i) If yes, what were they?
 - (b) Were there any financial penalties incurred by the contractor?
 - (i) If yes, what were they?
 - (c) Was the contract for this project ever amended after it was awarded?
 - (i) If yes, what were the amendments?
 - (d) Is the Minister aware of the final bitumen seal being undertaken on the project?
 - (e) With respect to (d), will the Minister direct his agency to open the project to two lanes when work on the final seal isn't occurring, such as weekends?
 - (i) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) to (c) This information is Commercial in Confidence.
- (d) and (e) Transport for NSW is placing the final seal on both carriageways. A road safety audit determined it was not safe to open to traffic during this time. Transport for NSW will open the project to two lanes as soon as it is safe to do so.

* 8970 SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) With respect to special religious education:
- (a) What percentage of children in New South Wales schools attend Special Religious Education?
 - (b) What percentage of children in schools in the Kiama electorate attend Special Religious Education?
 - (c) Is Special Religious Education opt in or opt out in New South Wales?
 - (d) If Special Religious Education is opt out, how does the Government enforce this policy?
 - (i) What occurs if the Department is made aware of a school that is not enforcing this policy?
 - (e) Is the Minister aware of any school that has moved to a opt in arrangement?
 - (i) If yes, what does the department do in those instances?
 - (f) What support does your department provide to ethics teachers and classes?
 - (i) Where can these materials be viewed?

Answer—

The Special Religious Education Procedures and Special Education in Ethics Procedures outline the responsibilities of schools and approved providers. Any school found not to comply with these procedures would be treated in the same way as any school not complying with any Departmental policy or procedure.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Section 33 of the Education Act 1990, allows parents/carers to object to their child receiving Special Religious Education.

The Department provides schools with a template Special Religious Education and Special Education in Ethics Participation Letter, where parents/carers can choose to enrol their child into Special Religious Education or Special Education in Ethics from the school's available approved provider(s). Parents/carers may also choose to withdraw their child from these classes, and they will be provided with supervised alternative meaningful activities.

The Department of Education does not centrally collect participation statistics for Special Religious Education/Special Education in Ethics.

Approved providers are responsible to recruit, train and authorise teachers of Special Religious Education and Special Education in Ethics. They are also responsible for authorising the materials and pedagogy used and making their curriculum scope and sequence(s) accessible on their website in sufficient detail for parents/carers and schools to understand what is covered in lessons.

* 8971 SOCIAL HOUSING IN THE KIAMA ELECTORATE—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

(1) With respect to social housing in the Kiama electorate:

- (a) Can you provide a breakdown by postcode of social housing properties in the years 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021?
- (b) Can you provide the cost of social housing maintenance for the last financial year and budgeted for this financial year for the Kiama electorate?
- (c) Can you provide a breakdown by postcode of the number of affordable housing properties delivered by the Government last financial year this financial year by postcode?
- (d) How many social housing properties are you planning to deliver in the Kiama electorate by postcode in the next four years?
- (e) What was the total maintenance spend on social housing properties in the Kiama electorate by postcode for the last three financial years?
- (f) How many maintenance jobs were logged by postcode and to what value in the last three financial years and what percentage of those maintenance jobs were lodged through the mobile phone application developed by the Government?
- (g) How many properties funded through the Social and Affordable Housing Fund will be delivered to the Kiama electorate in the next four years?
- (h) How many properties will be delivered through Communities Plus to the Kiama electorate in the next four years?

Answer—

I am advised:

With respect to the Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC):

- As at 30 June 2022, there are 711 social housing properties owned by the NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) across the Kiama electorate.
- In 2021-22, \$812,600 was expended on responsive and planned maintenance in the Kiama electorate and 739 maintenance jobs were completed. No details are available regarding the mobile phone application. In 2022-23, \$665,000 has been allocated for capital upgrades in addition to responsive and planned works.
- For the 2022-23 year, there are no homes being delivered by the LAHC, either under construction or committed in the Kiama electorate.

With respect to the Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO):

- Please see the below table for the breakdown by postcode of social housing properties:

Postcode	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
2527	4	5	5	5	5	5	5
2541	52	53	52	53	55	55	59
Total	56	58	57	58	60	60	64

- The majority of AHO properties within the Kiama Electorate are now managed by Aboriginal Community Housing Providers (ACHPs). Over FY 20/21 - 21/22, approx. \$2.7mil was invested in capital upgrades to AHO properties within the area delivered by AHO contractors.
- The ACHP's are responsible for all maintenance this financial year.
- AHO has delivered no affordable housing properties in the Kiama electorate.
- Over the next 4 years, AHO has current plans to deliver homes across the following Kiama electorate postcodes:
 - 2527 (Calderwood): 2 properties
 - 2541 (North Nowra): 4 properties

I am advised that part G is a matter for the Minister Maclaren-Jones.

* 8972 SENIOR COUNSEL IN NEW SOUTH WALES—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Attorney General—

(1) With respect to Senior Counsel in New South Wales:

- (a) Will you consider introducing legislation to allow senior counsel to choose between the titles of Senior Counsel and King's Counsel?
 - (i) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government is not currently considering any legislative changes to reintroduce the title of King's Counsel. The NSW Bar Association has an independent system for recognising eminent barristers as Senior Counsel.

19 OCTOBER 2022

(Paper No. 173)

* 8973 LOCAL ENVIRONMENT PLANNING PROJECT FOR AGRICULTURE AND AGRITOURISM—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

Considering that in April 2022 within my Electorate were asked to submit a nomination to the Department of Planning Industry and Environment in response to the Local Environment Planning Agriculture and Agritourism amendment project, can the Minister confirm when the LPA Amendment project will announce new legislation?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Answer—

I am advised:

This information is publicly available at <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/Under-review-and-new-policy-and-legislation/Planning-amendments-for-agriculture>

- * 8974 TAFE COMPLETION RATES—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) Can the Minister provide statistics showing the comparison of the completion rates for Online TAFE with completion rates for face-to-face TAFE courses?
- (2) If there is an appreciable difference, what strategies might the Minister employ to improve the completion rates of one or the other?

Answer—

This question should be referred to my colleague, the Minister for Skills and Training.

- * 8975 TOOLEYBUC BRIDGE—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

How much money has been allocated to maintenance of the Tooleybuc Bridge in the current financial year?

Answer—

I am advised:

In the 2022-23 financial year, \$2. 7 million has been allocated to repair and maintain the Tooleybuc Bridge.

- * 8976 FLOODPLAIN HARVESTING—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

- (1) Has the Government purchased any floodplain licences from irrigators?
- (2) In response to the recommendations and criticism by the 2021 Select Committee on Floodplain Harvesting, will you continue to approve billions of dollars in compensable new water licences?
- (3) Will your department investigate and review modelling to reflect the impact of increased extractions in northern New South Wales valleys on the southern basin, including lower base flows downstream than reported by New South Wales.

Answer—

- (1) No.
- (2) The compensation provisions in the Water Management Act 2000 (the Act) have been temporarily disabled through amendment provisions. Whilst these amendment provisions remain, there are no foreseeable circumstances in which compensation would be payable to holders of floodplain harvesting licences.
- (3) The department has undertaken substantial peer-review assessments of its modelling used to determine floodplain harvesting entitlements, and to ensure the combined water take from all licences stays below the sustainable diversion limit, set by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA), for each valley.

As models in each valley are updated, they are peer-reviewed, and this also includes a review by the MDBA. Additionally, if modelling of the long-term average annual extraction limit, for the NSW inland regulated rivers water sharing plans, shows a growth in use, the department will take action to reduce levels of water take back below the plan limit. Such action has already been taken in the Gwydir and Border Rivers water sharing plan areas.

The peer-reviewed modelling of floodplain harvesting has already shown there are minimal impacts on the southern basin, and results are published on the department's website. Given the rigorous peer-review process, the NSW government sees no immediate need to investigate and review the modelling.

Earlier this year the MDBA released its independent assessment of the Border Rivers and Gwydir valley models used for floodplain harvesting which validates their use for Basin Plan purposes. This is just one, in a string of peer review assessments of the department's models that demonstrate their validity.

The department continually improves its models as more information becomes available. Until now NSW has had unmeasured, uncontrolled, and unrestricted floodplain harvesting. Licensing floodplain harvesting not only puts an end to growth in extractions, ensuring floodplain harvesting diversions in the northern valleys are brought within water source legal limits, it will provide important new data on floodplain harvesting diversions. That data will feed into ongoing management of floodplain harvesting and the process of continual improvement in the department's modelling.

- * 8977 SCHOOL LEARNING SUPPORT OFFICERS—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

How many School Learning Support Officers (SLSO's) are employed in the primary and secondary schools across the Murray electorate?

Answer—

As at 31 October 2022, there was a total of 335 School Learning Support Officers employed for a total full-time equivalent of 237.2 at primary, secondary and schools for specific purposes across the Murray state electorate.

- * 8978 SCHOOL FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES IN DENILIKUIN—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

Will the Government investigate the need for a School for Specific Purposes (SSP's) in the Deniliquin area?

Answer—

There are currently no plans to construct a school for specific purposes in Deniliquin. Based on current and projected primary and secondary enrolments in the Deniliquin area, the educational requirements of students with specific needs are being met within existing local schools.

The Department of Education will continue to monitor population and development trends so it can plan to meet enrolment needs in schools across NSW.

- * 8979 TAGGED LICENCES—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

- (1) In response to the recommendations and criticism by the 2021 Select Committee on Floodplain Harvesting, will you continue to approve billions of dollars in compensable new water licences?
- (2) The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) report into water trading recommended that tagged licences be extinguished, so why do you allow a select few water holders to have a trading advantage over other water licence holders?

Answer—

- (1) The compensation provisions in the Water Management Act 2000 (the Act) have been temporarily disabled through amendment provisions. Whilst these amendment provisions remain, there are no

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

foreseeable circumstances in which compensation would be payable to holders of floodplain harvesting licences.

- (2) The ACCC report into water trading recommended that 'grandfathered tags' be extinguished, not all tags.

* 8980 AVIATION ATTRACTION FUND: BENGALURU ROUTE—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Regional Youth, and Minister for Tourism—

- (1) What has the Government done to ensure there will be a return on investment for regional communities in New South Wales under the Aviation Attraction Fund?
- (2) Has Destination NSW done any work to ensure visitors from India on the new Bengaluru route are exposed to options that enable easy access to regional New South Wales, prior to leaving India?
- (3) What would be the estimated benefit to the Murray electorate in terms of expected visitation, length of stay and overall economic benefit to the region, with this new route?

Answer—

I am advised that:

The Aviation Attraction Fund is an industry support program, designed to accelerate recovery by building aviation capacity to the state through securing routes that will drive significant economic and social benefits to the people of NSW.

- (1) Streams 2 and 3 of the Aviation Attraction Fund are designed to support the establishment and development of regional aviation services. Destination NSW is working with the aviation sector to identify opportunities to establish new domestic routes servicing regional NSW destinations through these streams.
- (2) International marketing activities with partners are delivered utilising a Sydney plus strategy which includes options to visit regional NSW destinations to increase regional dispersal. Destination NSW has also committed to work with carriers receiving funding under stream one of the Aviation Attraction Fund to explore opportunities to encourage regional dispersal by including content on regional destinations in their marketing activities.
- (3) The Bengaluru route was secured through stream 1 of the Aviation Attraction Fund which supports targeted and new airlines operating international routes into Sydney. While Destination NSW has committed to work with carriers to explore opportunities to encourage regional dispersal by including content on regional destinations it is not part of the funding criteria. As such, Destination NSW does not have data on the benefits that new routes will deliver to specific regional destinations ahead of their commencement.

* 8981 JEFFREY HOUSE, PARRAMATTA—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Health—

- (1) Who is the landowner of the site Parramatta Community Health Centre is located at Jeffrey House, 162 Marsden Street, Parramatta?
- (2) Who has been consulted in relation to the future use of the site?
- (3) Who was involved in the design of the development?
- (4) Who was involved in the design of the consultation?

Answer—

(1 – 4)

I am advised that:

162 Marsden Street, Parramatta is jointly owned by Property NSW and the Health Administration Corporation, and is operated by the Western Sydney Local Health District. Some initial discussions have occurred among these organisations regarding the current and future use of the property, which to date remains undeveloped.

* 8982 SPORT BUDGET—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) What is the budget for each of the following in 2022/23:
 - (a) Elite sport?
 - (b) Community sport?
 - (c) SSO development?
 - (d) SSOD support?
 - (e) Events?
 - (f) Facilities?
 - (g) Grants management?
 - (h) Grants?
 - (i) Women's sport?
 - (j) Multicultural sport?
- (2) On which page of the NSW budget papers, or Office of Sport Annual Report is the budget for each of the elements in (1)(a) to (1)(i)?
- (3) Which organisations listed in (1)(j) received grants in 2021/22?
- (4) On which page of the NSW budget papers, or Office of Sport Annual Report shows which organisations in (1)(j) received grants?

Answer—

I am advised that the Office of Sport grant programs are available to a range of sporting bodies and stakeholders for a broad range of projects, including for the purposes listed in question 1. However, the Office of Sport budget is not categorised under those headings.

Details of budgets and funding awarded can be found in the relevant Annual Reports available online.

* 8983 MOTOR VEHICLE SPORTS (PUBLIC SAFETY) ACT 1985—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) What is the status of the review of the Motor Vehicle Sports (Public Safety) Act 1985 which commenced with the issuing of a Consultation Paper in October 2019?
- (2) Are you aware that in answer to Budget Estimates supplementary question on notice 49 about the status of the review you answered "This information is cabinet in confidence."?
- (3) Are you aware that in answer to Budget Estimates supplementary question on notice 26 to the hearing on 8 March 2022 about the status of the review the Hon Stuart Ayres MP, former Minister for Tourism and Sport answered "There is no review. The Office of Sport has recently completed stakeholder consultation on potential amendments to the Act"?
- (4) Are you aware that in answer to Budget Estimates supplementary question on notice 6 to the hearing on 5 November 2021 about the status of the review the Hon Natalie Ward MLC, former Minister

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans answered "I am advised the review is due to be finalised in 2022. Finalisation was delayed due to the COVID-19 Delta outbreak"?

- (5) Why were former Ministers able to answer the question however you claimed the information was cabinet in confidence?

Answer—

The results of the consultation and a proposal for any change to the current regulatory approach needs to be considered by Cabinet before any legislative amendments are proposed.

- * 8984 PENRITH STADIUM REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) Noting that you have said a decision has not been made on the location of the Penrith Stadium redevelopment:
- (a) What is the status of commercial negotiations for the acquisition of the Penrith Paceway site?
 - (b) Will a decision be made on the location before March 2023?
- (2) Noting the media release from the Premier, Minister for Employee Relations, Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Planning, Minister for Hospitality and Racing, Minister for Families and Communities on 9 December that "Work on the stadium will begin at the start of 2023 and is expected to take two years":
- (a) Will construction commence before March 2023?
 - (b) Will construction be complete by March 2023?
 - (c) What is the budget for the project?

Answer—

I refer you to the answers I gave in Budget Estimates.

- * 8985 WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN SPORT—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) Of the funding allocated since 2019 to support women's participation in sport, what are the projects, programs and initiatives?
- (a) What is the funding for each?

Answer—

I am advised that:

Funding to support women's participation in sport comes from a range of programs including:

- Active Kids vouchers;
- Infrastructure Grants, such as the Centres of Excellence Fund, Multi-Sport Community Facilities Fund, Greater Cities Sport Facility Fund, Regional Sport Facility Fund
- Her Sport Her Way Grants to State Sporting Organisations;
- Local Sport Grant program for grassroots sports clubs;
- Major Events Legacy Funds, such as the T20 Cricket World Cup, FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup, ATP Cup; and

- Partnership Program.

* 8986 YOUTH ORGANISATION GRANT FUNDING—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Corrections representing the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services—

- (1) What grant funding was provided to youth organisations in 2021/22 by your department?
- (2) What grant funding was provided to youth organisations in 2020/21 by your department?
- (3) What grant funding was provided to youth organisations in 2019/20 by your department?
- (4) What grant funding is available to youth organisations in 2022/23?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1– 3) The Department of Communities and Justice is not able to report on the total amount of funding provided to youth organisations as the funding data is not captured that way.

- (4) The Youth Opportunities program has \$1.5 million available in the 2022/23 financial year for youth-led and youth-driven community projects, and can be applied for via Youth NSW at <https://www.youth.nsw.gov.au/youth-opportunities>.

* 8987 SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISORS—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) What is the number of infant and primary schools within the Granville electorate that currently have school crossing supervisors?
- (2) Have schools in the Granville electorate been denied their request for a school crossing supervisor?
 - (a) If so, which schools?
 - (b) Why were their applications denied?
- (3) What is the number of infants and primary schools within the Granville electorate that have had a vacancy for a school crossing supervisor in last 12 to 24 months?
- (4) What is the number of casual school crossing supervisors that are available within the Granville electorate?
- (5) Are there currently any vacancies for school crossing supervisors within the Maitland electorate?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (4) This is a matter for the Minister for Metropolitan Roads.
- (5) Please refer to the response to AL 8555

* 8988 CIRCULAR QUAY RENEWAL—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) What is the current size of the grassed area of First Fleet Park?
- (2) To what extent will the planned Circular Quay Renewal project impact on First Fleet Park?
- (3) What commitment will the Government make to retaining or expanding the grass footprint of First Fleet Park as part of the works?

Answer—

I am advised:

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

This is a matter for the Minister for Infrastructure, Cities, and Active Transport.

* 8989 INTEGRATED TICKETING—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) What assessment has Venues NSW made of the Transport for NSW proposal to include public transport fares in ticket prices for all major events at Moore Park stadia?
- (2) What other proposals are being considered to incentivise public transport use at these major events?
- (3) When will the Government address longstanding parking and traffic chaos associated with major events by integrating public transport tickets into event ticketing?

Answer—

I am advised Venues NSW has provided the Transport for NSW proposal to their sporting partners for consideration and continues to work with all parties to secure integrated ticketing for all events at Allianz Stadium and the SCG.

* 8990 SOCIAL HOUSING RENT ARREARS—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Corrections representing the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services—

- (1) What proportion of tenants have been in rent arrears across New South Wales, and in the Sydney electorate or inner Sydney over the past five years?
- (2) What proportion of New South Wales social housing tenants in rent arrears were identified as being in financial stress?
- (3) What proportion in the Sydney electorate or inner Sydney were in arrears?
- (4) How many tenants were referred for financial counselling?
- (5) How did the Government ensure food aid, vouchers and financial support was provided to those tenants?
- (6) How did the Government ensure arrears payment arrangements did not place those tenants in further financial stress?
- (7) What options do tenants have to pay off rental debt through approved activities as with Work Development Orders?
- (8) What alternate options does the Government offer social housing tenants experiencing acute economic hardship to pay rent and utility arrears such as engaging in work, volunteering, educational or traineeships?
- (9) What programs like Bridge Community Housing's Hand Up arrears program does the Government offer to social housing tenants?
- (10) What further action will the Government take to reduce the financial stress and fear of eviction and homelessness for tenants experiencing severe financial hardship?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Data on this is not publicly available.
- (2) DCJ does not hold reportable data on this.
- (3) Data on this is not publicly available.
- (4) DCJ does not hold reportable data on this.

- (5) DCJ does not hold reportable data on this. However, the DCJ Housing system generated rent arrears letters to advise tenants that, if they are having difficulty paying arrears, then DCJ Housing can assist in referring them to appropriate support services. DCJ staff are also instructed, as per DCJ Housing operational documentation, to assist tenants in being referred to appropriate support services when speaking with them about their arrears, which takes place over the phone and face to face when DCJ staff visit their properties.
- (6) Repayment arrangements are developed in consultation with the tenant based on an assessment of what the tenant is reasonably able to afford. The assessment takes into account any extenuating circumstances which may be particular to each circumstance.
- (7) DCJ works with tenants in arrears to help establish repayment arrangements and ensure arrangements are reasonable based on their circumstances.
- (8) DCJ does not offer arrangements where tenants can repay arrears through work or volunteering efforts.
- (9) DCJ does not offer a program like Bridge Housing's [Hand Up](#) program.
- (10) DCJ will continue to work with tenants in arrears and ensure repayment arrangements are reasonable based on their circumstances.

* 8992 CASINO BREACHES—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

- (1) What assessment has the Government made of the external review of the Queensland operations of The Star Entertainment Group Limited finding that Star QLD Casinos is unfit to hold their licences?
- (2) Is it true that no action has been taken against casino executives or board members in response to multiple findings in South Australia, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia and New South Wales of illegal behaviour and misconduct?
- (3) What action has been taken against casino board members and executives responsible for serious breaches at Sydney casinos?
- (4) What action can be taken against casino board members and executives responsible for serious breaches at Sydney casinos?
- (5) Does the Government plan to take any action against casino board members and executives responsible for serious breaches at Sydney casinos?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Independent Casino Commission has sole responsibility for regulating casinos in NSW. It would not be appropriate for Government to comment on whether or how the NICC is considering the findings of casino reviews from other states in its deliberations.
- (2) Questions in relation to actions by other States should be directed to those States. In NSW, the NSW Independent Casino Commission has sole responsibility for regulating casinos. It would not be appropriate for Government to comment on whether the NICC has taken or is planning to take any action in relation to casino board members or senior executives.
- (3) Please refer to (2) above.
- (4) In response to the findings of the Bergin Inquiry, Government took immediate and decisive action. The NSW Government introduced the significant reforms in the Casino Amendment Bill 2022 to allow the imposition of personal liability on casino board members and senior executives for misconduct.

Amendments to the Casino Control Act 1992 established the NSW Independent Casino Commission (NICC) with powers to fine operators up to \$100 million and to hold individual board members and executives liable for serious wrongdoing.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Individual directors of a casino operator can be held accountable for corporate misconduct that they were involved in or knew about but failed to stop. The provision enables the NICC to take direct action against those individuals.

New provisions also allow the NICC to make information available to other agencies, such as the Australian Securities and Investment Commission and Australian Crime Commission, for law enforcement purposes.

The reforms also enhanced regulatory measures relating to a casino licensee's close associates, such as requiring them to maintain ongoing suitability, and enabling disciplinary action to be taken directly against them.

- (5) The NSW Independent Casino Commission has sole responsibility for regulating casinos in NSW. It would not be appropriate for Government to comment on whether the NICC is planning to take any action in relation to casino board members or senior executives.

* 8993 INCREASING POVERTY GAP—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Corrections representing the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services—

- (1) Noting the ACOSS and UNSW report 'Poverty in Australia 2022 shows more than one in eight adults and one in six children continue to live in poverty, what action has the Government taken to address increasing poverty and inequality since the April 2020 response to LA Q 2582?
- (2) What advocacy has the Government undertaken with the Commonwealth Government to increase social security payments to a liveable level and invest in more social housing?
- (3) What programs does the Government provide to support children in poverty?
- (4) What specific anti-poverty programs does the Government provide in the Sydney electorate and inner Sydney?
- (5) What further action will the Government take to reduce poverty and inequality in New South Wales?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The NSW Government is committed to working in partnership with the private sector, the non-government sector and across all levels of government to enhance the quality of life of people of NSW and break the cycle of disadvantage, delivering programs that support the most vulnerable members of our community, and ensuring that services are prioritised for those in greatest need. The Premier has set targets for the state, including to reduce homelessness, protect our most vulnerable children, increase permanency for children in out of home care, and reduce domestic violence reoffending. Information about how the government is delivering on these commitments is available at

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/improving-nsw/premiers-priorities/>.

The 2022/23 NSW Budget demonstrates the NSW Government's commitment to the alleviation of poverty and inequality, and the protection of at risk children and families across NSW, including:

- Investing \$1.2 billion towards a range of Homelessness and Social Housing programs, including \$394.8 million to deliver a range of homelessness services across NSW, including Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS), and an extra \$22 million towards implementation of NSW's Homelessness Strategy initiatives.
- \$13.3 million recurrent expenditure over two years, as part of the NSW Government's response to the February 2022 Storms and Floods Recovery, to administer a community volunteer and non-government organisation (NGO) financial support program in the seven highly impacted Northern Rivers Local Government Areas (Richmond Valley, Clarence Valley, Kyogle, Lismore, Tweed, Ballina and Byron).

The NSW Homelessness Strategy delivers a range of programs and initiatives which empower people to tackle the issues that put them at risk, provide pathways out of homelessness, and support people to remain housed. It supports the implementation of the Premier's Priority to Reduce Street Homelessness, including the expansion of programs such as Assertive Outreach and Sustaining Tenancies in Social Housing (STSH). Implementation of the Strategy includes:

- over 11,700 Assertive Outreach activities undertaken by the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) and partners between 1 April 2020 and 30 June 2022, with over 1,400 people sleeping rough placed in long-term housing.
- an investment of \$16.6 million to extend and expand the STSH program to support people sustain their tenancies and prevent new entries into homelessness in Western NSW, Western Sydney, Southern NSW, Inner Sydney, Tweed and Newcastle.
- the Reintegration Housing Support Program, launched in July 2021, is a two-year \$4.5 million investment to support people leaving custody who are at risk of homelessness to secure and sustain long-term housing.
- the Mental Health In-Reach Service (MHIRS), a new initiative with \$1.1 million funding over two years from July 2022, that builds on the successful Assertive Outreach model. The model will support a minimum of 525 people experiencing, or at risk of, rough sleeping who are inpatients in mental health units in the Sydney and South Eastern Sydney, and Central Coast Local Health Districts.
- the Together Home program, with an investment of \$177.5 million in to support over 1,000 people with a history of rough sleeping into long-term housing. It provides people with intensive case management and wrap around supports over two years. This initiative will also build and acquire around 250 dwellings under the Together Home Transition program.

SHS are a key part of the NSW Government's response to homelessness. They provide case-management, crisis and transitional accommodation, outreach, advocacy, brokerage and other forms of support for people who are experiencing, or who are at risk of, homelessness. Investment in SHS has more than doubled since 2013/14, increasing by approximately 118 per cent to 2022/23.

DCJ has commenced a Mobile Housing Outreach team which visits rural townships across Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW. Under the 12-month trial to June 2023, Mobile Housing Officers will travel to over 40 townships connecting with local homelessness service providers to help people and communities with their housing needs.

In 2021/22, the NSW Government provided \$309.6 million in one off grants to nearly 2,000 non-government organisations. This included \$83.7 million for the following COVID-19 grants: Social Sector Transformation Fund; Social Sector Support Fund; COVID-19 Support Fund; and the COVID-19 Regional Support Fund. These COVID grants supported NGOs to remain viable and to keep on delivering vital services to vulnerable people and local communities.

- (2) The NSW Government is working collaboratively with the Commonwealth Government and other states and territories to progress housing and homelessness reforms at the national level.

The NSW Government also contributes to the development of national priorities relating to children and families that are experiencing disadvantage and/or are vulnerable via Community Services Ministers' meetings.

- (3) In the 2022/23 NSW Budget, \$172 million was allocated to the Targeted Early Intervention (TEI) Program. TEI delivers a wide variety of flexible supports to children, young people, families, and communities, to prevent existing risks or vulnerabilities from escalating. TEI's priority client groups are disproportionately affected by poverty and financial insecurity.
- (4) As outlined in response to Q2, the implementation of Premier's Priority and strategies to promote housing and reduce homelessness operate across NSW. Examples of programs which reduce poverty within the Sydney electorate include:

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- The STSH program, outlined in Q2, was expanded to support people in the Inner West to sustain their tenancies, and is one of the NSW Government's primary programs for preventing new entries into homelessness, providing early intervention for vulnerable social housing tenants.
 - The MHIRS, outlined in Q2, is a new \$1.1 million initiative that commenced in July 2022 and supports people experiencing, or at risk of, rough sleeping who are inpatients in mental health units in the Sydney and South Eastern Sydney Local Health Districts.
- (5) The NSW Government is committed to delivering more and better social housing across NSW. This commitment is part of the NSW Government's strategies, including Housing 2041, Future Directions for Social Housing in NSW and Strong Family, Stronger Communities.

The NSW Government is actively exploring alternative opportunities to increase social housing supply and meet sustained demand through the work of the NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC), which owns the largest social housing portfolio in Australia of approximately 125,000 social homes. LAHC has a 20-year portfolio strategy to grow and change the portfolio to meet current and future needs.

The NSW Government also continues to increase its investment in the provision and maintenance of social and public housing, with \$2.8 billion in measures to support greater opportunities to access and own a quality home and help the most vulnerable.

* 8995 PLAIN LANGUAGE—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Premier—

- (1) What assessment has the Government made of legislation in other jurisdictions to require plain language in Government documents?
- (2) What assessment has the Government made of progress achieved under the USA Plain Writing Act 2010 and monitoring by the Center for Plain Language?
- (3) What assessment has the Government made of the Aotearoa/New Zealand Plain Language Bill currently before their Parliament?
- (4) What plans does the Government have to introduce requirements for Government documents to be written clearly and accessibly?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government is committed to ensuring that all government communications are published in a clear and accessible way. All government publications should be accessible to all users, regardless of their ability and environment.

The Department of Customer Service has published extensive plain English and accessibility guidance for NSW Government agencies through its 'Digital Service Toolkit', which includes a plain English language guide, training materials, templates, readability and accessibility testing tools and links to relevant research.

Many agencies offer Plain English training to staff and follow the Australian Government Style Manual, which is regularly reviewed and updated by a team of experts.

The Parliamentary Counsel's Office is also committed to drafting all NSW legislation in accordance with its Plain Language Policy. The principles of plain language aim for clarity in the language of legislation and are intended to remove barriers to communication to make the law more accessible.

* 8996 ELECTRIC HOMES—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

- (1) What programs does the Government operate to inform and support home owners to transition to electricity for heating and cooking?

- (2) What programs does the Government operate to inform and support home owners to transition to more sustainable forms of hot water than gas?
- (3) What financial support does the Government offer to low income home owners to transition?
- (4) What further plans does the Government have to support home owners to ditch gas heating, hot water and cooking in order to reduce costs and meet emission targets?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Government is supporting consumers across NSW to improve electricity and gas efficiency through the Energy Savings Scheme, which is the Government's largest energy efficiency program. The Scheme is a market-based mechanism that provides financial incentives for households and businesses to undertake energy efficiency activities.

This includes incentives for the upgrading of gas hot water systems to more energy efficient solar or heat pump water heating systems and the installation of high efficiency air conditioners for heating and cooling. The Scheme does not include incentives to switch away from gas cooking.

- (2) Refer to the response to Question 1.
- (3) The NSW Government recently announced the \$128 million Energy Bill Buster package. This package will support up to 30,000 energy rebate recipients save up to \$600 annually on their energy bills by providing solar or replacing appliances with more energy efficient ones.

The Energy Bill Buster package will be gradually rolled out to eligible energy rebate recipients across the State and will target a range of households, including homeowner-occupiers, social housing tenants and private renters.

One of the offers under the Energy Bill Buster package provides homeowner-occupiers, that hold a valid Pensioner Concession Card or Department of Veterans' Affairs Gold Card, a free, fully installed 3-kilowatt solar system in place of their Low Income Household Rebate. In the coming months, the rollout of this solar package will also be extended to eligible Land and Housing Corporation tenants.

The Energy Bill Buster package will also help households that receive a Low Income Household Rebate and are unable to install solar. These households, such as renters or those living in apartments, will be able to receive energy efficient appliances or minor home upgrades, such as fridges and dryers, if recommended by a free, no obligation energy assessment. If the energy assessment recommends upgrades, participants will be able to swap their energy rebate for one or more energy upgrades, valued at up to \$4000.

- (4) The Government continues to develop and assess policy and program options in this area.

* 8997 COMMUNITY HOUSING INSURANCE—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Corrections representing the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services—

- (1) Is it true that insurance companies will not provide property cover for landlord owners who lease to community or social housing providers for low cost housing?
- (2) What assessment has the Government made of the impacts of this change on the provision of low cost housing?
- (3) What action will the Government take to ensure that community and social housing providers are able to lease privately-owned properties for low cost housing?

Answer—

I am advised:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Small Business and Fair Trading, Hon. Victor Dominello MP as it falls within his portfolio responsibilities.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

* 8998 HABERFIELD AMBULANCE SUPERSTATION—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Health—

In each of the financial years since it opened, how many full time equivalent (FTE) paramedics are based at the Haberfield Ambulance Superstation?

Answer—

NSW Ambulance varies staffing profiles and numbers to appropriately meet operational need as required.

* 8999 VACANT TEACHING POSITIONS—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

(1) How many teaching positions are currently vacant at each school in the Summer Hill electorate:

- (a) Ashbury Public School?
- (b) Ashfield Boys' High School?
- (c) Ashfield Public School?
- (d) Dobroyd Point Public School?
- (e) Dulwich High School of Visual Art and Design?
- (f) Dulwich Hill Public School?
- (g) Ferncourt Public School?
- (h) Haberfield Public School?
- (i) Lewisham Public School?
- (j) Marrickville High School?
- (k) Marrickville Public School?
- (l) Petersham Public School?
- (m) Summer Hill Public School?
- (n) Wilkins Public School?
- (o) Yeo Park Infants' School?

Answer—

(1) Figures provided are based on the full-time equivalent (FTE) of vacant positions.

Vacancies in these schools include positions that are being advertised for 2023, and are filled by existing teachers or additional temporary staff while recruitment takes place.

- (a) 2.8 FTE
- (b) 2.0 FTE
- (c) nil
- (d) 0.8 FTE
- (e) 2.0 FTE
- (f) 1.8 FTE
- (g) 1.0 FTE
- (h) 1.0 FTE
- (i) nil

- (j) 4.0 FTE
- (k) 1.0 FTE
- (l) nil
- (m) nil
- (n) 2.0 FTE
- (o) nil

Note: Marrickville West Public School is also located in the Summer Hill electorate but was not included in the list of schools. There are 1.6 FTE teacher vacancies at Marrickville West Public School.

* 9000 TEMPORARY TEACHING POSITIONS—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) How many temporary teachers are currently employed at each school in the Summer Hill electorate:
- (a) Ashbury Public School?
 - (b) Ashfield Boys' High School?
 - (c) Ashfield Public School?
 - (d) Dobroyd Point Public School?
 - (e) Dulwich High School of Visual Art and Design?
 - (f) Dulwich Hill Public School?
 - (g) Ferncourt Public School?
 - (h) Haberfield Public School?
 - (i) Lewisham Public School?
 - (j) Marrickville High School?
 - (k) Marrickville Public School?
 - (l) Petersham Public School?
 - (m) Summer Hill Public School?
 - (n) Wilkins Public School?
 - (o) Yeo Park Infants' School?

Answer—

- (1) A breakdown of the number of temporary teachers in every NSW government school was published on 10 November 2022 in relation to a Budget Estimate supplementary question. <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/Hansard/Pages/HansardFull.aspx#/DateDisplay/HANSARD-1820781676-91021/HANSARD-1820781676-91060>

* 9001 SOCIAL HOUSING—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) How many new public or social housing dwellings have been constructed in the Summer Hill electorate in:
- (a) 2019-2020?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (b) 2020-2021?
- (c) 2021-2022?
- (d) To date in 2022-2023?
- (2) How many public or social housing dwellings have been sold in the Summer Hill electorate in:
 - (a) 2019-2020?
 - (b) 2020-2021?
 - (c) 2021-2022?
 - (d) To date in 2022-2023?

Answer—

I am advised:

With respect to the Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC):

Between 2019 and 2022 financial years, no new public or social housing dwellings have been constructed by LAHC in the Summer Hill electorate.

Financial data in respect of the 2022-23 financial year is not available until the release of the audited financial statements.

The total number of public or social housing dwellings that LAHC has sold in the Summer Hill electorate for the following financial years are:

- (a) 4 dwellings
- (b) 1 dwelling
- (c) & (d) Nil. However, LAHC is continually reviewing the State's portfolio of social housing assets to identify opportunities to deliver more and better housing throughout NSW.

With respect to the Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO):

No new dwellings were constructed by the Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO) in the Summer Hill electorate during the periods specified above.

No dwellings were sold by the AHO in the Summer Hill electorate during the periods specified above.

- * 9005 RIVER CLASS FERRY PROCUREMENT - BRIEFINGS—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Did Minister Elliott seek a briefing from the Secretary of the Department or other Transport Officials about the procurement of new river class ferries?

Answer—

I am advised

I refer you to the response to LA 9002.

- * 9006 RIVER CLASS FERRY PROCUREMENT - TRANSPORT FOR NSW—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

When was Transport for NSW made aware of Minister Elliott's decision to cancel the procurement of 7 overseas built river class ferries and pursue domestic procurement options?

Answer—

I refer to the response to Question on Notice LA 9002.

* 9007 HOUSING TARGETS—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Cities, and Minister for Active Transport—

(1) Are dwellings in new generation boarding homes, boarding homes, student accommodation and other affordable housing not included in housing targets established by the Greater Cities Commission?

(a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

All dwellings across the housing continuum detailed in the 2018 Greater Sydney Region Plan are included in housing targets. This includes new generation boarding homes and student housing.

* 9008 SOLAR PANELS OVERSHADOWING—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

(1) What measures and/or protections are currently in place to ensure that residential rooftop solar panels are not overshadowed by new construction, renovations or development?

(2) What work is the Government proactively doing with New South Wales councils to ensure that residential rooftop solar panels are protected from overshadowing?

Answer—

I am advised:

This matter has been answered in your previous question on notice titled LA 8869 – SOLAR PANELS.

* 9009 SOCIAL HOUSING WAITLIST—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Corrections representing the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services—

(1) How many people are on the general waitlist for Social Housing in:

(a) Gosford allocation zone?

(b) Wyong allocation zone?

(2) How many people are on the priority waitlist for Social Housing in:

(a) Gosford allocation zone?

(b) Wyong allocation zone?

(3) Is this information publicly available?

Answer—

I am advised:

This information is publicly available at: <https://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/housing/help/applying-assistance/expected-waiting-times>

20 OCTOBER 2022

(Paper No. 174)

* 9010 POLICE VEHICLES PARKED ON THE STREET—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police—

(1) With regard police vehicles which are required to be parked on public streets outside police stations:

(a) How many vehicles have been damaged by vandalism annually since 1 July 2016?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (b) What are the top 5 stations (pro rata) across the state that have registered the most damaged vehicles annually since 1 July 2016?
- (c) What procedures have been implemented to reduce the amount of vandalism incurred?
 - (i) Have any of these proven more successful than others?
 - (ii) What stations have seen the most reduction in damage?
- (d) What stations in the Hunter (pro rata) have incurred the most vandalism damage annually since 1 July 2016?
- (e) How many stations do not have on-site parking for the police vehicles?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)
 - (a. – d.) There is no central record held by the NSW Police Force relating to police vehicles which have been damaged by vandalism.
 - (e) All police stations have some form of on-site parking. This might be in the form of street parking or secure parking.

* 9011 HOSPITALS WITH SOLAR POWER—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health—

- (1) How many hospitals have solar power providing all or part of their electricity?
 - (a) Which hospitals have solar power?
- (2) Which hospitals are scheduled to have solar power installed in the next 5 years?
- (3) Is the solar power used only for hot water systems?
 - (a) If no, what else is it used for within the hospital system?
- (4) Are there any hospitals that will not have solar power installed?

Answer—

I am advised:

NSW Health has approximately 200 solar panel systems in the network. This includes a range of sites including hospitals, ambulance stations and community health buildings. Solar power is fed into the general electricity supply for the building and reduces the total amount of electricity drawn from the grid in the day-to-day operation of the relevant site.

Within the next 5 years, NSW Health aims to have installed solar panel systems on all suitable hospital sites.

* 9012 LOWER HUNTER FREIGHT CORRIDOR—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) With regards Question on Notice 8482 and the response regarding the Lower Hunter Freight Corridor:
 - (a) When is the Government scheduled to receive the finalised consultation report and the final Strategic Environmental Assessment?
 - (b) How long after this is it anticipated it will take the Government to consider both?
 - (i) Is this anticipated to be in 2022?

- (ii) Before 25 March 2023?
- (iii) After 25 March 2023?
- (c) How long after the Government has considered the reports is it anticipated they will be released to the public?
 - (i) Will all individuals/groups/entities who made a submission receive a copy?

Answer—

I am advised:

Community consultation for the recommended corridor for the Lower Hunter Freight Corridor has concluded and key issues raised have now been addressed in the Strategic Environmental Assessment and Submissions Report.

Following formal gazettal, all relevant background information including the Strategic Environmental Assessment and Submissions Report would be made available to the public and impacted land holders and parties will also be notified.

* 9013 NO PARKING SIGNAGE—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) With regard 'No Parking' signage at and around schools:
 - (a) How many fines were issued each school year from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2021 for:
 - (i) Exceeding the 2 minute 'kiss and drop' time limit?
 - (ii) Exceeding the 'no further than 3 metres from the vehicle' limit?
- (2) Are there any signs installed which include the additional information of (1)(i) and (1)(ii) to assist drivers?
 - (a) If yes, can these be applied for by a local council or a school for installation?
 - (b) If no, has this additional information been considered to be attached to existing signage?

Answer—

I am advised:

This is a matter for the relevant Local Councils.

* 9014 DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE SHELTERS—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) Does the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) fund shelters specifically for female victim-survivors of domestic and sexual violence?
 - (a) If yes, how many across New South Wales?
 - (b) If yes, how many are located in the Hunter?
- (2) Have any shelters been opened since 1 January 2016?
 - (a) If yes, how many?
- (3) Does the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) fund shelters for non-female victim-survivors of domestic and sexual violence?
 - (a) If yes, how many?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (b) If no, has DCJ previously?

Answer—

There are currently 86 women's refuges in NSW funded under the Specialist Homelessness Services program that deliver crisis accommodation for women (with or without children). This is an increase from 76 women's refuges in 2014. There are four women's refuges providing services in the Hunter Region.

- * 9015 PRIMARY SCHOOLS—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) With regard primary schools in the Electorate of Cessnock:
 - (a) Do all schools have at least one 40km zone flashing sign?
 - (b) If no, which schools do not?
- (2) Do all schools have security fencing around the school property perimeters?
 - (a) If no, which schools do not?
- (3) Do all schools have a 'kiss and drop' zone in close proximity to the school entrance?
 - (a) If no, which schools do not?
- (4) Do all schools have a bus zone located at the school property perimeter?
 - (a) If no, which schools do not?

Answer—

- (1) This question should be addressed to the Minister for Transport, as the Minister responsible for this matter.
- (2) No
 - (a) As at 1 July 2022, schools without partial or full perimeter security fencing in the Cessnock electorate are:
 - (1) Broke Public School
 - (2) Congewai Public School
 - (3) Ellalong Public School
 - (4) Kitchener Public School
 - (5) Laguna Public School
 - (6) Milbrodale Public School
 - (7) Millfield Public School
 - (8) Mulbring Public School
 - (9) Paxton Public School

The list of schools with either partial or full-perimeter fencing is available on the Department of Education's School Infrastructure NSW website at

<https://www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/what-we-do/we-look-after-our-schools/keeping-schools-safe-and-secure.html>

- (3) This question should be addressed to the Minister for Transport, as the Minister responsible for this matter.

- (4) This question should be addressed to the Minister for Transport, as the Minister responsible for this matter.

* 9016 SOLAR POWER IN HOSPITALS—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Health—

- (1) How many hospitals have solar power providing all or part of their electricity?
 - (a) Which hospitals have solar power?
- (2) Which hospitals are scheduled to have solar power installed in the next 5 years?
- (3) Is the solar power used only for hot water systems?
 - (a) If no, what else is it used for within the hospital system?
- (4) Are there any hospitals that will not have solar power installed?

Answer—

(1. – 4.)

I am advised:

NSW Health has approximately 200 solar panel systems in the network. This includes a range of sites including hospitals, ambulance stations and community health buildings. Solar power is fed into the general electricity supply for the building and reduces the total amount of electricity drawn from the grid in the day-to-day operation of the relevant site.

Within the next 5 years, NSW Health aims to have installed solar panel systems on all suitable hospital sites.

* 9017 ELECTION CAMPAIGN SIGNAGE—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) With regards to signage erected by candidates/parties for Local Government, State and Federal Elections:
 - (a) Do New South Wales Councils have the authority to issue Penalty Notices to aforesaid candidates/parties when their posters are inappropriately placed i.e. power poles, trees and sides of buildings that are not on private land and on public property i.e. street signs and speed advisory signs?
 - (i) If not, why not?
 - (ii) If not Councils, who has the authority to issue fines for incorrectly placed signage?

Answer—

I am advised:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Planning and Minister for Homes.

* 9018 POLICE USE OF GEO TARGETING SMS SYSTEM—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police—

- (1) Since the inception of the NSW Police Force using Geo Targeting SMS System:
 - (a) How many SMS messages have been sent:
 - (i) About a missing person?
 - (ii) Emergency situations like bushfires, floods and other extreme weather conditions?
- (2) Are there any mobile providers who are not under the Emergency Alert Framework?
 - (a) If yes, which providers?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The NSW Police Force has sent a total of 247 alerts since October 2021 in relation to missing persons. Alerts for other emergency situations, including bushfires and floods are sent by the relevant lead agencies such as the Rural Fire Service, Fire and Rescue NSW and the State Emergency Service.
- (2) No.

* 9019 SCHOOL BASED APPRENTICESHIPS—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

School Based Apprentices (SBAs) undertake a two-year program, resulting in the completion of the first year of their trade study. Unfortunately, due to numbers, some regional TAFE institutions are unable to provide a course suitable for the SBA program and enrol SBA's into a mainstream version of the course which means they complete the first year of their trade in 12 months, rather than the SBA specified 24 months. Can the Minister consider making an SBA modification for these students to allow them to continue the second year of their apprenticeship in line with the last year of their Higher School Certificate (HSC) program?

Answer—

I am advised:

School-Based Apprentices are required to complete both 'off-the-job' training (at a Registered Training Organisation), and 'on-the-job' training.

The requirement that training be completed over a period two years is designed to ensure the apprentice can apply the skills learned through off-the-job training. It allows for training to be undertaken as part of the Higher School Certificate (HSC), without unduly impacting a student's ability to complete their other HSC subjects.

The NSW model for School-Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships was developed in close consultation with industry. It defines a mix of off-the-job training and employment, that over the course of two years, allows a student to achieve the outcomes required for stage one of the apprenticeship.

* 9020 RETURN OF RECOVERED GOODS—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police—

- (1) Considering that during the process of police investigations, evidence can be gathered in the form of physical evidence, documentation or testimonial, all of which may hold a critical link between the investigation and the ultimate outcome, if physical evidence “recovered stolen goods” are perceived by the magistrate to be ‘inadmissible’, and so cannot be used to prove any issue, is it protocol for the Court to hold onto these items until a judgement has been imposed?
 - (a) If so, can the Minister investigate a more considerate approach for the ‘victims’ of the crime, and release their stolen belongings as soon as they are of no use to the future of the case?

Answer—

I am advised:

If a magistrate deems physical evidence, such as stolen goods and other exhibits inadmissible for the purposes of court proceedings, the NSW Police Force retains custody of the goods and should immediately return the goods to their lawful owner.

In many cases, Police can satisfy evidentiary requirements by photographing, fingerprinting, and analysing property as needed, then return the property promptly to the owner, even before the commencement of proceedings.

* 9021 INSURANCE IN REGIONAL NEW SOUTH WALES—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Finance, and Minister for Employee Relations—

- (1) In recent times Regional New South Wales has been burdened with the costly effects of a series of natural disasters including flood, fire and mouse plague. With those covered quick to claim for losses and consumers expecting a rise in their rates as a flow on affect from a high number of claims being honoured, can the Minister advise how many insurance companies are currently providing home insurance in the Barwon electorate and of those:
 - (a) What is the percentage rate increase for their home insurance between 2020-2022?
 - (b) Is this rate rise the same across the board, or is their variance between metropolitan and regional New South Wales?
- (2) Considering the cost of the provision for trades also attributes to home insurance policy rises, can the Minister offer any additional funding support for homeowners who have suffered considerable damage due to natural disasters?
 - (a) If so, will this support be indicative of the policy price increase passed onto consumers by their insurance providers?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) (a) General insurance, including home insurance, is regulated under the Commonwealth Insurance Act 1973.
- (2) I am advised that:
 - The NSW and Commonwealth Governments have delivered over 30 funding packages totalling more than \$3.5 billion, with the majority being tailored to reflect the needs of flood impacted communities
 - Funding support packages available to homeowners include:
 - Disaster Relief Grants, to assist low-income residents who have no other means of restoring their homes to a safe and habitable condition.
 - Back Home Grants, to assist owners and tenants of properties with urgent household repairs, replacing essential household goods or restoring housing to a habitable condition.
 - Rental Support, to assist residents who are unable to live in their home due to flooding with the cost of temporary rental accommodation.
 - Temporary Accommodation, to provide flood impacted persons with a safe and secure home while people affected by floods begin their recovery.
 - Additional supports include the waste levy being waived for residents disposing of flood-affected household items, free structural assessments for flood damaged properties and the commitment of \$40 million to cover the rates for flood impacted residents and businesses in our most impacted LGA'S.

Any flood impacted person is strongly encouraged to contact Service NSW on 13 77 88 or via www.service.nsw.gov.au/floods/financial-assistance to confirm eligibility for the support programs that have been made available.

Further questions about support for homeowners impacted by natural disasters are best directed to the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery.

* 9022 EARLWOOD/CLEMTON BUSES—Ms Sophie Cotsis to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What plans does the Minister have to increase the number of bus services available in:

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (a) Earlwood/Clemton Park 2206?
 - (b) Campsie 2194?
 - (c) Canterbury 2193?
 - (d) Belmore 2192?
- (2) What plans does the Minister have to increase the frequency of existing bus services available in:
- (a) Earlwood/Clemton Park 2206?
 - (b) Campsie 2194?
 - (c) Canterbury 2193?
 - (d) Belmore 2192?
- (3) What percentage of bus stops in the following suburbs have a shelter:
- (a) Earlwood/Clemton Park 2206?
 - (b) Campsie 2194?
 - (c) Canterbury 2193?
 - (d) Belmore 2192?
- (4) What plans does the Minister have to increase the number of bus stops with shelters in 2023 in:
- (a) Earlwood/Clemton Park 2206?
 - (b) Campsie 2194?
 - (c) Canterbury 2193?
 - (d) Belmore 2192?
- (5) In 2022 until 20 October 2022, how many bus stop shelters were installed in:
- (a) Earlwood/Clemton Park 2206?
 - (b) Campsie 2194?
 - (c) Canterbury 2193?
 - (d) Belmore 2192?
- (6) In 2021, how many bus stop shelters were installed in:
- (a) Earlwood/Clemton Park 2206?
 - (b) Campsie 2194?
 - (c) Canterbury 2193?
 - (d) Belmore 2192?
- (7) In 2020, how many bus stop shelters were installed in:
- (a) Earlwood/Clemton Park 2206?
 - (a) Campsie 2194?
 - (b) Canterbury 2193?
 - (c) Belmore 2192?

Answer—

I am advised

(1) to (2) Transport for NSW is currently reviewing bus services in the Canterbury Electorate to support commuter access to the new Metro line. This may lead to service changes across the region to support current and projected demand for both bus and Metro.

Transport for NSW is also looking at ways to enhance the local bus network in Earlwood, Clemton Park, Campsie, Canterbury and Belmore to make it easier for commuters to move around. As with all transport improvements, any changes will be subject to operational constraints, including the cost of delivering extra services and the availability of resources, such as buses and drivers.

As the area continues to develop, Transport for NSW will monitor patronage and opal data.

(3) to (7) The determination, installation and maintenance of bus stop infrastructure, including shelters, are the responsibility of the relevant local council.

* 9023 BUS SERVICE TIMES—Ms Sophie Cotsis to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

What plans does the Minister have to ensure that bus services arrive on time and get residents of the Canterbury electorate on time?

Answer—

I am advised

Transit Systems West operates bus services in the Canterbury electoral district under Sydney Bus Service Contract (SBSC) 6. Around 97 per cent of all SBSC6 bus services were operated on time between July and September 2022, which is above the 95 per cent KPI Measurement.

Transit Systems West monitors the performance of services and, where possible, its Operational Control Centre provides proactive intervention to assist services to operate on time should there be any service interruption.

Transport for NSW monitors the performance of Sydney Bus Service Contract 6 according to the Key Performance Indicators set out in the contract, and through a series of Governance meetings as also set out in the contract. These meetings review performance monthly and quarterly and use the systems in place to monitor Key Performance Indicators.

* 9024 CANTERBURY HOSPITAL BUS SERVICE—Ms Sophie Cotsis to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Does the Minister plan to increase the number of bus services to Canterbury Hospital?

Answer—

I am advised

The below routes provide direct access to Canterbury Hospital for commuters from Campsie, Belmore, Belfield, Kingsgrove, Bexley, Hurstville, Ashfield and Burwood, as well as rail connections from Campsie, Belmore and Kingsgrove stations.

- Route 415 Campsie to Chiswick
 - Two buses an hour on weekdays (four buses an hour during peak hours)
 - Two buses an hour on Saturdays
 - One bus an hour on Sundays and Public Holidays
- Route 487 Canterbury to Bankstown Central
 - Two buses an hour on weekdays and Saturdays
 - One bus an hour on Sundays and Public Holidays

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- Route 490 Drummoyne to Hurstville
 - Two buses an hour on weekdays and Saturdays
 - One bus an hour on Sundays and Public Holidays
- Route 492 Drummoyne to Rockdale
 - Two buses an hour on weekdays, weekends and Public Holidays.

* 9025 FOWLER STREET RUBBISH—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that there were large piles of rubbish outside Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) Housing complexes in Fowler Street, Hamilton South?
- (2) When was LAHC first notified of the rubbish on Fowler Street, Hamilton South?
- (3) Is the Minister aware of media reporting on the rubbish and the amount of time it was there?
- (4) What is LAHC's waste management policy?
- (5) What is LAHC's waste agreement with Newcastle City Council?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) was notified by Newcastle City Council on 5 October 2022, that Council's bulk waste collection scheduled for Fowler Street for 12 September 2022 had not been actioned due to non-compliant waste at the site.

While LAHC does not have a specific policy for illegally dumped waste, LAHC is finalising arrangements to implement a weekly, rather than fortnightly, bulk waste collection service to the complexes in Fowler Street. This is in addition to regularly scheduled weekly Council waste collection. LAHC is also arranging for the installation of CCTV at the site to discourage illegal dumping and signage in multiple locations.

Under the terms of the waste agreement between LAHC and Newcastle City Council, should Council become aware of illegally deposited materials adjacent to a residential property's street address and it is considered a public nuisance, Council shall advise LAHC of the illegally deposited material in order to arrange disposal.

* 9026 TRAIN STATION RECYCLING BINS—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Do all train stations in New South Wales have recycling bins?
- (2) If not, will the Government consider installing recycle bins at all train stations in New South Wales?

Answer—

I am advised

All Sydney Trains' stations have recycling bins.

Questions regarding regional stations should be directed to the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads.

* 9027 HOUSING SERVICES FOR WOMEN EXITING PRISON—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Corrections—

- (1) What is the average number of women who exit NSW Corrective Services facilities every week?
- (2) How many of these women are placed in temporary accommodation?
 - (a) What type of temporary accommodation is used?

- (b) How long is this offered for?
- (3) What are the current processes and/or support mechanisms offered by Corrective Services NSW to ensure that women leaving prison have access to accommodation upon release?
- (4) What support is offered to women leaving prison to ensure they have somewhere to live?

Answer—

(1) 43

(2. a. – b.)

The responsibility for temporary accommodation falls within the portfolio of the Minister for Families and Communities. These questions should be directed to the Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones, Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services.

(3. – 4.)

Corrective Services NSW (CSNSW) funds a range of community based organisations to deliver transitional and reintegration services including provision of accommodation, under the Funded Partnership Initiative (FPI). Offenders leaving custody to be supervised by Community Corrections can access up to 12 weeks supported accommodation. Referrals to service providers are made by Community Corrections officers.

CSNSW also works with Housing NSW to support women leaving custody through the following schemes:

- Under the Inmate Early Assessment Scheme parolees can apply for housing assistance up to three months prior to their release. Women can receive assistance while in custody to complete an application for housing assistance.
- Set2Go is a collaboration between Link2home, a statewide homelessness information and referral service, and CSNSW which offers the option for pre-booked crisis accommodation to people exiting custody who have a confirmed release date within two months. Set2Go is available to any offender being released from custody, and referrals may be made if accommodation options have been explored and an offender is at risk of homelessness on release from custody.

For female offenders housed in one of CSNSW's transitional centres, residents access support directly from community based agencies such as the Community Restorative Centre and Women's Justice Network, Housing NSW and family networks in the months prior to their release.

CSNSW co-ordinates the Dubai Gunyah initiative at Werrington, that provides up to six months accommodation for Aboriginal women leaving custody. The Dubai Gunyah program is a partnership between CSNSW, Aboriginal Housing Office, Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation and Marrin Weejali Aboriginal Corporation.

* 9028 TEMPORARY HOUSING SERVICES FOR WOMEN EXITING PRISON—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Corrections—

- (1) How many women exiting NSW Corrective Services facilities receive temporary accommodation per year?
- (2) What are the current avenues available to people who exceed the cap of 28 days of temporary accommodation in a 12 month period?
- (3) How was the policy of 28 days of temporary accommodation in a 12 month period, limited 3 night periods at a time determined?
- (a) Is this policy still in place?

Answer—

I am advised:

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Corrective Services NSW (CSNSW) does not provide temporary accommodation to women exiting custody. CSNSW does work with Housing NSW and community organisations to assist people leaving custody to access housing support.

The responsibility for temporary accommodation falls within the portfolio of the Minister for Families and Communities. These questions should be directed to the Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones, Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services.

* 9029 SAFE SHELTER SHOALHAVEN—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

(1) What action is the government taking to address the closure of Safe Shelter Shoalhaven which has had to close its doors due to a lack of funding?

(2) Will the Government commit to an immediate injection of funding so that the Safe Shelter Shoalhaven can re-open?

(3) Will the Government commit to annual funding of \$260,000 per year so that Safe Shelter Shoalhaven can continue operating permanently to house people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in the Nowra community?

Answer—

I am advised that this question is more appropriately directed to the Minister for Families and Communities.

* 9030 PACIFIC HIGHWAY-MANNS ROAD UPGRADE STAGE 4—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

What work is currently being undertaken on stage 4 of the Pacific Highway–Manns Road upgrade on the Central Coast?

Answer—

I am advised:

Transport for NSW has been investigating a potential future upgrade of Manns Road and the Pacific Highway between Parsons Road, Lisarow, and Stockyard Place, West Gosford in stages (4, 5 and 5A).

Recent planning efforts have focused on two priority intersections at Stockyard Place and Narara Creek Road, with the NSW and Australian Government committing \$66 million towards these priority intersection upgrades (Stage 5A).

Transport for NSW will keep the community informed as the project progresses.

* 9031 PACIFIC HIGHWAY-MANNS ROAD UPGRADE STAGE 5—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

(1) When will construction work begin on stage 5 of the Pacific Highway-Manns Road upgrade?

(a) What work is currently being undertaken?

Answer—

I am advised:

Transport for NSW is planning for the upgrade of Manns Road from West Gosford to Narara – between Stockyard Place, West Gosford and Narara Creek Road, Narara (Stage 5). The development of this stage prioritises two busy intersections at Stockyard Place and Narara Creek Road, with the NSW and Australian Government committing \$66 million towards these priority intersection upgrades.

Transport for NSW has completed a detailed design for both priority intersections and is in the process of ensuring the detailed design fits within this committed allocation. Transport for NSW is also in the process of acquiring property for the project.

Transport for NSW will keep the community informed as the project progresses.

* 9032 LIFTS AT TUGGERAH STATION—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

(1) In relation to upgrades including lifts at Tuggerah Railway Station, please advise:

- (a) Why has construction activity not yet commenced?
- (b) Has the project been delayed for any reason?
- (c) Will the final design of the station be publicly displayed?
- (d) When will construction work commence?
- (e) When will my constituents get their lifts?

Answer—

I am advised

This is a matter for the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads.

* 9033 ACCESSIBILITY AT BONDI PUBLIC SCHOOL—Dr Marjorie O'Neill to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

(1) Does Bondi Public School have disability accessible access to every level of every building with classrooms?

- (a) If not, why?
- (b) If not, what is being done to make the entire school accessible for students and staff with restricted mobility?

(2) I was informed by a local community member that teachers were moving furniture out of their classroom upstairs to a ground floor classroom to accommodate a student with limited mobility. Is the Department aware of this incident?

Answer—

(1) No.

- (a) The school was built in the late 1920s and has limited disability access due to the building regulations at the time of its construction.
- (b) Buildings at Bondi Public School are currently deemed fit for purpose. When students with confirmed disabilities enrol at the school, the Learning and Wellbeing Officer will be notified by the Principal. The Learning and Wellbeing Officer will then submit a request to the Department of Education, prompting intervention to meet the needs of the student.

(2) The staff of Bondi Public School have made recent rooming accommodations for students who have incurred injuries, require crutches or whose mobility is temporarily restricted. In these circumstances, a class may be temporarily moved to a ground floor room to support easier student access. Temporary room changes are made following consultation with parents/carers, wellbeing support, and the Department's learning and support team.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- * 9034 DISPUTE RESOLUTION SERVICE WAIT TIMES—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

What is the current average waiting time for injured patients waiting for the Dispute Resolution Service doctors to examine and resolve a Workers Compensation or Compulsory Third Party dispute for the Personal Injury Commission or State Insurance Regulatory Agency?

Answer—

The Dispute Resolution Service is a legacy division within the State Insurance Regulatory Authority which is no longer in existence. We understand this question refers to the Medical Assessors appointed to the Personal Injury Commission (Commission) who assess injured persons in medical disputes across the Workers Compensation and Motor Accidents Divisions.

There is no simple answer to this question. Quantifying the average wait time for a medical assessment and finalisation of a medical dispute before the Commission is a complex task. There are a number of variables (outlined below) which impact timeframes and the data available to quantify these wait times is only accurate at a point in time and always subject to change.

Impact of COVID-19

To understand these timeframes, there must be an understanding of the significant adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on medical disputes matters, particularly in motor accidents. For various prolonged periods throughout 2020 – 2022, there were suspensions and restrictions around the conduct of in-person medical assessments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, creating a large backlog of medical disputes. At the same time, new matters continued to be filed in healthy numbers further increasing the number of matters on hand.

At the Commission's commencement on 1 March 2021, the Commission inherited almost 2,000 motor accidents disputes from the Dispute Resolution Service involving an outstanding medical assessment which had been suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. During June 2021 to October 2021, the Commission had to suspend in-person medical assessments due to public health orders in response to the Delta Outbreak. In-person medical assessments recommenced from 25 October 2021 under strict controls, until the Omicron outbreak which led to the most recent suspension of in-person medical assessments during January 2022 and February 2022. The Commission slowly recommenced in-person assessments in March 2022, but this was followed by the surge of infection rates throughout the community of NSW. The Commission was not immune from this, with the disease impacting claimants, staff and Medical Assessors, either through infection or close contacts. As a result, in the six month period from 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2022, the Commission scheduled 3,600 medical appointments, but approximately 50% (1,800 appointments) were unable to proceed. Throughout this entire time, regular filings in the Commission continued.

The Commission has only recently been able to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic in the second half of 2022 and has implemented strategies to address the accumulation of almost two years of disputes.

Motors Accidents Timeframes

On average, in the Motor Accidents Division, claimants lodging a medical dispute in the Commission today can expect a wait time of approximately 10 months for their dispute to be finalised, including attendance at a medical assessment, subsequent issuing of a medical assessment certificate, or finalisation through settlement. Unfortunately, the experience has been longer for claimants whose motor accidents medical disputes are currently on hand in the Commission, which have accumulated from the impact of COVID-19 outlined above.

This average timeframe is based on the data from matters finalised between January to October 2022, and the length of time between lodgements of those disputes to finalisation. Timeframes are approximately 6 weeks longer if the medical assessment required is in a high use speciality, such as a psychiatry, orthopaedic surgery or rehabilitation. On average, claimants can expect to receive confirmation of their assessment date three to four months prior to the appointment.

These timeframes are a point in time estimate and are subject to change pending the complex variables that impact each individual matter, in addition to the historical impact of COVID-19.

Other Variables Impacting Timeframes

In some circumstances, timeframes will reduce where Medical Assessors provide more availability; where cancelled appointments can be filled with a waiting claimant; if a lower use speciality is required (pending availability), and where matters resolve early without requiring a medical assessment.

On the other hand, variables which adversely impact timeframes can include, but are not limited to:

- the nature of injury and complexity of the claim in dispute;
- the readiness of the matter at lodgement;
- the timeliness of correspondence between parties if this is required to progress a matter;
- the filing of additional or lengthy information or evidence related to the progression of the dispute;
- the number of injuries or treatments in dispute, influencing the number of medical assessments required;
- the Medical Assessor speciality required, not only for specialities which are in demand in the Commission, but also in demand throughout the NSW community for the general public (such as psychiatrists or respiratory physicians), and importantly,
- the attendance of claimants to their scheduled assessment.

The Commission is experiencing a high cancellation rate of scheduled medical assessments, which has had a severe impact on the timeframe for finalisation of medical disputes. The Commission has been very accommodating and understanding of the challenges that claimants and Medical Assessors have faced during the pandemic which has further contributed to the delays.

Since August 2022, the Commission has scheduled on average 750 appointments per month, however an average of 43% of all scheduled assessments are either cancelled, rescheduled or the claimant fails to attend. This places pressure on the Commission's staff and Medical Assessors, as well as medical assessment listings, contributing to the continuation of the backlog and increased wait times. Appointments are lost, despite attempts at rescheduling or filling cancelled appointments.

Commission's Strategy

The Commission has been actively working on its plan to address the backlog in motor accident medical disputes and reduce timeframes as a priority under its Strategic Plan 2022/2023, with a focus on our users and maximising our services and performance. By the end of October 2022, the Commission had succeeded in reducing the backlog of medical disputes from 4,667 to 1,950. The 'backlog' is defined as all medical disputes lodged prior to 1 January 2022. It is important to note that the Commission is also dealing with 2022 filings while at the same time attempting to dispense with the backlog.

The Commission is already scheduling assessments in 2023 and our aim is to eliminate the defined backlog by the third quarter of 2023. This is dependent on keeping finalisations consistently high and reducing the non-attendance of claimants at medical assessments. Commission users have been recently reminded of this in the Personal Injury Commission News, Edition 39.

Over the next 12 months, as the Commission continues to deploy its strategy and pending co-operation through claimant attendance, the Commission anticipates that the timeframe for finalisation will steadily reduce.

Workers Compensation Timeframes

The Workers Compensation Division does not have a COVID-19 backlog. The primary reason for this is the different dispute resolution model in dealing with workers compensation matters. In workers compensation matters, there is less demand for Medical Assessors, as they are mostly required for

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

assessments of whole person impairment. In motor accidents matters, disputes can often only progress by way of assessment with a Medical Assessor, without any other avenue for alternative dispute resolution.

Most workers compensation disputes will first proceed to a member for conciliation and/or determination, which in the 2021/2022 financial year resulted in 57% of matters resolving within three months. Where a workers compensation dispute does not resolve and proceeds to a medical assessment, it is expected to resolve within an average of 5 months from lodgement. However, the wait time for an assessment with a psychiatrist for a psychological injury may result in a longer timeframe due to the same demand pressures experienced in motor accidents matters.

- * 9035 SES ADDITIONAL ASSETS FOR FUTURE FLOODS—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

What additional assets has the State Emergency Service got to respond to a future flood in the Northern Rivers region?

Answer—

I am advised that the NSW SES has a fleet of High Clearance Vehicles (Unimogs), with one of these located at the Lismore SES Unit.

Four additional flood rescue boats have been deployed to Units in the Northern Rivers region.

Five additional vehicles have been deployed to Units in the Northern Rivers region.

Unimogs, flood rescue boats and vehicles are mobile assets that the NSW SES will move around the state as required in response to events to supplement local resources.

- * 9036 COST OF TEMPORARY HOUSING—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

How much are the temporary housing or pod villages in the Northern Rivers region costing the public purse?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) \$350 million has been allocated to the Modular Housing Package, for the procurement and management of temporary accommodation sites in the Northern Rivers.

- * 9037 LOCAL HIRES FOR TEMPORARY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

- 1) In constructing temporary housing or pod villages, what measures are in place to ensure that the following people are hired:

- (a) local builders and sub-contractors?; and
- (b) local white goods dealers (for supplying domestic appliances)?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) NSW Public Works have engaged multiple Principal Contractors to undertake the site preparation work of the temporary housing villages in the Northern Rivers area. These contractors have held local industry forums, or similar, to engage with and register interest from local contractors. Where possible and practical, subcontractors and suppliers from the local Northern Rivers area are being engaged.

For the site works completed to date, there has been significant engagement with local subcontractors and suppliers. On some sites, this is in excess of 50% of the subcontracted works and supply of materials and equipment.

- * 9038 LOCAL COUNCIL FLOOD PLAN ASSISTANCE—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

What support is being given to local councils to update, in terms of timeliness and best practice, their flood plans?

Answer—

The NSW SES has emergency planning staff for each of the five Zones. These staff are responsible for maintaining and updating Local Flood Plans. They also provide technical emergency management support for Council Floodplain Risk Management Committees.

These staff are supported by a central planning team that provides guidance and also maintains state level emergency plans for flood, storm and tsunami.

As part of the \$132.7 million investment in the SES from the 2022 NSW Budget, the NSW SES is recruiting 78 additional staff with most to work in the soon to be sub-divided Northern and Western Zones. This will result in an increase of 8 emergency planning staff from the current 4 positions to a total of 12 for the area covered by the current Northern and Western Zones.

The central planning team is currently providing support in updating the Local Flood Plans in the Northern Zone whilst additional planning staff are being recruited. Over the last several months the first part of the Local Flood Plans have been updated, with most endorsed by Local Emergency Management Committees.

- * 9039 PLANNERS TO ASSIST SES WITH FLOOD PLANS—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

How many planners does the State Emergency Service have to do the essential work internally and with local councils to ensure flood plans are up to date?

Answer—

Please refer to the answer provided to question number 9038.

- * 9040 POD VILLAGE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROCESS—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

(1) Considering the construction of pod villages what is the community engagement process with local residents?

(a) What team leads this process?

(2) Could North Coast Community Housing, which currently manages the Wollongbar and Kingscliff villages, be involved in the planning of and community engagement for all of these villages in future?

Answer—

I am advised that:

Resilience NSW is implementing community engagement in relation to temporary pod villages. It will be the responsibility of the appointed community housing provider at each site to manage engagement with residents once the site is operational. North Coast Community Housing (NCCH) has been engaged to conduct site management for the Wollongbar Sports Field site, and has subsequently taken on site management for the Pottsville, Southern Cross University, Kingscliff and the Evans Head temporary housing sites.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- * 9041 NORTHERN RIVERS RESILIENT HOMES PACKAGE—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police—

When will the Government publicly release its plan for voluntary buy-backs, land swaps, house raising, relocations and resilient building schemes for flood-impacted homeowners on the Northern Rivers similar to that already offered in South East Queensland?

Answer—

The Resilient Homes Fund (RHF) was announced on 28 October 2022. The RHF will offer eligible home owners one of three options: buy-backs, house raising or retrofits.

For more information please visit: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/regional-nsw/northern-rivers-reconstruction-corporation/resilient-homes-fund>

- * 9042 O'KANE-FULLER FLOOD REPORT—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

How is the State Emergency Service incorporating the findings from the O'Kane-Fuller Flood Report prepared primarily around the 28 February and 30 March floods that devastated the Northern Rivers, into its structure and operations?

Answer—

A project management office (PMO) has been established within the Department of Premier and Cabinet to coordinate the response to the NSW Independent Flood Inquiry. NSW SES has embedded an Assistant Commissioner within that PMO who is collaborating on the response to the Inquiry recommendations.

- * 9043 GOVERNMENT EOI FOR RESILIENT HOMES PACKAGE—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police—

Will the Government's Expression of its Interest for its resilient homes package cover:

- (1) Desire to move?
- (2) Consideration of voluntary house raising, voluntary house relocation, land swaps, relocatables and resilient building?

Answer—

The Resilient Homes Fund (RHF) was announced on 28 October 2022. The RHF will offer eligible home owners one of three options: buy-backs, house raising or retrofits.

For more information please visit: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/regional-nsw/northern-rivers-reconstruction-corporation/resilient-homes-fund>

- * 9046 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR TAXI DRIVERS—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What criteria was used to determine that taxis in the (i) Wollongong and (ii) Shellharbour local government areas were in Region 3 for the purposes of the Financial Assistance for Taxi Licence Owners Scheme?
- (2) Does the Scheme have a process for the reconsideration or changes to the operating areas allocated to each zone?
 - (a) If so, what is the process?

Answer—

I am advised

On 17 November 2022, the Point to Point Transport (Taxis and Hire Vehicles) Amendment Bill 2022 passed Parliament, guaranteeing taxi licence holders an additional \$760 million in financial assistance from early next year, taking the combined package value to \$905 million. These additional funds will assist ordinary taxi licence owners to adapt to the deregulation of taxi licences.

Payments made to eligible applicants to the scheme are based on the operating area of an individual licence; the area of the state in which the taxi is authorised to provide rank and hail services. The more than 100 operating areas have been grouped into five zones, Metropolitan Sydney plus four zones.

Information regarding eligibility and operating areas is available on the Transport for NSW website.

* 9047 UNANDERRA STATION UPGRADE—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) On what date did construction activity on the upgrade of Unanderra Station commence?
- (2) How many days and part days have been lost to rain since construction activity to upgrade Unanderra Station commenced?
 - (a) Please provide the days in (2) by month.

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) The upgrade of the Unanderra Station commenced in September 2021.
- (2) A total of 26 days has been impacted by rain since the commencement of works.

Feb 2022	2 days
Mar 2022	6 days
Apr 2022	5.5 days
May 2022	5 days
Jun 2022	1.5 days
Jul 2022	3.5 days
Oct 2022	2.5 days

* 9048 NEW POLICE RECRUITMENT—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police—

- (1) Since launching the new police recruitment program how many (i) enquiries and (ii) applications to become police officers have been received by NSW Police?
- (2) What are the performance measures by which the success of this recruitment campaign will be assessed?
- (3) What is the recruitment target for this latest recruitment campaign?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The NSW Police Force recruitment campaign went live on 13 July 2022 and concluded on 30 September 2022.
 - a) During this period, the NSW Police Force received 94 phone enquiries, and approximately 174 emails as well as 100 Facebook enquiries.
 - b) 185 applications were received by the NSW Police Force.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (2) Social media and Google search metrics will be analysed, along with quantitative market research to determine the success of this recruitment campaign.
- (3) 240 enrolling students per intake.

* 9049 AUDIT OFFICE CLIMATE REPORT—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

What actions has the Department of Planning and Environment taken to address the findings of the Audit Office of NSW report "Managing climate risks to assets and services"?

Answer—

I am advised:

This information is publicly available at: <https://pp.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/BASIX-standards>

* 9050 TAFE UPGRADES—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) Further to LA8529, has TAFE NSW determined the nature, timetable and funding allocation for (i) building upgrades and (ii) new teaching equipment at:
 - (a) Wollongong TAFE campus?
 - (b) West Wollongong TAFE campus?
- (2) What are the details of the program of works in (1)?

Answer—

(1. a.) Nature, timetable and funding allocation for building upgrades and new teaching equipment at Wollongong:

- (i) Building upgrades:
 - \$7.041 million of building works will be completed as part of the TAFE NSW Asset Renewal Program. Works include flooring, painting, bathroom upgrades, roofing upgrades, lift replacements, lighting upgrades, fire services upgrades, heating, ventilation and cooling.
- (ii) New Teaching Equipment:
 - The proposed spend in the 2022/23 financial year is \$746,000.

(1. b.) Nature, timetable and funding allocation for building upgrades and new teaching equipment at West Wollongong:

- (i) Building upgrades
 - \$2.832 million of building works will be completed as part of the TAFE NSW Asset Renewal Program. Works include fire services upgrades, flooring, and painting.
- (ii) New Teaching Equipment:
 - The proposed spend in the 2022/23 financial year is \$10,000.

* 9051 CENSUS DATA—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) Has 2021 Census data been integrated into population projections and population projection models?
 - (a) If not, why not?
 - (b) If so:

- (i) What trends do those projections show for population growth in New South Wales?
- (ii) What are the implications for the conclusions contained in the 2021-22 Intergenerational Report?

Answer—

I am advised:

This information is publicly available information is available at: www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Research-and-Demography/Population-projections

* 9052 REZONING SYSTEM IN NEW SOUTH WALES—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) What is the current status of the Government's consultations on the discussion paper, 'A new approach to rezoning in NSW'?
- (2) Will the Government formally respond to the 129 submissions received from stakeholders, councils and individuals?
 - (a) If not, why not?
 - (b) If so, when will it respond?
- (3) What changes is the Government making to the rezoning system in New South Wales following the discussion paper consultation process?
- (4) Will the changes require legislative amendments?
- (5) Will the legislative amendments be introduced into the Parliament by the end of the sittings in 2022?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The NSW Government is not pursuing the approach to rezonings that was suggested in the Discussion Paper and will not be creating a new appeal pathway to the Land and Environment Court at this time.
- (2) All submissions are available on the Department's website. The NSW Government expects to release a summary of submissions and a formal response by the end of the year.
- (3) The Department of Planning and Environment continues to look for opportunities to improve the rezoning process by offering proponents recourse when proposals are stalled and streamlining processes for simple/straightforward matters.
- (4) As the NSW Government is not pursuing the approach to rezonings that was put forward in the Discussion Paper, no legislative amendments are proposed at this time.
- (5) See response to question 4

* 9054 NEW INTERCITY FLEET—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) With respect to the New Intercity Fleet:
 - (a) What security features will the New Intercity Fleet have?
 - (b) Will these security features be an enhancement when compared to the Outer Suburban Cars?
 - (i) If yes, how will this be the case?
 - (ii) If no, why not?
 - (c) What discussions have occurred with the RTBU to remove security features?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (i) What requests have been made by the RTBU to remove security features?
- (d) Will the Minister commit to refusing to remove or amend original design configurations concerning Closed Circuit Television cameras and monitoring screens?
 - (i) If not, why not?
 - (ii) If yes, how much will these changes cost taxpayers?

Answer—

I am advised

The Mariyung trains have new and improved technology, making them safer and provide better security for customers. The new fleet will have advanced technology not available on all existing intercity trains including internal CCTV cameras in the carriages, external CCTV cameras observing every door, on board help points and the highest level of accessibility across the intercity fleet.

The new trains will have CCTV cameras at every passenger door, which allow staff to observe the entire length of the platform before a train departs and during departure. This significantly reduces the risk at curved and short platforms, where currently a guard has to observe all conditions from a single position. To improve safety at stations with short platforms, the trains are also equipped with Automatic Selective Door Operation system, which ensures only the customer doors on the platform can open, and sensitive door edge technology which re-opens doors when it detects an obstruction.

The new fleet meets the latest rail industry safety and fire standards, featuring a more robust structure for enhanced crashworthiness and the use of the latest fire detection technology.

Transport for NSW is continuing to work with the combined rail unions, in good faith, through the current period of negotiations, to reach a resolution on an agreed, safe operating model for the new Intercity 'Mariyung' fleet'.

* 9055 CLOSURE OF JAMBEROO MOUNTAIN ROAD—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) With respect to the closure of Jamberoo Mountain Road:
 - (a) Is the Minister aware that due to heavy rain, Jamberoo Mountain Road is closed having an enormous impact on local small businesses in Jamberoo Valley?
 - (b) Is the Minister aware that Jamberoo Mountain Road will not reopen in the foreseeable future?
 - (c) Given the assistance given to Northern Rivers businesses and Kangaroo Valley businesses associated with flooding or the closure of infrastructure due to flooding, will the Minister consider a similar support package for Jamberoo businesses impacted by road closures due to flooding?
 - (i) If not, why not?
 - (d) As Minister for small business, what role do you have in raising the need for investments, such as those associated with Jamberoo Mountain Road, with the responsible Minister to help impacted small business?

Answer—

- (1) This question should be referred to the Treasurer.

8 NOVEMBER 2022

(Paper No. 175)

* 9056 6 KYLE STREET RUTHERFORD—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) When will the remediation of the site at 6 Kyle Street Rutherford be completed?
 - (a) What is the expected quantum of funding for the completion of the remediation?
 - (b) Have all contractors expected to complete the work been appointed?
 - (c) Have the final works been commenced?

Answer—

I am advised this information is publicly available.

Link to website:

<https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/housing-and-property/our-business/environmental-service-group/truegain-site-remediation>

* 9057 GOLDEN HIGHWAY (ROUTE B84)—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) With regards to the Golden Highway (Route B84):
 - (a) How many designated rest stops are there along the highway/route?
 - (i) Where are they located?
 - (b) How many rest stops have public toilets installed?
 - (i) Which rest stops are they located at?
- (2) Who maintains and cleans these toilets i.e. local councils or Transport for NSW?
- (3) What is the greatest distance between available public toilets along this route?

Answer—

I am advised:

The location of rest areas and public toilets is publicly available on the Transport for NSW website.

Local councils are responsible for maintaining and cleaning these toilets.

* 9058 ROUND 3 ACCELERATED INFRASTRUCTURE FUND—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) Considering the Accelerated Infrastructure Fund (AIF) Round 3 which focuses on areas undergoing highest growth across New South Wales including the 18 metropolitan and 23 regional councils eligible for funding which account for 94% growth over the next 10 years, according to recent 2022 NSW population projections, and that Government elected AIF Regional town eligibility is based on population growth, was this determined by percentage of growth against the current population?
 - (a) If not, will smaller regional towns with low populations be excluded from this program in the future?
 - (b) Would the Minister consider developing a program applicable to smaller regional towns, ensuring we have the same opportunities for fast-tracked investment in infrastructure?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Answer—

I am advised:

This information is publically available: <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for%20your-area/Infrastructure-funding/Accelerated-Infrastructure-Fund>

The Department of Planning and Environment manages multiple grant programs that help smaller regional councils to deliver infrastructure. Examples of these programs include the Public Spaces Legacy Program, NSW Open Spaces Program, Regional Housing Fund and Regional Housing Strategic Planning Fund.

- * 9059 TRAFFIC FINE LENIENCY—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

Given that section 24A of the Fines Act allows drivers who have been issued with speeding related fines a chance to appeal their infringement if they can provide evidence to prove they have had a clear driving history of 10 years or more, can the Minister contemplate approaching all vehicle related fines, including overdue registration and licence renewals with the same consideration?

Answer—

I am advised:

This is a matter for the Minister for Finance, and Minister for Employee Relations.

- * 9060 CLEARING CONSENT APPROVAL—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

- (1) Given that Landholders wishing to obtain clearing consent in Regional New South Wales are required to have Local Lands Services along with the Minister for Lands and Forestry NSW sign off on the application approval, after approval is granted, how long should landholders expect to wait before they can actively begin clearing?
- (2) If a Ministerial changeover occurs during a clearing consent approval process, there is a requirement that the newly elected Minister for Lands also commits to the nominated decision. In this circumstance, how long would the landholder expect to wait for the result of their application?
- (3) If the approval has been granted, and landholder payment has been made during a Ministerial changeover, is there a requirement for the newly elected office to commit to the nominated decision?
 - (a) If so, what would be the expected time period for the landholder to wait this decision?

Answer—

- (1) Any application for clearing consent on land held in freehold title does not require the consent of the Minister for Lands and Water.
The Minister administering the Crown Land Management Act 2016, as owner of Crown land, is required to provide Landowners Consent before a certificate under the Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code 2018 can be issued by Local Land Services. The length of time a landholder is required to wait before they can actively begin clearing is dependent on when Local Land Services issues the certificate.
- (2) Landowner's Consent is a delegated function under the Crown Land Management Act 2016 and once provided to Local Land Services, does not need to be consented again in the event of a Ministerial changeover.
- (3) There is no payment or fee associated with the granting of Landowner's Consent by the Department of Planning and Environment - Crown Lands. Once approval has been granted by the Minister or the delegated officer, there is no requirement for the newly elected office to recommit to the decision.

(a) Not applicable.

* 9061 FLOOD IMPACT MEASURES—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

(1) Given that in recent months a large area of the Barwon electorate has been inundated with flood water, leaving many towns suffering long durations of isolation, impacting them mentally emotionally and financially, is the current method used to determine the impact of flooding on individuals and businesses accurate and timely in its capacity to deliver cash and other relief?

(a) If so, can the Minister advise why towns isolated by flood water are still not being identified as needing cash and other grants?

Answer—

NSW continues to be impacted by flooding, impacting communities particularly in Southern and Western inland NSW and including those areas of the Barwon electorate

The Commonwealth administers the Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP), details of which can be found at <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/new-south-wales-floods-september-2022-australian-government-disaster-recovery-payment>

The Commonwealth has access to ‘real-time’ data from NSW in their determination of which areas are eligible for the payment.

The NSW Government continues to work closely with the community to provide relief packages and assistance across the areas that have been affected by the 2022 events.

* 9062 CARERS REGISTRATION CONCESSION REBATE—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

Regarding the Carers Registration Concession rebate for each of the years 2016 to 2021:

- (1) How many applications were lodged?
- (2) How many applications were approved?
- (3) How many applications were declined?
- (4) What is the total value of rebates?
- (5) Why are vehicles under 976 kg excluded from claiming the rebate?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) - (4) The Carers rebate is one of a number of registration rebates and refunds that are processed by Transport for NSW outside of the standard registration renewal. The rebate and refund processes are similar, and a specific breakdown is not kept for each type, nor is data held on the individual rebates and refunds.

(5) In 2010, the Keneally Government introduced a one-off motor vehicle tax increase for most light vehicles. An exemption from the tax increase was provided for low-emission vehicles, and a rebate was provided for recipients of Commonwealth carer allowances or payments, and wheelchair modified vehicles registered for private use.

The tax increase applied only to light vehicles with a tare weight of 976 kilograms and up to 2,500 kilograms. Therefore, no rebate provisions were needed for carer vehicles weighing less than 976 kilograms.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- * 9063 FISH IN BLACKWATER EVENTS—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

In blackwater events, will the Government consider exemptions to the permit system to allow safe removal of affected fish into farm dams?

Answer—

DPI Fisheries administers a Permit system that has allowed community groups, fishing clubs and individuals to safely and lawfully relocate fish that have been impacted by extreme environmental conditions. The system supports the protection of native fish species while managing risks to biosecurity and the welfare of the animals.

- * 9064 JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS VIRUS VACCINE—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Health—

Will the Government provide additional clinics across flood affected Local Government Areas in Murray to administer the Japanese Encephalitis Virus Vaccine?

Answer—

I am advised that NSW Health is continuing to plan and provide clinics in Local Government Areas identified as high risk for Japanese Encephalitis virus.

- * 9065 MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR FLOOD VICTIMS—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health—

What additional mental health support is being offered for victims of the flood event in the Murray electorate?

Answer—

Health services are not provided on the basis of electorate.

- * 9066 NEED FOR MORE DAMS—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

Will Government build more dams to mitigate future flooding and drought events?

Answer—

Only the NSW Liberals and Nationals can be relied upon to build and expand dams in Regional NSW.

Disappointingly, the NSW Labor party have committed to scrap all major dam infrastructure projects underway in Regional NSW.

The greatest risk to dam infrastructure in NSW is a Labor/Green/Independent led Government.

- * 9067 AMBULANCE FIXED WING FLEET—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health—

(1) Can the King Air 350 fixed wing aircraft land at the Deniliquin Airport?

(2) Was any consultation done with any rural airports to ensure this aircraft could land?

(a) If so, what airports?

Answer—

(1) - (2)

The Beechcraft King Air B350 can land at Deniliquin Airport's main runway.

As is the case with all aircraft, environmental and weather conditions including visibility, cloud base and wind speed can affect an aircraft's capacity to land at a set destination at a given time.

NSW Ambulance has been using the B350 since mid-2012 and its operation is in accordance with The Civil Aviation Safety Authority's Part 121 (Australian Air Transport Operations – Larger Aeroplanes) Manual of Standards 2020.

- * 9068 **PRIORITY ROAD REPAIRS**—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

Will the Government prioritise road repairs, especially in rural and remote areas recently impacted by devastating floods?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government continues to work with flood-affected local councils and communities.

Transport for NSW is advancing emergency payments to flood-affected councils, to help with the immediate reconstruction and response works.

Transport for NSW has also re-deployed resources to focus on repairs to roads with the highest need, particularly in rural and remote areas following recent flooding events.

Further, the NSW Government has announced a new \$50 million Fixing Local Roads - Pothole Repair Rour.id to support councils address potholes on their damaged regional and local roads.

- * 9069 **WYANGALA DAM**—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

How much will the Environment Impact Statement for Wyangala Dam cost and when will it be completed?

Answer—

The Final Business case process is ongoing despite attempts from Labor, the Greens and left wing independents.

- * 9070 **ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT**—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

Will the minister look at additional financial support for flood affected farmers in the Murray River Council Local Government Area who have lost their bumper spring crops?

Answer—

Primary producers in the Local Government Area of Murray River are currently eligible to apply for \$75,000 Special Disaster Grants with an upfront payment of \$25,000 from the Rural Assistance Authority for damage as a result of Flooding from 14 September 2022 onwards.

Primary producers in this area are also eligible to apply for concessional loans up to \$130,000 and Natural Disaster Transport Subsidy up to \$15,000.

The Rural Landholders grant also opened on 5 December 2022 offering up to \$10,000 to affected Rural Landholders who earn at least \$20,000 in income from primary production per annum and do not qualify for support through existing recovery programs, such as the primary producer Special Disaster Grant.

The NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) encourage affected primary producers to report flood damage via the online natural disaster assessment tool. This information, along with damage reports from a variety of sources including SES, RFS, TfNSW, LLS and relevant LGAs is used to provide advice to the government on assistance measures required for natural disaster recovery.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

* 9071 EMPLOYMENT OF OVERSEAS TRAINED DOCTORS AND NURSES—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health—

- (1) Throughout Murrumbidgee and Far West Local Health Districts:
- (a) How many overseas trained doctors and nurses are employed?
- (i) Are they sponsored by Local Health Districts?
- (b) What is the cost to Local Health Districts to sponsor overseas medical staff?

Answer—

- (1) (a) – (b)

Overseas health professionals, including doctors, nurses and midwives, are an important workforce supplementing the locally trained workforce.

The Recruitment and Selection of Staff to the NSW Health Service Policy Directive (PD2017_040) states that local health districts must, in the first instance, offer employment to Australian residents. Where organisations have been unable to attract suitable candidates, they can advertise to meet labour market testing and select suitable non-Australian residents for sponsorship consideration.

All overseas health professionals must be registered before they start working in local health districts. Registration means that the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency and the relevant national board for the profession have assessed that the overseas clinician is qualified and meets the registration standards for their profession in Australia.

The Far West and Murrumbidgee Local Health Districts sponsor a range of international, trained clinicians. However, districts vary staffing profiles and numbers to appropriately meet operational needs and demand. These districts, along with all Australian businesses, are required to pay the Skilling Australians Fund levy as determined by the Department of Education and Training when recruiting overseas health professionals on a visa.

* 9072 CENTRAL WEST PUMPED STORAGE HYDRO PROJECT—Mr Jihad Dib to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) At what stage of the approval process is the proposed Central West Pumped Storage Hydro Project near Yetholme?
- (a) What community consultation has taken place with regards to this project?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) which set the terms of reference for the proponent's preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) were issued on 10 June 2022.

The proponent is currently preparing a detailed EIS in accordance with the SEARs and other statutory requirements.

The Department of Planning and Environment (the Department) expects that during preparation of the EIS the proponent would undertake meaningful engagement in accordance with the relevant guidelines (Undertaking Engagement Guide: Guidance for State Significant Projects (DPE)).

Once the EIS is received, the Department will place the EIS on public exhibition. Development applications for State Significant Development (SSD) must be exhibited for at least 28 days in accordance with planning legislation.

During the exhibition period, any member of the community can make a submission about the proposal. The proponent will then be asked to provide a formal response to issues raised in the submissions, which will be made available on the Department's website.

It is important to note that the Department conducts its own detailed assessment of proposals in accordance with applicable NSW Government policies and guidelines, including seeking advice from relevant government agencies and consultation with residents to better understand their concerns.

* 9073 FEE FREE COURSES—Mr Jihad Dib to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

(1) Of the 200,000 fee free courses the Minister referenced in Question Time on 8 November 2022, how many have been completed by students?

(a) How many were expected to have been completed by this stage?

Answer—

I am advised:

Of the students that commenced training, 44 per cent have already completed and 144,625 are still in training. Given the majority of enrolments are in full qualifications, completions will depend on the length of training and whether students are engaging in full or part time study.

* 9074 METHANE EMISSIONS—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

(1) What assessment has the Government made of action that can be taken to reduce dangerous methane emissions?

(2) What programs does the Government provide or fund to help reduce methane emissions?

(3) What plans does the Government have to expand and extend support to reduce methane emissions?

Answer—

(1) The NSW Government has assessed opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in NSW, including emissions of methane. The 2020 Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020-2030 and the 2021 Net Zero Plan State 1: 2020-2030 Implementation Update set out the Government's actions to reduce emissions.

(2) The main sources of methane emissions in NSW are agriculture, fugitive emissions from mining, and waste. The following programs contribute to methane emission reduction:

- The \$125 million Primary Industries Productivity and Abatement Program supports farmers and land managers across the State to manage and reduce emissions from the agriculture and land sectors, which could include reducing methane emissions from livestock production.
- The Strategic Statement on Coal Mining and Exploration in NSW, released in 2020, included a commitment to work to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions directly associated with coal mining in NSW. On 26 April 2022, the Deputy Premier announced a \$15 million Coal Innovation NSW Fund investment in a demonstration project for the use of regenerative thermal oxidiser technology at Appin Mine in the Illawarra, to demonstrate the potential to safely reduce methane emissions directly emitted from ventilation shafts of underground coal mines.
- The Net Zero Industry and Innovation Program includes \$305 million of grant funding to help the State's biggest emitters to invest in plant and equipment to achieve significant emissions reductions.
- Under the NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy, \$7.5 million will be invested to support the installation of landfill gas capture infrastructure. The NSW Government has also set a target to halve the amount of organic waste sent to landfill by 2030.

(3) The NSW Government will continue to look for new ways to improve our management and reduction of methane emissions.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

* 9075 PUBLIC LIBRARIES FUNDING—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Regional Youth, and Minister for Tourism—

- (1) What is the total amount of funding allocated for public libraries in the 2022-2023 State Budget?
- (2) What is the total amount spent on public libraries funding in each of the following financial years:
 - (a) 2021-2022?
 - (b) 2020-2021?
 - (c) 2019-2020?
 - (d) 2018-2019?
 - (e) 2017-2018?

Answer—

- (1) \$40.468 million
- (2) (a) 2021-2022 - \$38.618 million
 - (b) 2020-2021 - \$37.558 million
 - (c) 2019-2020 - \$36.478 million
 - (d) 2018-2019 - \$24.528 million (with an additional \$5.355 million from the Regional Cultural Fund)
 - (e) 2017-2018 - \$28.803 million

Source: Library Council of NSW annual reports

* 9076 REGIONAL FLEET AGREEMENT—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) Has Transport for NSW come to an agreement with CAF as to the design of the Regional Fleet?
- (2) Has Transport for NSW paid any payments to CAF resulting from the 1205 day delay in the rollout of the Regional Fleet?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) A resolution agreement was executed between Transport for NSW and Momentum Trains at the end of 2021. This confirmed minor modifications to be made in production and is standard practice in a design development process. Transport for NSW and NSW Trainlink are working closely with the supplier, Momentum Trains, to finalise the detailed design of the new Regional Rail fleet.
- (2) No.

* 9077 BATEMANS BAY MARINA—Dr Michael Holland to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What works have been undertaken since 2017 to maintain a safe environment for the public at the Batemans Bay Marina?
- (2) Have all the safety issues highlighted in the Elfcom Electrical Inspection Report (2019) been rectified?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised

On 1 July 2020, Transport for NSW was appointed the Crown Land Managers for Batemans Bay Harbour, including the Batemans Bay T-Jetty, Marina and Breakwater. Inquiries about works completed before Transport for NSW's appointment should be directed to the landowners, Crown Lands. It is understood Crown Lands finalised the issues highlighted in the Elfcom Electrical Inspection Report (2019) prior to 1 July 2020.

Since being appointed Crown Land Managers, Transport for NSW has completed works at Batemans Bay Marina, including replacement of a switchboard and faulty timer relay and float switches at the sewage pump-out station.

* 9078 MAINTENANCE OF VEGETATION STRIPS—Mr Jason Li to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) Could Transport for NSW please advise when rubbish and overgrown grass will be tended to in the vegetation strips under the bridge at Marlborough Road, under the Centenary Drive Bridge, in Homebush West?
- (2) How often does Transport for NSW carry out maintenance of vegetation strips they are responsible for across metropolitan Sydney?

Answer—

I am advised:

Transport for NSW conducts maintenance on a quarterly schedule for vegetation strips in this and similar locations throughout the Sydney metropolitan area.

On 2 November, Transport for NSW carried out a sweep on the northbound side of Marlborough Road, between the southern and northern loop. On 11 November, an additional litter collection was carried out along a 400-metre section of road, where there are multiple lanes and therefore safer clearances between workers and traffic.

Transport for NSW will continue to monitor the areas that can be safely accessed for litter collection.

* 9079 HOXTON PARK ROAD UPGRADE—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) Is the proposed upgrade of Hoxton Park Road with two bus lanes, and removing the right turn into and out of Dorrigo Avenue, dependent upon Commonwealth Government funding?
 - (a) Has that Commonwealth funding been agreed?
 - (b) Do you still propose to proceed with the prohibition of right hand turns into and out of Dorrigo Ave?

Answer—

I am advised:

The proposed upgrade to Haxton Park Road is not dependent on Commonwealth Government funding.

* 9080 FUNDING REPRESENTATIONS—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What representations, if any, did you or your office receive from
 - (a) The Mayor of Liverpool Council?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (b) Liverpool Council?
 - (c) Coronation Developments?
 - (d) Or anyone acting on their respective behalfs, in relation to funding for Light Horse Park in Liverpool from the West Invest Fund, or any other funding source?
- (2) If such representations were made by or on behalf of the Mayor of Liverpool, or by Liverpool Council, were any disclosures made concerning advocacy or lobbying for the project by Coronation Property or the Leamac Property Group, or anyone on their behalf or by John Barilaro?

Answer—

No. Questions regarding the WestInvest Fund should be directed to the Treasurer.

* 9081 FUNDING REPRESENTATIONS—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) What representations, if any, did you or your office receive from:
- (a) The Mayor of Liverpool Council?
 - (b) Liverpool Council?
 - (c) Coronation Developments?
 - (d) Or anyone acting on their respective behalfs, in relation to funding for Light Horse Park in Liverpool from the West Invest Fund, or any other funding source?
- (2) If such representations were made by or on behalf of the Mayor of Liverpool, or by Liverpool Council, were any disclosures made concerning advocacy or lobbying for the project by Coronation Property or the Leamac Property Group, or anyone on their behalf or by John Barilaro?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) No representations referred to in this question were found.
- (2) See answer to (1).

* 9082 FUNDING REPRESENTATIONS—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

- (1) What representations, if any, did you or your office receive from:
- (a) The Mayor of Liverpool Council?
 - (b) Liverpool Council?
 - (c) Coronation Developments?
 - (d) Or anyone acting on their respective behalfs, in relation to funding for Light Horse Park in Liverpool from the West Invest Fund, or any other funding source?
- (2) If such representations were made by or on behalf of the Mayor of Liverpool, or by Liverpool Council, were any disclosures made concerning advocacy or lobbying for the project by Coronation Property or the Leamac Property Group, or anyone on their behalf or by John Barilaro?

Answer—

- (1) My office regularly receives representations from Local Government.
- (2) Disclosures are a matter for individuals/organisations making representations.

* 9083 FUNDING REPRESENTATIONS—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Premier—

- (1) What representations, if any, did you or your office receive from:

- (a) The Mayor of Liverpool Council?
 - (b) Liverpool Council?
 - (c) Coronation Developments?
 - (d) Or anyone acting on their respective behalfs, in relation to funding for Light Horse Park in Liverpool from the West Invest Fund, or any other funding source?
- (2) If such representations were made by or on behalf of the Mayor of Liverpool, or by Liverpool Council, were any disclosures made concerning advocacy or lobbying for the project by Coronation Property or the Leamac Property Group, or anyone on their behalf or by John Barilaro?

Answer—

I am advised:

I have received no representations from the people and organisations you refer to.

* 9084 OUTCOME OF CASE CONFERENCE—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General—

What was the outcome of the case conference mentioned on 2 November referred to in Question no. 8602?

Answer—

I am advised:

The matter was adjourned for further case conference mention on 9 November 2022 at Campbelltown Local Court.

On 9 November 2022, the accused entered a plea of guilty to an offence of accessory after the fact to break, enter and commit serious indictable offence (larceny of a cash register) in circumstances of aggravation (in company with other persons), ss 347 and 112(2) Crimes Act 1900.

The matter is listed for sentence at Campbelltown District Court on 26 April 2023.

* 9085 TRANSPARENCY AT LIVERPOOL COUNCIL—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Local Government—

What steps will you take to ensure transparency at Liverpool Council, following the Council's refusal to endorse the lobbying policy drafted, at the Council's request, by Council staff?

Answer—

I am advised:

In response to recommendations made by the Independent Commission Against Corruption, the Office of Local Government is currently developing lobbying guidelines and a model lobbying policy for councils in consultation with the local government sector.

* 9086 PATIENT ACCESS TO CANCER CENTRE—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Health—

- (1) What steps will you take to alleviate the problem of what has become a long walk by patients at Liverpool Hospital to the cancer centre?
- (2) Will you provide funding to allow the current "buggy" system that operates 3 days a week to increase the number of days it operates?

Answer—

I am advised that there are various patient access points to the Cancer Therapy Centre at Liverpool Hospital, with assistance provided to patients and visitors to access the centre should they require it.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

* 9087 PLUMBING LICENCES APPROVAL—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) What will you do to reduce the current delay in approving plumbing licences?
- (2) What steps will you take to compensate those applicants for plumbing licences whose capacity to earn greater remuneration is limited by the delays?

Answer—

- (1) NSW Fair Trading remains committed to finalising all home building licence applications as quickly as possible. To address the backlogs, Fair Trading is currently recruiting additional staff to reduce customer wait times and target specific licence types as required. The Home Building Licensing team is also being supported by other licensing teams across Fair Trading, to assist in assessing applications.

Furthermore, Fair Trading has embarked on a new digital platform, Licence.NSW which will deliver end-to-end digital licensing journeys for home building applicants. Licence.NSW will reduce processing timeframes through digital efficiencies within the system.

- (2) Fair Trading does not compensate applicants who may be impacted by the current wait times. To ensure equity to all customers, Fair Trading generally determines applications within the order in which they are received, unless exceptional circumstances exist. Fair Trading always considers any request to expedite an application on a case-by-case basis. Prioritising applications often means that other applicants have to wait longer.

* 9088 REPRESENTATIONS CONCERNING MOORE PARK PROJECT—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) Have you or your office received any representations from the Mayor of Liverpool City Council or from Liverpool City Council or on their behalf concerning the Moore Park Project?
 - (a) If so, what was the substance of these representations?
- (2) If such representations were received from the Mayor of Liverpool, was any relationship with Coronation Property or with John Barilaro, disclosed?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Mayor of Liverpool wrote to the Minister for Planning on 6 June 2022 regarding the Moore Point precinct rezoning.
 - (a) The substance of the letter was that Liverpool City Council (Council):
 - is eager to work collaboratively with the NSW Government on this important project, and
 - requests this precinct planning proceeds as a State-led rezoning with support from Council.
- (2) The letter did not mention Coronation Property or John Barilaro.

* 9089 UPGRADE OF CRACKNECK LOOKOUT—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Environment and Heritage—

I refer to your correspondence (Your Ref IM22/1027) arising from my representations regarding the major upgrade of Crackneck lookout in the Wyrabalong National Park. Can you please advise: -

- (1) When construction is due to commence, given your advice in March that the proposal was currently in the planning process?

Answer—

- (1) I am advised the tender has been awarded and construction is planned to commence in early February 2023 and be completed by June 2023.

* 9090 MARINE PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Environment and Heritage—

- (1) When will Stage 2 of the Draft NSW Marine Park Management Plan come out for community consultation?
- (2) When will Stage 1 of the Draft NSW Marine Park Plan come out with its revision?
- (3) Are the submissions for Stage 1 Draft NSW Marine Park Plan going to be made public/put on the website?
- (4) The Australian Marine Sciences Association (AMSA) submission was quite critical of Stage 1 Draft NSW Marine Park Plan, and indicated that they thought the plan was not adequate to ensure an effective network of MPAs – to what extent will the revised plan reflect the comments made by the AMSA in their submission?
- (5) Specifically, has consideration been given to:
- (a) An increase of sanctuary zones to 30%, and other elements of the NEOLI criteria?
- (b) Integrating MPAs with ecosystem-based fisheries management?
- (c) Recognising that recreational fishing is one of many important social activities conducted in MPAs and ensure research, funding and management actions are fairly distributed and inclusive of all use categories e.g. snorkelers, swimmers, boarders etc?
- (6) How will “healthy coast and sea” be defined and measured?
- (7) Will resources be increased for additional research, monitoring and compliance?
- (8) Will the precautionary principle be applied as required by legislation when there is inadequate information to ensure that the goals will be met?

Answer—

- (1) Stage 2 is currently being progressed by Marine Estate Management Authority agencies. It will be released for a minimum two-month consultation period after the finalisation of the NSW Mainland Marine Park Network Management Plan.
- (2) The revised NSW Mainland Marine Park Network Management Plan is currently being finalised and will be released in due course.
- (3) A submissions report will be publicly released alongside the revised NSW Mainland Marine Park Network Management Plan.
- (4) In response to the feedback contained in the submissions received, a variety of changes to the final draft of the NSW Mainland Marine Park Network Management Plan are being considered.
- (5)
- (a) See response to Question 4.
- (b) See response to Question 4.
- (c) See response to Question 4.
- (6) Implementation plans will detail actions at a local marine park scale, including key performance indicators, resourcing, timeframes and partners.
- (7) See response to Question 6.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (8) The precautionary principle underpins marine estate decision-making and will be reinforced in the NSW Mainland Marine Park Network Management Plan.

* 9091 CATARACT SURGERIES—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Health—

- (1) In relation to Shoalhaven Hospital:
- (a) Are cataract surgeries /procedures currently undertaken at Shoalhaven hospital?
 - (i) If not, when did this stop?
 - (ii) If not, what was the rationale for ceasing these procedures at this hospital?

Answer—

- (1) (a) (i – ii)

I am advised that some cataract surgeries for patients on the Shoalhaven Hospital waiting list have been undertaken at Shellharbour Hospital since July 2021 to help reduce waiting lists caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and to provide patients with more timely access to surgery. Partnership with private providers has also reduced waiting lists.

* 9092 PAEDIATRIC OPERATION WAIT LIST—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Health—

- (1) How many children were on the paediatric operation wait list in New South Wales in:
- (a) 2019?
 - (b) 2020?
 - (c) 2021?
 - (d) 2022 (as at 11 October 2022)?
- (2) How many paediatric operations were undertaken in:
- (a) 2019?
 - (b) 2020?
 - (c) 2021?
 - (d) 2022 (as at 11 October 2022)?

Answer—

- (1) and (2)

I am advised that children and young people referred for surgery are allocated an appointment in order of clinical priority, so that the most urgent patients are seen first. This is reviewed and managed daily as part of normal business processes, in line with NSW Health Policy.

* 9093 SHOALHAVEN HOSPITAL MENTAL HEALTH UNIT—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health—

- (1) Will the Mental Health Unit at the Shoalhaven Hospital be closed over the Christmas period and patients diverted to Shellharbour Hospital?
- (a) If so, for how long?
 - (b) If so, does this decision have the Minister's support?
 - (c) If not, what does the Minister intend to do to stop this planned shutdown?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.

- (a) As with previous years, the sub-acute Mental Health Unit at the Shoalhaven Hospital will be closed for four weeks from 19 December 2022 and will reopen on 16 January 2023. Acute mental health units will remain open at all times and emergency departments are also open every day of the year. Sub-acute mental health units are available to consumers who choose to use them. The Shoalhaven Unit provides a 28-day functional living skills program. Consumers book into this program voluntarily. Demand reduces over the Christmas period as these people choose to spend time with families, friends or carers.
- (b) Decisions about staffing of mental health units are made by Local Health Districts in line with the demand.
- (c) Refer to previous answer.

* 9094 ASBESTOS RELATED WORK PLANS—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) Are there any asbestos related works planned at public schools in the Keira and Heathcote electorates for 2022-2023?
 - (a) If so, what works are planned?
 - (i) At which schools will they be conducted?

Answer—

Any asbestos-containing materials found in school facilities are managed appropriately to minimise the risk to students, staff, contractors, parents and any visitors to that site. The Department of Education engages licensed contractors to remediate facilities to SafeWork NSW safety standards. Additionally, the Department notifies school communities before any asbestos related works are carried out.

* 9095 THIRROUL COMMUNITY FEEDBACK SUMMARY—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) In relation to the Thirroul Community Feedback Summary report released In April 22 from the Bulli and Thirroul traffic Improvement consultation:
 - (a) When will the new investigations be released to the community for consultation?
 - (b) Are there any plans to formalise the Woodward Memorial Car Park?
 - (i) If so, when?

Answer—

I am advised

- (a) This is a matter for the Minister for Metropolitan Roads
- (b) Transport for NSW is continuing to work with Wollongong City Council on a number of options to improve parking opportunities in Thirroul including formalising the parking at the Woodward Memorial car park.

* 9096 ALCOHOL AND DRUG REHABILITATION SERVICES—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Health—

- (1) Why is the Government publicly responding to the ice inquiry by committing to invest in alcohol and other drug (AOD) rehabilitation services and expand the Drug Court program whilst simultaneously making decisions that forces a successful AOD rehabilitation service aligned with the Drug Court program to close, for e.g. Wayback?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (2) Who will now offer the 120 (approximately) incarcerated clients each year, many of who are indigenous the opportunity to break the cycle of addiction with associated criminal behaviours and incarceration?

Answer—

- (1) and (2)

Earlier this year the NSW Government announced a half-a-billion dollar investment to deliver targeted health and justice reforms as part of its response to the Special Commission of Inquiry into the Drug Ice. This includes \$358 million to address treatment gaps and improve health and social outcomes.

The NSW Government funds a range of alcohol and other drug treatment providers to service the NSW Drug Court, including Wayback. I am advised that NSW Drug Court participants are referred to services based on an assessment of clinical need as determined by the Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network, and the relevant local health district that oversees the treatment plans for the Court.

- * 9097 SOUTH COAST LINE FLOODING—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) Following the flooding events that led to closures of sections of the South Coast Line during 2022, has funding been committed to an assessment of landslip areas along the track and the weather resilience of the Line?
- (2) If so,
- (a) how much has been committed? and
- (b) when will this assessment be completed?

Answer—

I am advised:

Prior to the recent weather events, a project was initiated involving the recording of the physical features of earthwork-type assets, which to date have not undergone a formal risk assessment due to no signs of instability.

Transport for NSW has contracted Aurecon Australasia Pty Ltd to gather information regarding the condition of earthwork assets in Sydney Trains' rail infrastructure manager network to determine a risk rating for all cuttings, embankments, and retaining walls. The contract is commercial-in-confidence. Completion of this work is expected in June 2023.

- * 9098 NATIVE TITLE CLAIMS—Ms Liesl Tesch to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

- (1) How many Native Title Claims are outstanding in New South Wales from:
- (a) 2011-12?
- (b) 2012-13?
- (c) 2013-14?
- (d) 2014-15?
- (e) 2015-16?
- (f) 2016-17?
- (g) 2017-18?

- (h) 2018-19?
 - (i) 2019-20?
 - (j) 2020-21?
 - (k) 2021-22?
- (2) How many staff were working on Native Title consent determinations in New South Wales from:
- (a) 2011-12?
 - (b) 2012-13?
 - (c) 2013-14?
 - (d) 2014-15?
 - (e) 2015-16?
 - (f) 2016-17?
 - (g) 2017-18?
 - (h) 2018-19?
 - (i) 2019-20?
 - (j) 2020-21?
 - (k) 2021-22?

Answer—

This question should be referred to the Attorney General given the issues raised fall within his portfolio responsibilities.

* 9099 MANDATORY ON-ROAD DRIVING TESTS—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) With respect to the requirement for those 85 and over to have an on-road driving assessment:
- (a) What is the annual cost to the NSW Budget of this policy?

Answer—

I am advised:

This is a matter for the Minister for Finance.

* 9100 HOMELESSNESS—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) With respect to homelessness:
- (a) Which specific actions from the NSW Housing Strategy with respect to homelessness has the Government implemented?

Answer—

I am advised:

This is a matter for the Minister for Families and Communities.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

* 9101 PROGRAM FOR COUNCILS FILLING IN POTHOLES—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

(1) With respect to the \$50 million funding package recently announced by the Government to assist local Councils across New South Wales filling in potholes:

- (a) How much of this funding was allocated to Shoalhaven City Council?
- (b) How much of this funding was allocated to Kiama Municipal Council?
- (c) How much of this funding was allocated to Shellharbour City Council?

Answer—

I am advised:

Applications for the Fixing Local Roads Pothole Repair Round was opened from 25 October 2022 to 8 November 2022. As announced on the 28th of November, funding will start flowing to regional councils. Once accepted by the councils, funding allocations will be published on the Transport for NSW website.

* 9102 BERRY SPORT AND RECREATION CENTRE—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

(1) With respect to the Berry Sport and Recreation Centre:

- (a) What is the annual recurrent budget for the Berry Sport and Recreation Centre this financial year?
- (b) What was the annual recurrent budget for the Berry Sport and Recreation Centre over the last 3 years?
- (c) What was the value of capital expenditure at the Berry Sport and Recreation Centre over this financial year and the three years prior?
 - (i) What represented the largest investments?
- (d) How many full time equivalent (FTE) staff are currently employed at the centre?
 - (i) Has this changed in the last three years?
- (e) How many contractors are employed on site this financial year?
- (f) Will the Minister rule out the privatisation of the Berry Sport and Recreation Centre?
- (g) Is the Minister aware of plans and proposals to locate a criterion cycle track at the centre?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) - (b) The Berry Sport and Recreation Centre is funded from the Office of Sport budget
- (c) Total capital expenditure since the 2019/20 financial year is \$2.778 million.
 - \$565,000 in 2022/23
 - \$305,500 in 2021/22
 - \$1,801,500 in 2020/21
 - \$106,000 in 2019/20
- (i) The largest investments included replacing the student accommodation roof (\$772,000) and waterfront improvements on Broughton Creek including a new pontoon (\$673,000).

- (d) 15.3 FTE
 - (i) It has grown by 2 FTE due to increased bookings at the site.
- (e) Contractors are used as required for cleaning, waste removal, plumbing, electrical, fire safety, refrigeration and other specialised services.
- (f) There are no plans to privatise Sport and Recreation Centres operated by the Office of Sport.
- (g) The Office of Sport is working with the Nowra Velo Club and Council on the proposal.

* 9103 NEW SCHOOLS IN THE KIAMA ELECTORATE—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) With respect to new schools in the Kiama electorate:
 - (a) Is the NSW Department of Education considering any new schools in the Kiama electorate?
 - (i) If yes, where are these sites or localities?
- (2) Based on data from local councils and Education Infrastructure NSW, what are the next three localities earmarked by the Department of Education for a new school?
 - (a) What is the anticipated timeline?
- (3) Has the Minister received any advice by way of briefing note, text, email or phone call which proposes a new school anywhere in the Kiama electorate?
- (4) If there are proposed sites for new schools in the Kiama electorate, has any funding been allocated by the NSW Department of Education towards planning or preparatory works?
- (5) Does the NSW Department of Education own land in the Kiama electorate which is set aside for a new school?
 - (a) If yes, where is this land located?
- (6) Has the Department of Education discussed the purchase of land for a proposed new school in the Kiama electorate with any landholder or any local government authority?

Answer—

The Department of Education works closely with the Department of Planning and Environment and local councils to monitor population trends to ensure local school infrastructure is able to accommodate student demand.

The Department uses projections to estimate the number of students due to enrol in NSW public schools in the short, medium and long term. These estimates help plan where to build new schools or provide extra spaces at existing schools.

The Department has a Voluntary Planning Agreement for three school sites should they be required in Calderwood including two primary school sites and one high school site.

* 9104 NOWRA BYPASS—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) With respect to the Nowra Bypass:
 - (a) Given that the Commonwealth Government has announced funding for planning work for the Nowra Bypass, when will the Government deliver on its share of funding?
 - (b) Has the Government negotiated at 80/20 funding split for future funding arrangements, beyond the planning work, for the Nowra Bypass with the Commonwealth Government?
 - (c) Who will undertake the planning work for the Nowra Bypass?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (d) What is the scope of works for the funding committed by both State and Commonwealth Governments?
- (e) When is the planning work set to be completed?
- (f) Will the community be updated on progress on the planning work?
 - (i) If yes, how will the community be kept updated?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government has made an \$8 million commitment towards an integrated transport study, including options for a Nowra bypass, with committed funding from the Australian Government. Transport for NSW will engage with the Australian Government to finalise arrangements for the study to be completed.

The funding will allow for an options assessment for a bypass of Bomaderry and Nowra. This includes a broader transport plan that identifies and prioritises a range of transport solutions to complement a potential future bypass, while ensuring the broader transport system is safe, efficient, and offers an improved transport choice.

Given the nature of planning and assessment of options, a completion date for this work is yet to be determined.

Transport for NSW will lead this work in collaboration with Shoalhaven City Council and other key stakeholders. Transport for NSW values community consultation and will provide regular engagement, with the establishment of a project website, email and phone number, and interested stakeholders able to register for emailed project updates.

* 9105 TAFE STUDENTS IN THE KIAMA ELECTORATE—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) With respect to TAFE students in the Kiama electorate:
 - (a) How many TAFE students currently reside in the Kiama electorate?
 - (i) Of these students, how many received a part or full fee free scholarship?
 - (b) Of those students receiving fee free scholarships, how many were from:
 - (i) Social housing?
 - (ii) Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander backgrounds?
 - (iii) Disability?
 - (iv) Out-of-home care?
 - (c) What are the top ten TAFE courses in terms of applications in the Kiama electorate?
 - (d) Were any applicants for courses unable to gain enrolment because of a lack of places available?
 - (i) If yes, how many students and in which courses?
 - (e) How many teaching positions are located in the Kiama electorate and can the Minister provide a breakdown on these positions by discipline or faculty?
 - (f) What percentage of students discontinued their studies entirely?
 - (g) What percentage of students discontinued their studies and moved to another course?

Answer—

I am advised:

TAFE NSW operates in a competitive commercial environment. It does not provide data on student applications, enrolments or outcomes by location. TAFE NSW provides enrolment and completion data as part of its annual reporting, which can be found on the TAFE NSW website. TAFE NSW does not provide teaching position data by location.

* 9106 GRANDFRIENDS DAY—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

(1) With respect to ‘Grandfriends day’:

(a) What is a ‘grandfriend’?

(b) Does the Minister have a ‘grandfriend’?

(i) If yes, what are their names?

(c) Has the Minister or her department been made aware that some schools have renamed grandparents day to grandfriends day?

(d) Will the Minister instruct her department to issue policy advice to New South Wales Schools to respect grandparents and ensure that the name of grandparent’s day does not change?

(i) If not, why not?

(e) Has the Minister been made aware of comments made on the Today show by National Grandparent Movement founder Ian Barnett that renaming the day excludes “one of the most significant people in a child’s life”?

Answer—

I gave a directive to the Department of Education to ensure the term ‘grandparents’ is retained in our celebrations and events. The Department issued advice to all school staff on 14 November 2022.

9 NOVEMBER 2022

(Paper No. 176)

* 9107 HOSPITAL ORTHOTIC PATIENTS—Mr Edmond Atalla to ask the Minister for Health—

Are public hospital orthotic departments providing services to National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) patients and receiving payments from NDIS?

Answer—

NDIS providers must be registered to provide specific services and receive payment from the NDIS for services delivered. I am advised that the list of registered NSW providers for orthotics is available on the NDIS website.

* 9108 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION TRAINING—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

(1) Given that existing early childhood educators holding a certificate III have been disadvantaged by the change to the training package for early childhood education and care, which will also impact early childhood educators working towards Diploma qualifications who will either have to finish this year without a diploma or be forced to go back to complete the certificate III course again,

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

disproportionately impacting on rural and remote services already struggling to meet educator ratios, what supports can be given to early childhood workers affected by this change?

- (2) Would it be possible to give recognition of higher learning to those who have nearly completed the course or extend the roll out period for another 12 months?

Answer—

I am advised:

SkillsIQ is the Service Skills Organisation responsible for the development of Training Packages in the Children's Education and Care sector. SkillsIQ, under the direction of the Children's Education and Care Industry Reference Committee and a Technical Advisory Committee, completed an update of the Training Package products in the Children's Education and Care sector and a new 2021 Training Package was adopted.

The NSW Government announced all Early Childhood qualifications are fee free under Smart and Skilled. Students with older qualifications (issued under pre-2013 training packages) must upgrade to the newest Certificate 111 (CHC30121) qualification to satisfy the prerequisite requirements to enrol in the new Diploma (CHC50121), and to take advantage of the Smart and Skilled fee free Diploma places.

Training Services NSW (TSNSW) has contacted training providers currently delivering training to students enrolled in the 2013 training package qualifications to determine if their training will be completed by 20 January 2023, which is the cut-off date for the transition period.

Students who have not completed their qualification by 20 January 2023 will, where eligible, be transferred to the new 2021 qualifications in Early Childhood Education and Care.

As each individual student will have a different history of training, and or employment in the Early Childhood Education and Care sector there will be instances where for example, a student currently enrolled in a 2013 Certificate III who does not complete their qualification, by the 20 January 2023 deadline, will need to re-enrol in a 2021 Certificate III.

TSNSW is collaborating with colleagues within the Department of Education's Early Childhood Education and Care Division to develop an alternate, streamlined recognition and skills-set training pathway into the 2021 qualifications.

While the alternate pathway will not be implemented until the first quarter in 2023, TSNSW is currently working with relevant industry bodies, and regulatory authorities, to secure support for an application, to the national regulator, the Australian Skills Quality Authority, for a six month extension to the deadline of 20 January 2023.

- * 9109 HYDROTHERAPY POOL AT BROKEN HILL HOSPITAL—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health—

- (1) Is the Far West Local Health district planning to decommission the hydrotherapy pool within the Broken Hill Hospital?

- (a) If not, when will it be open for use by patients undergoing rehabilitation?

Answer—

- (1) – (a)

Far West Local Health District is inspecting the ageing infrastructure and assessing the maintenance requirements for ongoing compliance with regulations in relation to hydrotherapy-related facilities. The hydrotherapy pool will remain closed until the outcomes of this review is known.

Patients requiring rehabilitation are continuing to receive physiotherapy outpatient services. When clinically indicated, patients may also be provided with water-based exercises to be completed at

home or in the community. The public hydrotherapy pool supports physiotherapists to provide hydrotherapy to patients if it is required.

* 9110 BROKEN HILL POLICE STATION—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police—

- (1) Given that the new Broken Hill Police Station is nearing completion and that the Police want to hold a reunion to coincide with this important event, when will the Minister announce an opening date for the building?

Answer—

I am advised:

The construction of Broken Hill Police Station is on schedule for the commencement of operational service delivery in early 2023.

* 9111 GLASS RECYCLED FOR ROADWAY MATERIAL—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Minister for Environment and Heritage—

What proportion of glass containers collected through the Return and Earn scheme in New South Wales are currently, or will be in the future, recycled for use in the construction of roads?

Answer—

- (1) I am advised that all containers collected through the Return and Earn scheme are recycled. The scheme does not collect information on the exact end product of recycled materials. The majority of the 145,270 tonnes of glass recovered by the scheme in the 2020-21 financial year was remade into new glass packaging, including bottles and other glass containers. Further recycling outcomes include glass fibre insulation products, road construction materials, and filter and construction sand.

* 9112 RETURN AND EARN GLASS RECYCLING—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Minister for Environment and Heritage—

What proportion of glass containers collected through the Return and Earn scheme in New South Wales are currently, or will be in the future, recycled into wine bottles?

Answer—

- (1) I am advised that all containers collected through the Return and Earn scheme are recycled. The scheme does not collect information on the exact end product of recycled materials. The majority of the 145,270 tonnes of glass recovered by the scheme in the 2020-21 financial year was remade into new glass packaging including bottles and other glass containers. Further recycling outcomes include glass fibre insulation products and road construction, filter and construction sand.

* 9113 EPA CONSULTATION WITH WINE INDUSTRY—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Minister for Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Did the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) consult with the wine industry about its discussion paper Driving NSW's circular economy?

(a) If so, who and when?

Answer—

(1)

- (a) I am advised the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) informed the Executive Officer of the NSW Wine Industry Association on 14 October 2022 about the pending consultation before my announcement of the release of the discussion paper. Since the release of the consultation paper the following consultation has taken place:

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- 19 October 2022, meeting between the EPA, NSW Wine Industry Association and Australian Grape and Wine.
- 26 October 2022, meeting between the EPA, NSW Wine Industry Association and Australian Grape and Wine.
- 9 November 2022, meeting between the EPA, NSW Wine Industry Association, Australian Grape and Wine, the Member for Wollondilly and myself.
- 17 November 2022, meeting between the EPA, NSW Wine Industry Association, Hunter Valley Wine and Tourism Association, the Member for Upper Hunter and myself.
- There has been wine industry representation at the following consultation sessions:
 - 3 November 2022 – Sydney
 - 8 November 2022 - Hunter Valley
 - 10 November 2022 – Armidale
 - 15 November 2022 – Griffith
 - 22 November 2022 – Orange
 - 24 November 2022 – Queanbeyan
 - 25 November 2022 - Southern Highlands
 - 28 November 2022 - online.

* 9114 VALES POWER STATION—Mr Jason Li to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

- (1) With the sale of Vales Point Power Station to Seven Global Investments, was the put and call option allowing the owner to sell the power station back to the Government transferred to the new owner?
- (2) Is the liability of the new private owner for decommissioning and remediation capped?
 - (a) If so, what is it capped at?
- (3) What are the Department's estimates of the total remediation costs?
 - (a) What financial provision has the Government made for this future liability?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The new private owner is responsible for the remediation of any operating period contamination and decommissioning of Vales Point power station when it's closed. The State is responsible for the remediation of any pre-existing contamination if required.
- (3) The Government has disclosed a contingent liability in the State's account for this liability in accordance with Accounting Standards.

* 9115 PARRAMATTA ROAD WESTBOUND LANES—Mr Jason Li to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) What assessments and analysis have been conducted on the impact of Westconnex on traffic on Parramatta Road?
- (2) What has been planned to address the congestion and delays caused by there being only one westbound lane available to commuters continuing on Parramatta Road at the intersection of the M4 at Strathfield?

- (a) If nothing has yet been planned, what studies have been conducted to determine the impacts on local residents and motorists?
- (b) Are any studies planned to assess the impact on local residents in the Strathfield electorate?

Answer—

I am advised:

Transport for NSW is finalising a 12-month post-opening Road Network Performance Review Plan for the M4 East, which will identify any changes to the performance of the network since its opening.

Further community and stakeholder engagement will be undertaken for any proposals developed by Transport for NSW as a result of the Road Network Performance Review.

* 9116 RESIDUAL LAND CONCORD INTERCHANGE—Mr Jason Li to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) How much residual Westconnex land has been returned to the community in and around the Concord Interchange?
 - (a) How much residual Westconnex land remains in this area?
 - (b) What are the plans to return this land to the community for the provision of public open space?
- (2) What noise and pollution barriers have been delivered at Concord Interchange as part of the upgrade?
 - (a) How many noise and pollution barriers remain to be installed on the M4 East exit?

Answer—

I am advised:

Information relating to residual land can be found in the M4 East Residual Land Management Plan, which is publicly available on the WestConnex website.

Information relating to noise and pollution is referred to in the M4 East Operation Noise and Vibration Review, which is also available on the WestConnex website.

* 9117 PARRAMATTA ROAD NO LEFT TURN—Mr Jason Li to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) What consultation was conducted to assess the impacts of the permanent No Left Turn sign at the corner of Parramatta Road and the M4 entrance just east of Concord Road on residents of Young Street, North Strathfield?
- (2) What is planned to ameliorate this impact of Westconnex on local residents?

Answer—

I am advised:

In 2018, the consultation for the removal of the left turn from Concord Road onto the M4 motorway (westbound) was undertaken as part of the community and stakeholder engagement for WestConnex Stage 1 b (M4 East).

Transport for NSW is finalising a 12-month post-opening Road Network Performance Review Plan for the M4 East.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

* 9118 RECYCLING IN SCHOOLS—Mr Jason Li to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) What systems are in place to facilitate recycling in schools in the Strathfield electorate?
- (2) What systems and processes are in place to measure the amount of recycling and waste in schools in the Strathfield electorate?
- (3) If no systems and processes are in place to facilitate or measure recycling in schools, are any planned?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) All public schools in the Strathfield electorate have recycling services. Types of recycling vary slightly across schools, with a mix of co-mingled and paper and cardboard recycling present.
- (2) The waste and recycling generated by schools is tracked and reported by the waste collection service provider. The requirement for weight-based waste data is a new addition to these waste services and the Department of Education is working to process and share this data with schools. The Department is working to identify opportunities to provide greater support for schools to reduce waste and improve recycling.
- (3) See answer to Question 2.

* 9119 HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION—Mr Jason Li to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) When was the last time the NSW Curriculum was reviewed to ensure PDHPE focus areas aligned with issues relevant to students today?
 - (a) What reviews were undertaken to review current education around sex, sexuality and gender in schools?
 - (b) What reviews were undertaken to review current education around issues such as vaping, online bullying, and social media use?
 - (c) Were high school students included as stakeholders in these reviews?
 - (i) If not, why not?
- (2) What strategies does the Department of Education have to include issues relevant to high school students in their PDHPE curriculum?

Answer—

- (1) The last full review of the PDHPE curriculum took place in 2016, with the revised syllabus being released in 2018. The PDHPE syllabus is being reviewed again as part of the NSW Curriculum Reform process, and will be released for public consultation next year.
 - (a) The updated PDHPE syllabus strengthened the K-10 focus on respectful and positive relationships, sexually based harassment, discrimination and importantly the age-appropriate teaching of consent.
 - (b) The 2016 review included input from a range of stakeholders across contemporary health issues such as mental health, anti-bullying (including online bullying), drug education, consent, domestic and family violence. This included input from NSW Health and other relevant stakeholders.
 - (c) The student voice consultations in 2016 included both primary and secondary students with discussions focussed on preference for topics and themes, topics that were most helpful to

students, topics and themes that could be added and what students considered the most important to learn about.

- (2) Content in the PDHPE K-10 syllabus supports students to build knowledge in relation to their current and future health and safety.

In addition to the content and course outcomes required of the PDHPE K-10 syllabus, the Department of Education includes a mandatory 25-hour Life Ready course.

Life Ready course content includes:

- independence
- mental health and wellbeing
- relationships
- sexuality and sexual health
- drugs and alcohol
- safe travel

I am also proud that in 2021, the heads of NSW Public Schools, Catholic Schools NSW and the Association for Independent Schools NSW signed the Statement of Intent agreeing to take steps to strengthen consent education.

The Statement responded to the calls from young people to improve consent education in schools and identified key areas where the education system and schools can lead meaningful change through:

- curriculum provision based on evidence and best practice
- increased support for teachers and school leaders
- making sure the views of students are heard; and
- strengthening community and parent connections.

* 9120 COMMUTER CAR PARK—Mr Jason Li to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Are there plans to provide a commuter car park for Strathfield Station as part of Transport for NSW's Commuter Car Park Program?

(a) If not, why not?

- (2) What considerations go into determining the provision of commuter car parks for particular train stations?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government is committed to delivering accessible public transport infrastructure and providing more commuter car parks where they are needed.

The Commuter Car Park Program provides commuters with more convenient access to public transport at key transport interchanges and helps to ease congestion on our roads. Since 2011, Transport for NSW has delivered more than 14,000 commuter car spaces across Sydney, with around 4,000 additional spaces on the way.

While there are currently no plans to provide a new commuter car park at Strathfield Station, Transport for NSW's approach considers a range of aspects to determine where new commuter car parks will be best utilised. These include the distance from Sydney CBD, land use planning and availability, current Opal

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

data about travel demand, projected future growth in travel demand, the split of customer travel across different modes of transport, and value for money.

* 9121 DIGITAL DIVIDE—Mr Jason Li to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) What strategies have been implemented to address the digital divide in access to laptops and internet by students in the Strathfield electorate?
- (2) How many devices have been provided to schools in the Strathfield electorate?
- (3) What evaluations have been conducted to assess different learning modalities for students regarding access to online resources?
 - (a) If evaluations have been conducted, what are the recommendations from these evaluations?
 - (b) If evaluations have not been conducted, are evaluations of the desire for and impact of these different learning modalities planned?

Answer—

Schools in the Strathfield electorate benefit from a range of NSW Government initiatives designed to deliver equitable access to computing devices and internet connectivity in all NSW public schools.

These include a program in partnership with Telstra to upgrade its network serving schools across the State, along with the Department's Internet@Edge rollout. These programs have delivered internet speeds of 5Mbps per student.

All NSW public schools receive an annual or biannual allocation of supported computing devices based on enrolment numbers through the Department's T4L (Technology 4 Learning) Rollout. This provides a selection of new devices to replace older computer equipment.

* 9122 HIGH CLEARANCE VEHICLES—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

- (1) I refer to your answer 8758 (Q and A paper 168) regarding high clearance vehicles (HCVs) for the SES and note advice provided to you from the Hon. Pat Conroy MP, Minister for Defence Industry that, "Army is supportive of Government to Government transfer of additional unimog vehicles, trailers and potentially spare parts to support the NSW SES", and ask:
 - (a) Has NSW SES obtained any ex-army vehicles and parts as a result of this offer?
 - (b) Will a unimog vehicle be permanently allocated to Central Coast SES units?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (a) At this stage, NSW SES has not obtained any additional ex-Australian Defence Force vehicles or parts, due to the condition of the vehicles awaiting disposal
- (b) The NSW SES continues to monitor resource allocation based upon risk assessments, allowing them to position key resources where they can best serve the community. The High Clearance Vehicles NSW SES has introduced into service are considered 'State Assets' and can be deployed to impacted areas, regardless of their base location.

* 9123 TUGGERAH LAKES WATER QUALITY INDEPENDENT EXPERT PANEL REVIEW—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Environment and Heritage—

- (1) In relation to the Tuggerah Lakes Water Quality Independent Expert Panel Interview (TLEP), please advise:

- (a) What was the cost of the TLEP?
- (b) What arrangements are in place to progress the recommendations of TLEP?
- (c) What is the status of the recommendations made by the TLEP?

Answer—

(1)

- (a) In February 2019, the NSW Government committed to establishing an expert panel to determine the best way to improve water quality in Tuggerah Lakes. \$200,000 was allocated to this project.

(b – c) The majority of recommendations made by the expert panel will be implemented through the Tuggerah Lakes Coastal Management Program, which is currently being prepared by Central Coast Council with financial and technical assistance from the NSW Government.

Further information, including progress on the recommendations, can be found at www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/sites/default/files/2022-08/our_progress_on_the_recommendations_from_the_tuggerah_lakes_expert_panel.pdf

and www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/water/estuaries/protecting-and-managing-estuaries/tuggerah-lakes-expert-panel

* 9124 WAMBERAL BEACH TASKFORCE—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

(1) In relation to the Wamberal Beach Taskforce, please advise:

- (a) What regulatory authority was used to establish the taskforce?
- (b) What was the total cost of the taskforce?
- (c) What regulatory arrangements are in place to support the recommendations of the taskforce?
- (d) Was Central Coast Council required to support any of the administrative arrangements of the taskforce?
- (e) Are the results of the taskforces work publically available?
 - (i) Where may this be located?

Answer—

I am advised:

This is a matter for the Minister for Environment and Heritage.

* 9125 WINDANG BRIDGE WORKING GROUP—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) What was the outcome of the working group on the Windang Bridge rehabilitation work on Lake Illawarra referred to in LA 1941?
- (2) Given its purpose was to "collaborate on longer term planning and investment for Windang Bridge and other assets along the foreshore" has a report been produced by the working group?
 - (a) If not, why not?
 - (b) Is the working group still functioning?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (3) Which organisations are represented on the working group? Please include the name of the organisation's representative and position.

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Transport for NSW completed a design and allocated funding to extend the rock surcharge from Pier 11 to the full length of the bridge.
- (2) A new Project Control Group (PCG) led by Wollongong City Council has been established to conduct the Lake Illawarra Entrance Options Study to identify preferred options for reducing erosion at Lake Illawarra.
- (3) The following organisations are represented on the PCG:
 - Wollongong City Council (lead)
 - Shellharbour City Council
 - Transport for NSW
 - NSW Department of Planning and Environment - Coast and Estuaries
 - NSW Department of Planning and Environment - Water Infrastructure NSW
 - University of NSW Sydney - School of Civil & Environmental Engineering - Water Research Laboratory

* 9126 KIAMA HARBOUR FORESHORE REDEVELOPMENT—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

- (1) With respect to the Kiama Harbour Foreshore redevelopment:
 - (a) Is the Minister aware of the current works underway at the Kiama Harbour Foreshore?
 - (b) What is the scope of the upgrade and works?
 - (c) When were the works initially meant to be complete?
 - (d) What are the reasons for the delays to this work?
 - (e) When will the works be completed?
 - (f) What was the initial cost of these works?
 - (g) What is the cost associated with these delays?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)
 - (a) Yes
 - (b) Upgrade work will include new seawall retaining walls, new street furniture and a seating area, a new accessible ramp, stainless steel handrails and balustrades, and landscaping.
 - (c) The works were initially scheduled to be completed in November 2022.
 - (d) There have been some delays due to ongoing wet weather, working with the tides, and the need for additional work to secure the seawall to bedrock on the harbour floor.

Unexpected variability in bedrock depth has resulted in additional excavation and concrete footing works. Where works have taken place below the ocean water level, progress has been dependant on the timing and amplitude of the tides.

- (e) The forecast completion date is early 2023.
- (f) The initial project value was \$2.1 million excl GST.
- (g) The current project value is approximately \$2.9 million excl GST.

* 9127 RETURN AND EARN SCHEME—Mr Greg Warren to ask the Minister for Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Did the Minister, Chief of Staff or any other member of his office consult with any representatives of wine industry associations, wine producers or wine businesses about his stated preference to extend the Return and Earn scheme to wine bottles?
 - (a) If so, who have you met and when?
- (2) On how many occasions has the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) met with representatives of the NSW Wine Industry Association since the inception of the Return and Earn scheme and prior to 14 October 2022?
- (3) Was the intention to expand the CDS to include wine bottles shared with the media before being shared with the NSW Wine Industry Association?

Answer—

- (1) Yes, public consultation for the proposal to extend the Return and Earn scheme opened on 15 October 2022. During this period, I have met with:
 - the NSW Wine Industry Association, Australian Grape and Wine and the Member for Wollondilly on 9 November 2022, and
 - the NSW Wine Industry Association, Hunter Valley Wine and Tourism Association and the Member for Upper Hunter on 17 November 2022.
- (2) I am advised that the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has no record of meeting with representatives from the NSW Wine Industry Association prior to 14 October 2022.
- (3) Environment Ministers' Meeting Communiques that were publicly released on 8 November 2019 and 15 April 2021, signalled the intention to expand container deposit schemes (CDS) nationally. The upcoming consultation was shared with peak bodies from the wine industry prior to the release of the Government's media statement.

10 NOVEMBER 2022

(Paper No. 177)

* 9128 REGIONAL APPRENTICE AND UNIVERSITY TRAVEL CARD—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) Have eligible campuses been defined for the Regional Apprentice and University Travel Card (RAUT)?
 - (a) If not, why not?
 - (i) When will they be published?
- (2) How many Local Government Areas (LGA) are eligible for the travel card? Please disaggregate by LGA.
- (3) How many University and TAFE campuses have been included in the trial?
- (4) Why have trainees not been included in the trial?
- (5) How will students have their residential addresses verified?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (6) Why will dependent students and apprentices who still have a residential address in metropolitan Sydney, Newcastle or Wollongong, but who study at a regional campus such as Lismore, Wagga Wagga or Armidale not be able to access the card?
- (7) Why will international students and apprentices who study in regional areas not be eligible for the card?
- (8) Given that university students at campuses such as University of New England in Armidale and Charles Sturt University Wagga Wagga are not currently able to access student concession cards on the opal network, will they be eligible for the RAUT card?
- (9) In the absence of electronic and contactless ticketing for regional bus operators, leaving passengers having to use cash fares even during the pandemic, will the RAUT card be able to be used on government funded route buses?
 - (a) How?
- (10) How long will the trials go for?
- (11) Why does the university students trials not start until April 2023, after students will have already made their initial (and arguably most costly) transfer to university?
 - (a) Same question for apprentices?

Answer—

I am advised:

The trial of the Regional Apprentice and University Student Travel Card has been funded for the 2023 and 2024 calendar years. The April 2023 commencement date for university students has been selected as it is after the University student census date closure. This supports the eligibility requirement for university students to be full-time. Apprentices and trainees will be able to apply from February 2023. Applications will remain open until the end of November 2023 for the first year.

The eligible local government areas are the same as those used for the Regional Seniors Travel Card and are consistent with the definition of 'Regional NSW' under the Restart NSW Fund Act 2011. The list of eligible local government areas is available on the Service NSW website. Trainees living in eligible local government areas are included in the trial. Eligible campuses have been identified and Transport for NSW is currently consulting with these institutions to finalise the list. Following completion of consultations, the list of eligible campus locations will be published on the Service NSW website.

Full fee-paying international students are not eligible for tertiary student concessions and subsidies on NSW transport services, as such, they are ineligible to receive access to the Regional Apprentice and University Student Travel Card. Students' addresses will be validated through the eligibility validation process. The residential address requirement is the same eligibility requirement applied to the Regional Seniors Travel Card.

Access to Opal cards is not related to eligibility for the Regional Apprentice and University Student Travel Card. Students that meet the eligibility criteria receive tertiary student concession travel on Transport for NSW operated services. Tertiary Student concessions can be used on regional buses, NSW Trainlink and Opal enabled services.

While some regional bus operators may have electronic payment options for ticket sales on their services, this is not mandatory across all regional services and is at the discretion of each operator. Transport for NSW does not manage or mandate how bus operators manage ticket sales. It is recommended that card holders contact their local bus operators for more information about payment options and concession fares available on their services. Bus operators that do accept card payments on their services can contact Transport for NSW to discuss merchant codes to ensure they are able to accept Regional Apprentice and University Student Travel Card cards as a payment method.

* 9129 INDEPENDENT PANEL REPORT—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) Did the Regional Road Transfer and NSW Road Classification Review – Independent Panel seek a variation to the final report delivery timeframe?
- (2) How many requests in writing have you received from the panel requesting to amend the delivery timeframe?
 - (a) What dates were these received?
 - (b) What was your response?
- (3) Have you received a draft of the final report?
- (4) Have you received a final copy of the report?
- (5) When will the final report be made public?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Independent Panel delivered their Final Report to the NSW Government on 8 November 2022. The NSW Government is currently reviewing the recommendations in the Final Report.

* 9130 TRANSPORT CONNECTED BUS PROGRAM—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) How many buses were connected in Phase 1 of the Transport Connected Bus Program?
- (2) How many buses were connected in Phase 2 of the Transport Connected Bus Program?
- (3) When will Phase 3 of the Transport Connected Bus Program be rolled out?
 - (a) Has information been provided operators about the commencement of Phase 3?
 - (b) What locations will be included in Phase 3?
- (4) Why is there not a contact phone number on the Transport for NSW website for the Transport Connected Program Team?
 - (a) When will a contact number be published on the Transport for NSW website?
- (5) How long does it take bus operators to upload their data onto the Transport Connected Bus app?
 - (a) How is the data transferred between operators' software?
 - (i) Is it automatic?
 - (ii) Does it have to be manually downloaded from their management system and then uploaded onto the app?
 - (iii) Does it have to be manually entered for each trip?
- (6) What was the total quantum of funding spent on implementing the Transport Connected Bus App? Please disaggregate the data by costs of:
 - (a) Purchasing the software?
 - (b) Design and Implementation of the program?
 - (c) Rollout to bus operators?
- (7) Was the software developed by an Australian company?
 - (a) If not, why not?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

(8) Was the development of the software put out to tender?

(a) If so, how many tenderers were there?

(b) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1 & 2) This information is publically available.

(3) Detailed planning is underway for the rollout of Phase 3 to commence in early 2023. Engagement will commence with operators once internal planning has been finalised. Phase 3 will include the remainder of NSW outside the Opal footprint.

(4) The Transport Connected Bus team have a dedicated email address that enables operators to contact the team during the project phase and hyper-care period. As per normal practice, the Program Manager's phone number is provided during the operator information sessions and once the operator is live, a helpdesk number is provided as part of the handover.

(5) The Transport Connected Bus team work closely with each of the operators to capture reference data for Rural and Regional Bus Service Contract services (including stops, routes, timetables, driver/vehicle shifts) in Transport for NSW systems to publish statically, track against real-time updates, and against which to measure performance. The driver must log on in the morning and select the correct shift for the day. Data is automatically transferred every night and takes about 2 hours.

(6) The contract value has been disclosed in line with the requirements of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009.

(7) Consat Telematics established an Australian company for the Transport Connected Bus project. Software development occurs in Sweden. Consat staff based in Australia do system integration testing and support prior to deployment. The Operator installations are fully completed by local employees.

(8) A comprehensive Request for Tender was conducted and attracted 20 responses.

* 9131 ON DEMAND BUS TRIALS—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

(1) Where have On-Demand Bus Trials have been undertaken in New South Wales?

(2) For each location, please list:

(a) What is the number of vehicles which were operated?

(b) What is the number of services that were provided?

(c) What is the total number of operating hours for each service, indicating how many hours the vehicles were stationary for?

(d) What is the total number of passengers who used each service?

(e) How did passengers pay for the service (cash, credit/debit card, opal card, regional seniors travel card, etc)?

(f) What was the cost per service?

(g) What was the cost per hour?

(h) What was the cost per kilometre?

(i) How much money was invested in marketing?

- (i) What marketing methods were used during the trial?
- (j) Given that the IPART identified that a formal evaluation of the On-Demand Bus trials had not been conducted by Transport for NSW?
 - (i) Is this still the case?
- (1) If so, why not?
 - (ii) If there is a formal evaluation, is it publicly available?
- (3) Has Transport for NSW undertaken internal analysis of the trials, as recommended by IPART?
 - (a) If not, why not?
 - (b) If so, if this information publicly available?
- (4) Has further analysis been undertaken to understand why some trials did not attract patronage?

Answer—

I am advised:

Service information on each current On Demand bus service is publicly available on the Transport for NSW website.

Patronage information is also publicly available on Transport for NSW's Open Data Hub.

Contract information is publicly available on the NSW Government's eTender website.

During the trial period of each On Demand service, evaluations were undertaken by Transport for NSW every six months, to examine various aspects such as service delivery, customer satisfaction, contract management, value for money, scalability, IT and safety, to determine the success of each trial. In May 2020, a lessons learnt report was developed that encapsulated learnings from On Demand trials in Sydney metropolitan and outer metropolitan areas. Information regarding the evaluations of On Demand trial services are commercial in confidence and not publicly available.

* 9132 **FIXING COUNTRY ROADS PROGRAM**—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) Why has Maitland only received \$1.2 million only out of the \$543 million Fixing Country Roads program, despite being on the major southern routes for both the Brandy Hill Quarry and the Martins Creek Quarry?
- (2) How many applications has Maitland City Council put in for Fixing Country Roads projects?
- (3) What is the total quantum of funding that has been applied for?
- (4) What is the total quantum of funding that has been granted?

Answer—

I am advised:

The application process under Fixing Country Roads is competitive, with decisions on projects made based on information and supporting documents provided in the application. Each application is assessed through a rigorous evaluation and selection process that includes an assessment team, a Technical Panel and a Regional Independent Assessment Panel.

In general, applications are deemed unsuccessful where they do not demonstrate improvement in the movement of freight and/or deliver sustainable growth and economic benefits relative to the successful projects. To maintain the integrity of the Program, Transport for NSW treats details of all submitted applications as confidential.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Maitland City Council received \$1.2 million under Round 1 of Fixing Country Roads for the Local Road Improvement Program.

* 9133 PROGRAM FUNDING—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) What is the total quantum of funding for the following programs disaggregated by local government area since 2011:
- (a) Fixing Country Roads?
 - (b) Fixing Country Bridges?
 - (c) Fixing Local Roads?
 - (d) Local Government Road Safety Program?
 - (e) Regional Roads and Transport Recovery Package?
 - (f) Regional Roads REPAIR Program?
 - (g) Regional Road Block Grant?
 - (h) Road Safety Program?
 - (i) Safer Roads Program?
 - (j) Traffic Route Lighting Subsidy?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)
- (a) (b) (c) Successful projects are published on the Transport for NSW website.
 - (d) This information is published in Transport for NSW Road Safety Progress Reports, which are available on Transport for NSW Centre for Road Safety website.
 - (e) Applications for this program closed on 1 December 2022.
 - (f) and (g) This information is published on the Transport for NSW website.
 - (h) and (i) This information is publicly available on the Transport for NSW Centre for Road Safety website.
 - (j) More than \$100 million.

* 9134 FIXING COUNTRY ROADS FUNDING ALLOCATION—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) Where did the reinstated \$80 million in Fixing Country Roads come from in August 2022?
- (a) Which program has had \$80 million reallocated away from it?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Restart NSW Fund.

* 9135 ENROLMENT PROJECTIONS—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

(1) What are the enrolment projections for the following years for each primary and secondary school in the Maitland electorate:

- (a) 2022-23?
- (b) 2023-24?
- (c) 2024-25?
- (d) 2025-26?
- (e) 2026-27?
- (f) 2027-28?
- (g) 2028-29?
- (h) 2029-30?
- (i) 2030-31?
- (j) 2031-32?
- (k) 2032-33?

Answer—

(a) The anticipated 2023 enrolments for schools in the Maitland electorate

School

Bolwarra Public School	400
Gillieston Public School	336
Telarah Public School	493
Largs Public School	151
Lochinvar Public School	165
Maitland East Public School	510
Millers Forest Public School	63
Morpeth Public School	253
Tenambit Public School	369
Thornton Public School	814
Maitland Public School	460
Woodberry Public School	211
Metford Public School	295
Rutherford Public School	981
Ashtonfield Public School	513
Nillo Infants School	60
Hunter River Community School	76
Woodberry Learning Centre	9
Maitland High School	1,053
Maitland Grossmann High School	997
Francis Greenway High School	721
Rutherford Technology High School	1,419

(b - k) The Department of Education's long term projections are informed by census data and dwelling and population projections provided by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment in conjunction with

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

local councils. The Department reviews the demographic need for school facilities on a continual basis. These projections align with the Government endorsed 2022 Common Planning Assumptions.

* 9136 POSITION APPOINTMENTS—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) In the Infrastructure NSW 2022-23 Delivery Strategy that was released in August, the time frame for the appointment of a project manager for planning and delivery, architect, cost manager, civil structural and building services engineers for the Gillieston Public School project were all expected to be appointed between July and September 2022. Have all of these positions now been appointed?
 - (a) If not, which positions are yet to be appointed?
 - (i) When will they be appointed?
- (2) Is the project on schedule for a building contractor to be appointed in July-September 2023?

Answer—

The NSW Delivery Strategy provides a forecast of expected tender release timeframes. This is provided as a general guide so the market can understand upcoming tender opportunities.

The progress of individual projects is published on the School Infrastructure NSW website at https://www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/projects/g/gillieston_public_school_redevelopment.html

* 9137 NARRABRI POLICE—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police—

- (1) Could the Minister confirm the agreed Police strength at the Narrabri police station?
- (2) What are the current Police Numbers?
- (3) Is there any planning for an Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer (ACLO) position at Narrabri?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2)

Staffing at any particular police station can fluctuate daily in response to crime trends and other intelligence led operational requirements.

All police positions attached to a Police Area Command or Police District are flexible resources available to respond to incidents across the local area. Local resources are also supplemented by specialist police (highway patrol, major crime squads, covert resources, and others) who are managed centrally and can be deployed across Police Area Command and Police District boundaries in response to operational needs.

- (3) The NSW Police Force currently has 26 ACLO positions in the Western Region.

* 9138 NSW HEALTH NARRABRI HOSPITAL—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health—

- (1) Given Narrabri is a thriving community with new development projects taking place, including the inland railway, coal mining, as well as being a large farming industry within the area, and that Narrabri hospital provides emergency and elective procedures for the region, taking some of the burden off larger hospitals such as Tamworth, is the Minister aware of the current shortfall in Anaesthetists at Narrabri Hospital?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that this threatens surgical services and the viability of specialist attendances at the Hospital?

- (3) Can the Minister confirm if steps will be taken to address this before it fails services?

Answer—

(1 – 3)

I am aware of the matters being raised and am advised that the service is actively recruiting for two anaesthetists.

* 9139 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) Further to recommendations made by the Committee on Investment, Industry and Regional Development (November 2022):
- (a) What programs are currently available in regional New South Wales primary and high schools to promote careers in agriculture and mining?
 - (b) What programs are currently available in metropolitan New South Wales primary and high schools to promote careers in agriculture and mining?
 - (c) What additional programs are being considered for regional New South Wales primary and high schools to promote careers in agriculture and mining?
 - (d) What additional programs are being considered for metropolitan New South Wales primary and high schools to promote careers in agriculture and mining?
 - (e) How does the Government intend to invest in programs to promote the uptake of a broader range of STEM subjects in New South Wales schools?
 - (f) A Commonwealth Government initiative ‘Kids to Farms’ helps connects primary school students with the agriculture industry. Will the Government contribute financially to this program?
 - (i) If so, how much?

Answer—

The NSW Government is due to provide its response to the Committee on Investment, Industry and Regional Development by 8 May 2023. The Education Cluster is currently working with other agencies to respond to relevant recommendations.

* 9140 AGRICULTURE AND MINING PROGRAMS NSW TAFE—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) Further to recommendations made by the Committee on Investment, Industry and Regional Development (November 2022): :
- (a) What programs are currently available at regional NSW TAFE campuses to promote careers in agriculture and mining?
 - (b) What programs are currently available at metropolitan NSW TAFE campuses to promote careers in agriculture and mining?
 - (c) What additional programs are being considered for regional NSW TAFE campuses to promote careers in agriculture and mining?
 - (d) What additional programs are being considered for metropolitan NSW TAFE campuses to promote careers in agriculture and mining?
 - (e) How will the Government help upskill workers for future roles in the agriculture and mining sectors through vocational education training?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) TAFE NSW offers 52 full qualifications from Certificate II through to Advanced Diploma and Undergraduate Certificate level and 76 part-qualifications at regional locations that promote careers in agriculture and mining.

TAFE NSW participates in Field Days including Henty Machinery Field Days, Australian National Field Days (Orange/Borenore) and PrimeEx Field Days (Casino.)

TAFE NSW partners with local mining and other industries at Muswellbrook, Mudgee and Lithgow, multi-skilling apprentices across fitting, machining and electrical trades.

- (b) TAFE NSW offers 48 full qualifications from Certificate II through to Advanced Diploma and Undergraduate Certificate level and 18 part-qualifications at metropolitan locations, that promote careers in agriculture and mining.

TAFE NSW offers 16 full qualifications from Certificate II to Advanced Diploma level and 7 part-qualifications through online or virtual delivery that promote careers in agriculture and mining regardless of location.

- (c - e) TAFE NSW continues to refine its course offerings in response to industry need and market demand.

* 9141 HURLSTONE AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) Further to recommendations made by the Committee on Investment, Industry and Regional Development (November 2022):

- (a) How does the Government intend to strengthen agricultural programs at Hurlstone Agricultural High School at a time of immense change for the school?
- (b) How will the proceeds of the sale of land at Hurlstone Agricultural High School be reinvested in the provision of public education, including infrastructure, in Sydney's south-west?

Answer—

- (a) The announcement in 2020 that Hurlstone Agricultural High School would remain at Glenfield has revitalised the school's vision, and its commitment to providing the best possible agricultural programs for students.

A dedicated Change Manager has been allocated to the school by School Infrastructure NSW, and the Department of Education's School Learning Environments and Change Directorate is working alongside industry experts and the school to identify and implement strategies that strengthen agricultural program delivery.

The re-imagining of the curriculum, and inclusion of agriculture as an innovative lens across faculties is essential to the future success of the school's agricultural programs. Utilisation of a state of the art farm so that students are offered modern learning experiences is critical to positioning agriculture as an industry linked to other key industries and employment and future study paths.

- (b) The anticipated revenues to be realised from the divestment of land at Hurlstone Agricultural High School will be utilised as a source of funds for the Department's capital program for reinvestment in educational priorities, which includes Sydney's South-West.

* 9142 HURLSTONE AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL LAND RETENTION—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) With regards to Hurlstone Agricultural High School:
- (a) How much land will be retained for Hurlstone Agricultural High School?
 - (b) How much land will be sold?
 - (c) How much land is being allocated for the Hurlstone Farm?
 - (d) Has a final decision been made on the allocated land at Hurlstone Agricultural High School?
 - (i) If so, when and by whom?
 - (e) Does this meet the full agricultural education requirements for the school?
 - (f) What consultation process took place with the school's P and C, NSW Farmer's Federation, the NSW Association of Agricultural Teachers and teaching staff?

Answer—

The area of land that will be retained for Hurlstone Agricultural High School is 8.06 hectares. A further 2.5 hectares of land adjoining the school will also be retained for a future proposed primary school.

The area of land that will be sold is 107.24 hectares, comprised of 96 hectares for mixed use development and 11.24 hectares for the future extension of Cambridge Avenue. Approximately 56 hectares of land will be allocated for Hurlstone Farm.

A final decision has been made on the allocated land at Hurlstone Agricultural High School. Allocations for Education, Farm and Divestment were finalised in 2020, which culminated with the gazettal of the rezoning of the divestment lands in mid-2021 as part of the Glenfield Place Strategy.

The matter of land divestment was approved by the NSW Government in 2018, and meets the full agricultural requirements for the school.

Extensive consultation was undertaken prior to finalising and lodging the Glenfield Place Strategy, which was then publicly exhibited for a two month period (Dec 2020 – January 2021). The public exhibition allowed for all parties to make submissions to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

* 9143 LAND SELL OFF AT HURLSTONE AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Anoulack Chanthivong to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) Given the sell-off of land at Hurlstone Agricultural High School:
- (a) How much land is being allocated for the hilltop Schools for Special Purposes, including:
 - (i) Ajuga School?
 - (ii) Campbell House?
 - (iii) Glenfield Park?
 - (b) What consultation process took place with the school's P and C and teaching staff?

Answer—

The total area of land allocated to these three schools is approximately 12.12 hectares, which is unchanged from the current situation.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Extensive consultation was undertaken prior to finalising and lodging the Glenfield Place Strategy, which was then publicly exhibited for a two month period (Dec 2020 – January 2021). The public exhibition allowed for all parties to make submissions to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

Further, major upgrades to all three schools were completed in 2021.

* 9144 **DISABILITY AND HIGHER EDUCATION**—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of a recent joint position statement and research report delivered by the Australian Law Students Association ('ALSA'), The National Union of Students ('NUS') and the Australian Medical Students Association ('AMSA')?
 - (a) If yes, is the Minister aware that:
 - (i) Disabled students in our universities are 2.2 times more likely to be assaulted on university campuses, as reported by both the Disability Royal Commission and the ALSA-NUS-AMSA research report, and that sexual assault is a sector-wide issue, as demonstrated in the National Student Safety survey released earlier in the year?
 - (ii) Due to New South Wales, unlike Queensland or South Australia, lacking state-based accreditation for assistance animals, staff and students with a disability are having to travel interstate to legally register their assistance dog as a recognised assistance animal under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth) - because New South Wales universities are refusing to allow assistance animals on campuses?
 - (iii) Staff and students with a disability, especially those who use wheelchairs, are not able to access their classes due to them being scheduled in inaccessible classrooms?
 - (b) What action has the Minister taken to address the alarming rates of sexual assault and discrimination:
 - (i) How will the Minister ensure adequate stakeholder engagement with student victim/survivors, especially disabled students and First Nations students, when implementing reforms in New South Wales, including Recommendations 36 and 37 from the NSW Inquiry into Higher Education, to redress sexual assault experienced by young, disabled people within New South Wales classrooms?

Answer—

The Commonwealth Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) is responsible for regulating Australia's higher education sector, including all universities. Under the Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021, all higher education providers must promote and foster a safe and inclusive learning environment, offer support services that are informed by the student cohort's mental health, disability and wellbeing needs, and have formal complaints handling policies and procedures in place. TEQSA considers student wellbeing and safety standards as part of its regulatory assessments of providers. Providers that are found in breach of standards face regulatory action, including placing conditions on registration or cancelling registration in serious cases.

All university staff and students are subject to NSW and Federal laws around discrimination and sexual harassment, including the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth) and the Crimes Act 1900 (NSW).

The NSW Government's response to Recommendations 36 and 37 from the Inquiry into the future development of the NSW tertiary education sector can be found at page 11 of the linked document at <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/ldocs/inquiries/2597/PC3%20-%20Tertiary%20education%20-%20Government%20Response.pdf>

* 9145 ELECTRIC VEHICLE TRAINING—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) What electric vehicle training courses does TAFE NSW offer?
 - (a) What electric vehicles do the courses cover?
 - (b) What campuses are these courses offered at?
 - (c) What is the cost of these courses?
 - (d) How many students enrolled in these courses in 2022 (to 10 October 2022)?
 - (e) How many students enrolled in these courses in 2021?

Answer—

I am advised:

TAFE NSW has been delivering electric vehicle skill sets for approximately ten years, and offers electric vehicle units of competency as optional electives across some automotive full qualifications. Responding directly to industry need, TAFE NSW has also developed Electric Bus Micro skills specifically to meet a skills requirement for the bus industry, which TAFE commenced delivering in 2021. For this work the Electric Bus Micro Skills Team was awarded the Gold 'Great Ideas Award' by TAFE Directors Australia in November 2022.

Details of TAFE NSW's electric vehicle training courses, coverage and cost are publicly available on the TAFE NSW website.:

The courses are offered online and face to face to meet industry and learner needs.

TAFE NSW operates in a commercial environment and does not publish enrolment data by course level.

* 9146 COLLIERS CLOSE HOUSING COMPLEX—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) When was Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) first notified about the burnt out cars the carpark in the Colliers Close Housing complex in Newcastle East?
- (2) For how many months have burnt out cars been in the carpark of the Colliers Close Housing complex in Newcastle East?
- (3) Does LAHC have any plans to remove the burnt of cars in the carpark of the Colliers Close Housing complex in Newcastle East?
- (4) Why have the burnt out vehicles not been removed yet?

Answer—

I am advised:

In March 2022, NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) was notified about the 2 burnt out cars in the carpark of the Colliers Close complex in Newcastle East. The burnt out cars which have since been removed, had been in the carpark for 8 months while permission was being sought to remove them.

* 9147 TAFE NSW NEWCASTLE CAMPUS LIBRARY—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) What were the opening hours at the TAFE NSW Newcastle Campus Library prior to the Tranche 2 restructure?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (2) What are the opening hours at the TAFE NSW Newcastle Campus Library after the Tranche 2 restructure?
- (3) Why has the Minister reneged on the promise outlined in the Tranche 2 document that "all current libraries will remain open in the future state with the same opening hours"?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Physical Library opening hours are individually reviewed at the commencement of each term and throughout the year. Opening hours are determined through review of timetables of course delivery and cohorts, learner feedback and demand and will fluctuate throughout a year.

The standard opening hours of TAFE NSW Newcastle Campus Library in Term 4, 2022 commencing 10 October 2022 were as follows:

Monday 8.30 am to 6.30 pm

Tuesday 8.30 am to 6.30 pm

Wednesday 8.30 am to 6.30 pm

Thursday 8.30 am to 5.00 pm

Friday 8.30 am to 5.00 pm

Closed on weekends and public holidays

- (2) The TAFE NSW Student Services Tranche 2 became effective 31 October 2022 and the hours are as per question (1).
- (3) There has been no change to the practice of fluctuating hours to meet learner demand, course delivery timetables and campus requirements.

TAFE NSW also provides online resources and supplementary services such as chat and 'ask a question' outside normal campus hours. Access to supplementary services is displayed on campus and current TAFE NSW Library opening hours are advertised on the TAFE NSW website.

* 9148 LIGHT RESCUE VEHICLES—Mr Jihad Dib to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

- (1) What criteria is applied by the SES for the issuance of light rescue vehicles?
- (2) What process is undertaken by the SES and/or the Minister before a light rescue vehicle is issued to an SES unit?
- (3) Who is the ultimate decision maker who allocates SES light rescue vehicles to different units?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) The criteria for NSW SES Light Rescue Vehicle allocation will consider multiple factors, including:
 - (a) Operational need
 - (b) Unit rescue accreditation
 - (c) Unit risk profile
 - (d) Availability of other rescue resources in the area; and
 - (e) historical Requests for Assistance

- (2) NSW SES is in the process of developing its first Light Rescue Vehicle capability. While some Units have had light vehicles that have been used for rescue purposes, the capability was not formalised in NSW SES policy and procedures.

Detailed allocation strategy and principles are still being determined, while NSW SES continues to respond to recent widespread flooding across the State.

- (3) NSW SES Operational Capability Branch are responsible for determining allocation principles for Light Rescue Vehicles. The ultimate decision maker regarding allocation of resources to NSW SES Units is the Deputy Commissioner Operations.

* 9149 BUSHFIRE SUPPRESSION COSTS—Mr Jihad Dib to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

- (1) Referring to QoN38 of the most recent Budget Estimates, please clarify what constitutes “bush fire expenditure” and how it relates to Black Summer suppression costs?
- (2) Why is combined expenditure across government agencies on Black Summer suppression costs not available?

Answer—

- (1) The answer provided to QoN38 from Budget Estimates included the NSW Rural Fire Service expenditure on its direct bush fire response operations (including aircraft hire, fuel, plant, machinery and equipment hire, heavy plant, meals, accommodation and overtime/temporary staff employed to manage surge capacity) as well as the cost of reimbursing local councils that claimed for their bush fire response costs under standing arrangements.
- (2) The RFS provided the information on the costs it incurred directly or reimbursed to councils but does not have access to other agencies' costs.

Resilience NSW does not track all expenditure relating to the operational response to the 2019/20 bushfires.

Expenditure by emergency services agencies responding to the bushfires has been funded from a number of sources, including existing agency budgets, and the NSW Government's Disaster Relief Account, which is administered by Resilience NSW.

The DRA funds extraordinary counter disaster expenditure, which include costs that are not within the ordinary budgets of agencies including RFS, FRNSW, NPWS, SES, NSW Ambulance and Forestry Corporation. In relation to 2019-20 bushfire events, the Resilience NSW Disaster Relief Account recorded extraordinary counter disaster expenditure of \$512.68 million for these agencies.

* 9150 BACKBURNING REPORT—Mr Jihad Dib to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

- (1) Regarding the report provided by the University of Wollongong to NSW RFS into backburning when will it be finalised, accepted and released?

Answer—

The report was subpoenaed by the NSW Bushfire Coronial Inquiry into the 2019/20 bush fires on 2 November 2022. As the report now forms part of the brief of evidence, it cannot be publicly released until the finalisation of the Coronial Inquiry.

* 9151 STRATEGIC BACKBURNS—Mr Jihad Dib to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

- (1) Of the 1,067 back burns identified by the NSW State Inquiry will the data and analysis be publicly released for independent review?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Answer—

Information on backburns provided to the NSW Bushfire Inquiry is already reflected in its published report. The NSW Bushfire Coronial Inquiry's examination of a representative case study for back burning is due to begin in May 2023.

* 9152 OFFICE OF SPORT UPCOMING GRANTS—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) In relation to the Local Sport Defibrillator Program:
 - (a) When will applications open?
 - (b) When will applications close?
 - (c) When will successful recipients be announced?
- (2) In relation to the Safe Shooting Program:
 - (a) When will applications open?
 - (b) When will applications close?
 - (c) When will successful recipients be announced?

Answer—

Details of grant programs are made available on the Office of Sport website.

* 9153 TOLL RELIEF SCHEME—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) In relation to the toll relief scheme for the 2022/23 financial year:
 - (a) How many residents of the Cumberland LGA have claimed the rebate?
 - (b) How many residents of the Granville electorate have claimed the rebate?
 - (c) How many residents of the following postcodes have claimed the rebate:
 - (i) 2142;
 - (ii) 2145;
 - (iii) 2160;
 - (iv) 2161?
- (2) In relation to the toll relief scheme for the 2022/23 financial year:
 - (a) What is the total value of rebates paid to residents of the Cumberland LGA?
 - (b) What is the total value of rebates paid to residents of the Granville electorate?
 - (c) What is the total value of rebates paid to residents of the following postcodes have claimed the rebate:
 - (i) 2142;
 - (ii) 2145;
 - (iii) 2160;
 - (iv) 2161?

Answer—

I am advised:

The toll relief scheme is due to open in early 2023.

- * 9154 WESTMEAD METRO STATION—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) When will people be able to catch a train from Westmead metro station on the Sydney Metro West line to the City?

Answer—

I am advised

The Sydney Metro West project is on track to be completed by 2030.

- * 9155 GRANVILLE EXPRESS TRAINS—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Noting that the Government's 2017 railway timetable scrapped express trains to and from Granville station and that on 5 March 2019 the Liberal candidate for Granville claimed "Just announced that express train services will be returning to Granville Station, and it has just been delivered by the NSW Liberal Government":

- (a) Has the Government failed to implement this commitment?

- (i) If so, why?

Answer—

I am advised

In mid-2019, Transport for NSW investigated options on how to improve services for Granville customers. Transport for NSW determined it is currently not possible to add Granville Station back onto the express T1 Western Line services without impacting other services on the network, resulting in reduced capacity and at significant cost to the taxpayer.

Granville Station is an important station on the Sydney Trains network and continues to receive a high frequency service in the morning and afternoon peak, including a service every five minutes on the T2 Inner West & Leppington Line. Transport for NSW considers current service levels are in line with demand.

When making changes to the network, Transport for NSW considers what will deliver the best journeys for the majority of customers, through the analysis of Opal data which shows where and when customers are travelling. Transport for NSW will continue to explore opportunities to improve services for Granville customers.

- * 9156 WESTMEAD PUBLIC SCHOOL—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) Noting the Premier's reply to a question without notice from me in the Legislative Assembly on 3 June 2020; and noting that the Liberal Candidate for Granville on 5 March 2019 claimed "I've delivered a new school for Westmead":

- (a) Are the pupils and students of Westmead still waiting for a new school for Westmead?

- (i) If so, why?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Answer—

The NSW Government has fully funded a project to deliver a new primary school in Westmead (South). Planning is currently underway and the project will include fit-for-purpose learning spaces and core facilities to support the growing population in Western Sydney.

Every student is entitled to enrol at the local school they are eligible to attend. Further updates relating to this project will be communicated via the School Infrastructure NSW website at <https://www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au>

* 9157 AUTOMATED PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) Why have the pedestrian crossing signals at traffic lights in high pedestrian activity zones in inner city areas like Darlinghurst, Surry Hills, Pyrmont, Ultimo, Woolloomooloo and Chippendale that were automated during the pandemic been removed?
- (2) Before these automated pedestrian crossing signals were removed at traffic lights:
 - (a) What consultation occurred with inner city communities?
 - (b) What assessment was made of their success in protecting pedestrian safety and encouraging active transport use?
 - (c) What assessment was made of their need given low car ownership rates and high walking and public transport use rates in the inner city?
- (3) What consideration was given to setting these pedestrian crossing signals at traffic lights to automated during peak pedestrian hours as done in the Central Business District before they were removed?
- (4) What consideration will the Government give to reinstating all automated pedestrian crossing signals at traffic lights in the inner city?
- (5) How can residents and visitors in high pedestrian activity zones request that traffic lights be set to automated pedestrian crossing during peak pedestrian hours?

Answer—

I am advised:

This is a matter for the Minister for Active Transport.

* 9158 WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE TAXIS—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) To what extent has the number of wheelchair accessible taxis operating in New South Wales declined in recent years?
 - (a) What is the reason for the decline?
- (2) What is the average wait time for a person in metropolitan Sydney for a wheelchair accessible taxi?
- (3) What is the average wait time for a person across New South Wales for a wheelchair accessible taxi?
- (4) What service standards apply for booking and waiting for wheelchair accessible taxis?
 - (a) To what extent are they being met?
- (5) What action is the Government taking to significantly increase supply of point-to-point wheelchair accessible transport across New South Wales or provide alternative on-demand services?

- (6) When are improvements expected to be delivered?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Wheelchair accessible taxis play an important role in the point to point transport industry, providing safe passenger services for people in wheelchairs. COVID-19 has impacted the industry with the number of wheelchair accessible vehicles on the road decreasing.

Like other states, industry representatives across NSW are also reporting a shortage of drivers, including those trained to provide wheelchair accessible taxi passenger services. The Point to Point Transport Commissioner (the Commissioner) recently announced a temporary change to driver eligibility requirements, to support an increase in passenger services. The temporary exemption will be in place for 18 months until April 2024 to address driver supply concerns and support industry recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Transport for NSW and the Commissioner are working together to support an increase of wheelchair accessible services. The Commissioner is also continuing to consult industry representatives, to better understand the reasons behind the ongoing drop in numbers of wheelchair accessible taxis.

- (2) and (3) Currently there are two wheelchair booking services operating within the Sydney metropolitan area. This makes it difficult to accurately determine an average wait time. In addition, many wheelchair customers have a preferred driver and will book their journey directly with this driver and these trips are not recorded in any available booking service data.

Also, the Wheelchair Book & Ride service only operates in the Sydney Metropolitan area. The NSW Government does not monitor wait times for wheelchair accessible taxis beyond this.

- (4) Providers of wheelchair accessible taxis services have a primary duty of care to ensure the safety of their services. They also have an obligation to ensure all wheelchair accessible taxi drivers can demonstrate competence in the safe loading, restraint, carriage and unloading of a customer in a wheelchair.

Wheelchair accessible taxi vehicle owners are responsible for ensuring wheelchair accessible taxi vehicles have appropriate safety restraints and meet the minimum cabin measurement requirements.

Service providers and taxi licence holders are responsible for ensuring bookings can be obtained through the approved centralised booking service operated by Spinal Cord Injuries Australia (SCIA) and called Wheelchair Book and Ride. SCIA is required to have documented in their safety management system the action they will take in the event of a breach. Other service providers may still take bookings for wheelchair accessible taxis, but drivers must still be able to take bookings from Wheelchair Book and Ride.

Wheelchair accessible taxi drivers must prioritise bookings from passengers travelling in a wheelchair under the Point to Point Transport Commission's Wheelchair Accessible Taxi Preferential Hiring Compliance Procedure*.

As at 23 November 2022, the Commissioner has issued 197 warning letters to taxi licence holders concerning their ability to obtain bookings from Wheelchair Book and Ride. Seven wheelchair accessible taxi licences have been permanently cancelled by the Commissioner for not giving preference to customers in wheelchairs.

- (5) and (6) To support the availability of wheelchair-accessible taxis, Transport for NSW will increase the subsidy paid to the driver for each journey. That will encourage the recruitment and retention of appropriately trained drivers and incentivise them to prioritise customers who rely on wheelchair-accessible taxi services. Transport for NSW will also increase the funding that is available under the Wheelchair Accessible Taxi interest-free Loan Scheme to provide for an additional 50 loans, each with a maximum value of \$100,000.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

The Commissioner has also recently announced a temporary change to driver eligibility requirements, to support an increase in passenger services. The temporary exemption means a driver must have held an unrestricted Australian licence for a total of 12 months over the preceding four years, rather than over 2 years. This allows drivers who stopped driving during COVID-19 to re-enter the industry without waiting another 12 months, as they would have under existing eligibility requirements. The exemption will be in place for 18 months until April 2024.

* 9159 NSW POLICE VISITS TO POTENTIAL PROTESTORS HOMES—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police—

- (1) Is it true that NSW Police visited homes of climate activists including activists associated with Blockade Australia, warning them that they will be arrested if they attend an unauthorised protest at the International Mining and Resources Conference last week?
- (2) How many activists were visited?
- (3) How did NSW Police determine who to visit?
- (4) On what basis did NSW Police consider this pre-emptive action against potential peaceful assembly necessary?
- (5) Was NSW Police contacted by any organisation or company requesting action against potential protesters ahead of the conference?
 - (a) If so, which organisations/companies requested this action?
- (6) What questions were asked of climate activists?
 - (a) What warnings were given?
- (7) Is the Government aware of reports that climate activists were told that it would be unlawful to protest if a Form 1 is not submitted and that they could be arrested for simply attending?
- (8) What assessment has the Government made of the validity of such claims?
- (9) What response will the Government provide to Amnesty International which has raised concerns that these visits are “intimidating activists who have exercised their human rights to freedom of expression, assembly, and association, and their families”?
- (10) What commitment will the Government make to cease these visits?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) A prevention and disruption strategy was adopted by the NSW Police Force involving members of Blockade Australia who were subject to current court-imposed bail restrictions excluding them from entering the Sydney CBD, associating with other known members and contacting other members, for the purpose of reminding them of their bail conditions.
- (2) A total of 100 homes were visited from the 93 people identified, with 28 people spoken to by Police.
- (3) Police identified individuals involved in the 2019 Melbourne protests, members of Blockade Australia subject to current court-imposed bail conditions and potential Blockade IMARC protesters.
- (4) The purpose of these visits was to provide education on recent legislative changes under the Roads Act 1993, to provide information about the Form 1 process required in NSW (where a notice of intention to hold a public assembly is required to be provided to the Commissioner of Police under the Summary Offences Act 1988), and to remind those on court-imposed bail of their bail conditions.
- (5) No.

(6) Persons spoken to by Police were offered a Form 1 to complete, which would provide notice, in writing, of intention to hold a public assembly under the Summary Offences Act 1988. For an authorised public assembly to occur the Form 1 notice would require particulars of a proposed public assembly to be authorised by the Commissioner of Police and to ensure public safety during any public assembly. Warnings were given with regards to the provisions of the new legislation under Section 144G of the Roads Act 1993, in addition to the Form 1 process in NSW.

(7) to (10)

Potential protesters were advised that if a Form 1 had not been submitted to the NSW Police Force as outlined in the Summary Offences Act 1988, then this event may constitute an unauthorised public assembly.

* 9160 RETURN AND EARN COLLECTION POINTS—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Environment and Heritage—

(1) How many additional collection points for Return and Earn have been added since LA Q 2405:

- (a) In the Sydney electorate?
- (b) In the City of Sydney?
- (c) In the Woollahra Municipal Council area?

(2) How many collection points are there now in:

- (a) The Central Business District?
- (b) Pyrmont?
- (c) Surry Hills?
- (d) Paddington?
- (e) The Kings Cross, Woolloomooloo, Potts Point postcode 2011 area?

(3) What action is being taken to increase the number of collection points in the inner city?

(4) How does the Government provide for larger apartment buildings to operate in-house collection points?

(a) How many of these are available in the inner city?

(5) How does the Government provide for collection points at major supermarkets and train stations?

(a) How many of these are operating in the inner city?

(6) What plans does the Government have to improve access to Return and Earn collection points in the inner city?

Answer—

(1)

- (a) Four.
- (b) Three.
- (c) Zero.

(2)

- (a) Two.
- (b) One.
- (c) One.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (d) Zero.
- (e) Two.
- (3) Under TOMRA Cleanaway's recently extended service delivery period, there is a requirement for the number of return points to be commensurate with population size in Sydney's metropolitan areas. There is a further requirement to deploy an additional automated return point in the City of Sydney Local Government Area.
- (4) Apart from the requirement for the number of return points to be commensurate with population size in Sydney's metropolitan areas, TOMRA Cleanaway is investigating deploying small format machines that will be better suited to high-density areas.
 - (a) None.
- (5) TOMRA Cleanaway often co-locates automated return points in and around shopping centres. TOMRA Cleanaway is also investigating small format machines that could be deployed at, in or near space-limited shopping areas, retail outlets and train stations.
 - (a) There is one Over the Counter (OTC) return point located in Millers Point, a Donation Point (DP) located at Martin Place Station, one OTC located at Darling Harbour, one OTC located at Ultimo, and two DPs located in Haymarket.
- (6) Refer to response to Question 3.

* 9161 SOCIAL HOUSING OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST PILOT TRIAL—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Corrections representing the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services—

- (1) How long did the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) Housing trial of in-house occupational therapists operate?
 - (a) What areas did it cover?
 - (b) How many tenants used this service?
 - (c) How many tenants in the Sydney electorate or inner Sydney used this service?
 - (d) How many tenants were referred by occupational therapists to NDIS or MyAgedCare to pay for home modifications?
 - (e) How many tenants were identified as needing modifications and waitlisted for occupational therapist assessment?
 - (f) What assessment has the Government made of the value of this program?
- (2) Will the Government continue to provide occupational therapists for social housing tenants in need of home modifications to enable them to maintain their tenancy?
- (3) How does the Government ensure that social housing tenants with increasing accessibility needs are identified, assessed and supported to live safely in their homes?
- (4) What options do tenants who cannot afford private occupational therapists have to obtain the required occupational therapist assessment and report for home modifications required for them to maintain their tenancy?
- (5) What further action will the Government take to ensure access to occupational therapist assessments and reports for social housing tenants to obtain necessary home modifications?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) made funding available in 2022/23 for each housing district across NSW to engage the services of Occupational Therapists (OTs).

Since commencement of the OT project, housing districts have received approximately 703 modification or OT assessment requests. Data is not available by electorate nor is data collected on referrals to NDIS or MyAgedCare for home modifications.

- (2) & (4) The NSW Government will continue to provide funding for OT services available to tenants. Further consideration regarding funding beyond 2022/23 will be made in the next financial year. Tenants can also access the services of OTs through the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and NSW Health.
- (3) DCJ identifies the accessibility needs of tenants through a range of different tenancy management activities including client service visits and liaising with support services engaged with tenants. DCJ will provide assistance to tenants in applying for home modifications, as per the Disability Modifications Policy. The overall responsibility for funding and the delivery of modifications of public housing properties rests with the NSW Land and Housing Corporation and the Minister for Planning and Homes, as the asset owner and landlord.
- (5) The government is committed to the continual improvement of services to clients who require home modifications.

* 9162 STADIA TRANSPORT—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What public transport options provide for transport from the eastern suburbs to the Moore Park sporting stadia other than the south eastern light rail?
- (2) What direct public transport from Bondi and Bondi Junction is available for major events at the stadia?
- (3) What plans does the Government have to provide additional public transport from eastern suburbs to cater for major events at the stadia?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)-(2) This information is publicly available on the Transport for NSW website.
- (3) Transport for NSW continues to monitor passenger loadings on Moore Park precinct bus services and provides additional services as required.

* 9163 SHORT TERM TENTAL ACCOMMODATION (STRA) REGISTER—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

- (1) How many of the following in New South Wales have been excluded from the Short Term Rental Accommodation (STRA) register at some stage since it began and therefore from participating in STRA:
 - (a) Hosts?
 - (b) Properties?
 - (c) Guests?
- (2) What action should neighbours take if they have a complaint about STRA in an adjacent home including for noise disturbances to ensure it feeds into the register and any decisions for excluding participants?
- (3) How many complaints have been received about STRA from neighbours through Fair Trading since the register began?
- (4) How does the Government promote the online complaint form through Fair Trading for STRA?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (5) What obligations are there on STRA booking platforms to provide neighbours who make complaints about hosts, properties or guests with information on how to feed those complaints into the register?
- (6) What organisations, agencies and businesses have access to complaints about STRA made to Fair Trading?
- (7) What work has been done by Fair Trading taken to refer complaints about STRA participants to NSW Police?
- (8) Who makes the final determination on what action should be taken in response to these complaints, including whether a participant should be excluded and what is that based on?
- (9) What action has been taken so far?
- (10) What action will the Government take to ensure neighbours know the best way to raise concerns about STRA in their neighbourhood?

Answer—

This question should be directed to the Minister for Fair Trading.

* 9164 HOME SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) What specific programs are in place to assist home-owners to improve the energy efficiency and environmental sustainability of their homes?
- (2) What specific programs are in place to assist renters to improve the energy efficiency and environmental sustainability of their homes?
- (3) What specific programs are in place to assist tenants of public and social housing to improve the energy efficiency and environmental sustainability of their homes?

Answer—

I am advised:

This is a matter for the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy.

* 9165 LONG COVID—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Health—

- (1) How is the Government tracking cases of long COVID?
- (2) What specific support is available for New South Wales citizens with long COVID?
- (3) How is the Government working to increase care capacity for citizens with long COVID, particularly in regional communities?

Answer—

(1 – 3)

Since March 2020, the NSW Government has committed \$9 billion help ensure our healthcare system is well placed to manage the ongoing impacts of COVID-19 and respond to current and future COVID-19 related issues. The 2022-23 NSW Budget includes nearly \$900 million to fund the ongoing costs of COVID-19, including \$180 million for the operation of COVID/fever clinics and \$19 million for the management of long COVID.

Diagnosis for long COVID is largely based on a clinical assessment of exclusion where other conditions with similar symptoms are ruled out. Estimates of prevalence are based on international literature, which often includes self-report of symptoms.

There are a range of clinics across NSW supporting people experiencing ongoing symptoms following a COVID diagnosis, including four dedicated Long-COVID clinics that are operated by rehabilitation specialists. These are located at St Vincent's Hospital, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Nepean Hospital and within Western NSW Local Health District Integrated Care.

The NSW Ministry of Health, in collaboration with the Agency for Clinical Innovation, is developing a Long-COVID-19 Model of Care that will support a standardised, statewide approach to delivering guided, evidence-based care for patients. Additional information on long COVID is available on the NSW Government website.

* 9166 RIDESHARE WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that many privately owned rideshare vehicles operating across New South Wales do not meet New South Wales Wheelchair accessibility standards?
- (2) What specific regulatory action is being taken to improve accessibility standards in the New South Wales rideshare industry?

Answer—

I am advised

Under Clause 10 of the Point to Point Transport (Taxis and Hire Vehicles) Regulation 2017, wheelchair accessible hire vehicles must comply with the vehicle standards on space, hoists, ramps and restraints if they are providing a wheelchair accessible service.

Major rideshare providers such as Uber do not offer such services. There are rideshare services for people with disability such as Uber ASSIST where a passenger is required to transfer to a seat in the vehicle and the wheelchair is carried separately. Such services are not considered to be wheelchair accessible services under point to point law as the passenger is not transported whilst sitting in a wheelchair.

Transport for NSW is continuing to work with the Commonwealth Government on improvements to the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport. These standards include requirements for rideshare vehicles that provide wheelchair accessible services.

* 9167 SOFT PLASTICS RECYCLING—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Environment and Heritage—

- (1) What is the Government's response to the suspension of soft plastics recycling by REDcycle?
- (2) What specific actions is the Government taking in response to the suspension?
- (3) How does the Government plan to increase the capacity for soft plastics recycling in New South Wales?

Answer—

- (1) REDcycle has been providing an important service for communities across NSW to help reduce the amount of soft plastic going into landfill and increase plastics recycling. I appreciate how frustrating it is that the REDcycle service has been temporarily paused. The NSW Government would like to see a soft plastics service resume as soon as possible.
- (2) I have asked the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to immediately work with REDcycle and other stakeholders to better understand the challenges impacting their operations and to get the service up and running again as soon as possible. The EPA will also work with REDcycle to ensure that any stockpiles of soft plastics are properly managed.
- (3) Under the NSW Plastics Action Plan, the NSW Government has committed to tripling plastic recycling by 2030. The Government has already awarded \$25 million to 27 projects through the Remanufacture NSW and Remanufacture NSW: Regional and Remote programs, including four projects specifically supporting the development of more processing capacity to increase recycling and reuse of soft plastics. The Government is also offering a further \$9 million through the recently

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

released Circular Plastics Program for companies to reduce the use of hard to recycle plastics, like soft plastics, at the manufacturing phase and increase use of recycled plastic in new products.

* 9168 TTSS FARE INCENTIVES—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the fare incentive structures currently in place under the Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme for drivers in the New South Wales Wheelchair Book & Ride system?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that this fare incentive structure has resulted in a tendency for Wheelchair Book & Ride service provision to emphasise fare collection over pickup of New South Wales wheelchair users when and where they need?
- (3) What specific plans are being considered to amend the TTSS fare incentive structure to encourage better Wheelchair Book & Ride service provisioning in regional New South Wales?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Wheelchair Book & Ride service is a centralised booking service providing a single contact point for booking wheelchair accessible taxis in the Sydney metropolitan area. It does not provide fare incentives.

Trips that are undertaken by Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme (TTSS) participants are required by law to utilise the taxi meter. There are no fare incentives applied to these trips. The Wheelchair Accessible Taxi Driver Incentive Subsidy is a payment made to drivers for the assistance provided when boarding and securing a TTSS wheelchair passenger in a Wheelchair Accessible Taxi. The Driver Incentive Subsidy is not a fare incentive.

To support the availability of wheelchair-accessible taxis, Transport for NSW will increase the subsidy paid to the driver for each journey. That will encourage the recruitment and retention of appropriately trained drivers and incentivise them to prioritise customers who rely on wheelchair-accessible taxi services.

* 9169 WHEELCHAIR BOOK & RIDE DRIVER RETENTION—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the alarming decline in the number of drivers using the New South Wales Wheelchair Book & Ride service following the COVID-19 pandemic?
- (2) What specific plans and actions are being considered to address Wheelchair Book and Ride driver shortages and driver retention across regional and metropolitan New South Wales?

Answer—

I am advised:

I refer to the response to LA 9158.

* 9170 WHEELCHAIR BOOK & RIDE REGIONAL URBAN DIVIDE—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that Wheelchair Book & Ride drivers often cluster disproportionately near major urban transport interchanges?
- (2) Is the Minister aware of reports made by community representatives and disability advocates regarding Wheelchair Book & Ride drivers loitering outside airport terminals to collect fare incentives?
- (3) Is the Minister aware that rural and regional centres are currently experiencing major shortages of Wheelchair Book & Ride drivers?

- (4) What specific actions is the Government taking to ensure New South Wales passengers with disabilities can access affordable, reliable, and timely wheelchair accessible transport services regardless of location, time, and minimum distance of travel?
- (5) What specific action is being taken to improve the disproportionate distribution of available Wheelchair Book & Ride services between rural/regional and metropolitan New South Wales?

Answer—

I am advised

Wheelchair accessible taxis play an important role in the Point to Point transport industry, providing safe passenger services for people in wheelchairs.

The Point to Point Transport Commissioner (the Commissioner) monitors wheelchair accessible taxis to ensure their compliance with the law. The Commissioner has issued 197 warning letters to taxi licence holders concerning their ability to obtain bookings from Wheelchair Book and Ride.

These compliance measures includes the cancellation of seven wheelchair accessible taxi licences for not giving preference to customers in wheelchairs.

COVID-19 has impacted the industry with the number of wheelchair accessible vehicles on the road decreasing. Like other states, industry representatives across NSW are also reporting a shortage of drivers, including those trained to provide wheelchair accessible taxi passenger services.

The Point to Point Transport Independent Review 2020 made several recommendations to support access and inclusion, particularly access to wheelchair accessible services. The NSW Government supports further measures being introduced to ensure the ongoing provision and commercial viability of wheelchair accessible services.

The Commissioner recently announced a temporary change to driver eligibility requirements, to support an increase in passenger services. The temporary exemption means a driver must have held an unrestricted Australian licence for a total of 12 months over the preceding four years, rather than over 2 years. This allows drivers who stopped driving during COVID-19 to re-enter the industry without waiting another 12 months, as they would have under existing eligibility requirements. The exemption will be in place for 18 months until April 2024. Industry representatives have welcomed this change as a positive step towards addressing driver supply concerns and supporting industry recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic.

To support the availability of wheelchair-accessible taxis, Transport for NSW will increase the subsidy paid to the driver for each journey. That will encourage the recruitment and retention of appropriately trained drivers and incentivise them to prioritise customers who rely on wheelchair-accessible taxi services.

Transport for NSW will also increase the interest-free funding that is available under the Wheelchair Accessible Taxi Loan Scheme to provide for an additional 50 loans, each with a maximum value of \$100,000. That loan scheme is designed to assist service providers in putting new wheelchair-accessible taxis on the road that comply with the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport.

* 9171 WHEELCHAIR BOOK & RIDE WAIT TIMES—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the blowout in waiting times for people with disability, of up to 2 hours in some instances, utilising the Wheelchair Book & Ride service?
- (2) What specific plans are being considered to address the blowout in wait times for people with disability utilising the Wheelchair Book & Ride service?

Answer—

I am advised:

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Delays for obtaining a wheelchair accessible taxi through the Wheelchair Book & Ride centralised booking service can occur for various reasons. This includes the shortage of wheelchair vehicles, suitably qualified drivers to operate these as well consistent compliance with current licencing conditions.

To support the availability of wheelchair-accessible taxis, Transport for NSW will increase the subsidy paid to the driver for each journey. That will encourage the recruitment and retention of appropriately trained drivers and incentivise them to prioritise customers who rely on wheelchair-accessible taxi services.

Transport for NSW will also increase the funding that is available under the Wheelchair Accessible Taxi interest-free Loan Scheme to provide for an additional 50 loans, each with a maximum value of \$100,000. That loan scheme is designed to assist service providers in putting new wheelchair-accessible taxis on the road that comply with the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport.

The Point to Point Transport Commissioner has also recently announced a temporary change to driver eligibility requirements, to support an increase in passenger services. The temporary exemption means a driver must demonstrate a history of holding an unrestricted Australian licence for a total of 12 months over the preceding four years, rather than over 2 years. This allows drivers who stopped driving during COVID-19 to re-enter the industry without waiting another 12 months, as they would have under existing eligibility requirements. The exemption will be in place for 18 months until April 2024.

* 9172 RIDESHARE WHEELCHAIR DEREGULATION—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What is the ambition of the Government's proposed continued deregulation regime regarding the provision of wheelchair accessible point to point services?
- (2) What specific actions are being considered to address market failure in wait times, driver retention and supply, urban clustering, and a fare-motivated incentive structure across the Wheelchair Book & Ride system in further deregulation plans regarding the point-to-point transport regime?

Answer—

I am advised

The Point to Point Transport Independent Review 2020 made several recommendations to support access and inclusion, particularly access to wheelchair accessible services. The NSW Government supports further measures being introduced to ensure the ongoing provision and commercial viability of wheelchair accessible services.

To support the availability of wheelchair-accessible taxis, Transport for NSW will increase the subsidy paid to the driver for each journey. That will encourage the recruitment and retention of appropriately trained drivers and incentivise them to prioritise customers who rely on wheelchair-accessible taxi services.

Transport for NSW will also increase the funding that is available under the Wheelchair Accessible Taxi interest-free Loan Scheme to provide for an additional 50 loans, each with a maximum value of \$100,000. That loan scheme is designed to assist service providers in putting new wheelchair-accessible taxis on the road that comply with the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport.

The Point to Point Transport Commissioner has also recently announced a temporary change to driver eligibility requirements, to support an increase in passenger services. The temporary exemption means a driver must have held an unrestricted Australian licence for a total of 12 months over the preceding four years, rather than over 2 years. This allows drivers who stopped driving during COVID-19 to re-enter the industry without waiting another 12 months, as they would have under existing eligibility requirements. The exemption will be in place for 18 months until April 2024.

* 9173 RESIDENTIAL COLLEGES AT NSW UNIVERSITIES—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) Recently, the Daily Telegraph reported that 20 students at St Andrews College at the University of Sydney were suspended for allegedly forcibly entering the bedrooms of female students and behaving in an intimidating manner.

Given this:

- (a) What oversight or responsibility, if any, do you have as the Minister for Education in relation to St Andrews College?
- (b) Does the NSW Department of Education have any oversight role over residential colleges at the University of Sydney and other New South Wales universities?
 - (i) If so, what policies are in place to ensure residents behave in an appropriate manner?
- (c) What action has been taken by you or the Department in response to the most recent concerning reports?

Answer—

- (1)
- (a) Neither the Minister for Skills and Training nor the Minister for Education and Early Learning have oversight of, or responsibility for, St Andrew's College. While St Andrew's College is established under an act of NSW Parliament, there is no provision for either Minister to intervene in the College's administration or its disciplinary actions.
 - (b) The NSW Department of Education has no oversight or administrative role over residential colleges at NSW universities.
 - (i) Residents and staff of university residential colleges at the University of Sydney and other universities are subject to all relevant State and Federal legislation, as well as the policies and procedures of the colleges themselves.
 - (c) Management of misconduct allegations at university residential colleges is the responsibility of the colleges themselves, or in the case of possible criminal activity, a matter for the Police. Administrators of such colleges are required to abide by all relevant State and Federal legislation.

* 9174 SYDNEY TRAINS DELAYS DUE TO WET WEATHER—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) On 6 October 2022, heavy rains caused major delays to several Sydney Trains services on the T1 line, significantly impacting a large number of commuters. Our office has been told that passengers received conflicting information about the cause of the delays, and that little information was available in real time both on the ground and online.

Noting the above:

- (a) Can you please provide a summary of the cause(s) of the major delays and disruptions that left hundreds of passengers stranded on 6 October 2022?
 - (b) What strategies were used to update ground and train staff and passengers about the cause of the disruptions, alternative transport options, and resolution times?
- (2) Given that the delays to Sydney Trains services on 6 October 2022 were far from the only such delays caused by wet weather this year, and given that the Bureau of Meteorology is forecasting above-average rainfall for northern and eastern Australia during spring and summer:

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (a) What efforts are being made to safeguard against further disruptions to rail services due to wet weather?
- (b) What are the current protocols in place for communicating with those passengers caught in these disruptions and how is it ensured that this communication is working effectively?
- (c) Are any improvements to existing procedures being made to ensure that disruptions are clearly communicated to passengers and promptly addressed?
- (d) Are there any plans to implement procedures to ensure that passengers affected by future rail disruptions caused by wet weather can access alternative transport options at no additional cost to them?

Answer—

I am advised:

On 6 October 2022, the Sydney Trains network experienced service delays and disruptions caused by significant rainfall which caused flooding that damaged equipment at Central Station. Train Services were unable to operate from Central Station platforms 1-12 and 18.

At the same time, engineering works were being undertaken on the T1 North Shore and T3 Bankstown line, with buses replacing train services which made the incident more complex to manage.

In response to the disruption, Sydney Trains provided incident status updates to station staff and train crew through email, group phone calls, station staff applications, text messages and Train Location System Noticeboards.

Also, when available, information on the cause and duration of the disruption were communicated through Transport for NSW's applications and websites, station information screens and announcements, as well as on-train information screens. Sydney Trains continues to provide free bus replacement services for commuters impacted by major disruptions.

Sydney Trains has, and will continue to, conduct post disruption event debriefs to improve rail network operations including network performance, recovery, and customer information. In addition, the Future Transport Strategy directs how Transport for NSW will invest in expanding innovation and harness technology and planning to operations to ensure we have a fully integrated approach.

* 9175 MEANWHILE USE FOR REQUISITIONED APARTMENTS IN CAMMERAY—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Our office understands that in March 2019 the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) purchased a house and six apartments in Cammeray for the purposes of constructing the Beaches Link tunnel.

We have been informed that the six apartment blocks are still extant and are currently standing empty pending further progress on the Beaches Link construction.

- (a) Can you confirm whether Transport for NSW assumed ownership of these properties following the dissolution of RMS in December 2019?
 - (i) If not, which Government department or agency is now the landholder of these properties?
- (2) In the Housing 2041 NSW Housing Strategy, the Government outlines its commitment to “[working] collaboratively with community partners and the private sector to deliver housing on government-owned land or assets” and “testing... new housing types, tenures and delivery models to demonstrate best practice on government-owned land”.
 - (a) Given this, what is the Government doing to advance collaborating with community partners on this site which contains six apartments requisitioned in Cammeray for “meanwhile use”?
 - (b) Has any action been taken to investigate or advance the "meanwhile use" of this site as housing for women escaping or at risk of family violence?

Answer—

I am advised

This is a matter for the Minister for Metropolitan Roads.

* 9176 THE ENTRANCE FIRE STATION—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

(1) I have been advised that The Entrance Fire Station has been experiencing recruitment difficulties and is currently understaffed. This is a critical station to The Entrance area and if short the station is tolled off and other further away stations cover the area. Please advise:

- (a) How often has the station been tolled off in 2022?
- (b) What has been the reason for the station to be tolled off?
- (c) What plans are in place to assist the station with the recruitment of additional staff?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The Entrance Fire Station is 80% staffed with 14 of the 17 funded firefighters occupied.

- (a) and (b) From 01/01/2022 to 15/11/2022, The Entrance Fire Station was ToLed on 156 occasions due to the availability of Retained/On Call Firefighters.
- (c) Fire and Rescue NSW's (FRNSW) state-wide Sustainable On-Call Program is a strategic priority program set to improve established staff numbers and promote a more sustainable system.

FRNSW has also assigned two additional recruitment personnel to the Metropolitan North Area Command to improve the recruitment and retention of firefighters, including The Entrance Fire Station.

* 9177 TSUNAMI WARNING SYSTEM—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

(1) My constituent has raised concerns regarding the recent installation of a tsunami warning system at The Entrance Fire Station. In relation to The Entrance electorate:

- (a) What are the arrangements for emergency management of tsunamis?
- (b) What are the locations of the warnings systems?
- (c) What communication has been provided to the community concerning the installation of the warning system as well as general education on what is required should the warning system be triggered?

Answer—

- (a) The arrangements for the emergency management of tsunamis in NSW is articulated in the State Emergency Plan and the NSW State Tsunami Plan, enacted under the State Emergency Management Act, 1989. NSW SES is the lead agency for preparedness, response, and transition to recovery for tsunamis.

Tsunami prediction and warnings are managed by the Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre (JATWC), a collaborative arrangement between Geoscience Australia (GA) and the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM). Warnings issued by the JATWC are separated into two response action categories. One is a marine and immediate foreshore threat, where persons are required to get out of the water and away from the immediate edge of beaches and estuaries. The second is a land threat, where persons near the coast are required to go at least

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

one kilometre away from coasts and estuaries and/or go to high ground (at least ten metres high).

- (b) Offshore in deep ocean off Australia's east coast and in the Pacific Ocean near New Zealand.
- (c) As part of the finalisation of the Tsunami action plan, the Wyong NSW SES Unit will continue community engagement activities concerning the warning system and appropriate action to be taken when it is triggered.

* 9178 REGULATORY LIMITS OF POWER STATIONS—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Environment and Heritage—

- (1) I refer to your Answer to my Question on Notice No 8829. In relation to 2 (b) can you please advise:
 - (a) What are the regulatory limits of the power stations at Vales Point, Eraring and Colongra?
 - (i) Do they comply with regulatory limits?

Answer—

- (1)
 - (a) Air concentration limits for power stations at Vales Point, Eraring and Colongra are specified in their respective Environment Protection Licences, which are publicly available on the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO) Public Register.
 - (i) In general, there is a high level of compliance with the air concentration limits at these facilities. Licensees are required to report incidents of non-compliance with the regulatory limits in their Annual Returns. This information can also be found on the POEO Public Register.

* 9179 MOWING OF MEDIAN STRIP—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) I continually make representations, on behalf of the community, to Central Coast Council regarding maintenance and mowing of the median located on Central Coast Highway between Wyong Rd and Tuggerah Parade. Council's response is that, as per the contract specification with Transport for NSW, they have not received notification of Non-Conformance Rectification in relation to the median. The community expect a regular maintenance and mowing schedule in this area. This is particularly important in the lead up to special events and the holiday season which draws many tourists to the area. Can you please advise:
 - (a) How often do Surveillance Officers for Transport for NSW carry out inspections?
 - (b) When was the last programmed inspection audit conducted?
 - (c) Why did Council have to undertake special mowing works on the eve of an annual 3-day tourism event that commenced on 21 October 2022 in The Entrance Township?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Central Coast Highway is maintained by Central Coast Council under Transport for NSW contracts, through the Road Maintenance Council Contract arrangement.
 - (a) Transport for NSW Surveillance Officers carry out inspections once or twice a week. Inspections can increase in frequency if there is a concentrated amount of work being carried out in an area.
 - (b) Transport for NSW completed the last programmed inspection audit on 26 October 2022.

- (c) Council advised that a mowing took place on 17 September 2022, and although the grass did not meet the usual intervention level of the maintenance specification, an additional mowing took place on 20 October for amenity reasons, prior to the event.

Council has also scheduled mowing in this area for mid-December, before the Christmas break.

* 9180 TAHE LANDHOLDINGS AT BANKSTOWN CITY PLAZA—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Cities, and Minister for Active Transport—

- (1) In the past three years, has TAHE received any correspondence from Canterbury-Bankstown Council regarding TAHE landholdings at Bankstown City Plaza?

- (a) If yes, what was the nature of such correspondence?

Answer—

I am advised:

No.

* 9181 EAL CONSULTING CONTRACTS WITH COUNCILS—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) To the best of your knowledge, has EAL Consulting been awarded any contracts, tenders or provided any service to any Council in New South Wales?

Answer—

I am advised:

Neither I, nor the Office of Local Government, hold information about contracts councils may have entered into with consultants.

Under the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW, council officials are required to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest they have in matters they are dealing with. If they have a pecuniary or significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter, they must not participate in any consideration of or decision making in relation to that matter. If anyone has any concerns that a council official has failed to comply with these requirements, they should report it to the Office of Local Government so that it can be considered further.

* 9182 EAL CONSULTING BURWOOD COUNCIL—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) To the best of your knowledge, can you please advise whether EAL Consulting has been awarded any contracts, tenders or provided any service to Burwood Council or to companies seeking such services from Burwood Council?

- (a) What is the total value of such contracts, tenders and services?

Answer—

I am advised:

Neither I, nor the Office of Local Government, hold information about contracts councils may have entered into with consultants. The question would be more appropriately directed to the council concerned.

Under the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW, council officials are required to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest they have in matters they are dealing with. If they have a pecuniary or significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter, they must not participate in any consideration of or decision making in relation to that matter. If anyone has any concerns that a council official has failed to comply with these requirements, they should report it to the Office of Local Government so that it can be considered further.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

* 9183 EAL CONSULTING CANTERBURY-BANKSTOWN COUNCIL—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Local Government—

(1) To the best of your knowledge, can you please advise whether EAL Consulting has been awarded any contracts, tenders or provided any service to Canterbury-Bankstown Council or to companies seeking such services from Canterbury-Bankstown Council?

(a) What is the total value of such contracts, tenders and services?

Answer—

I am advised:

Neither I, nor the Office of Local Government, hold information about contracts councils may have entered into with consultants. The question would be more appropriately directed to the council concerned.

Under the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW, council officials are required to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest they have in matters they are dealing with. If they have a pecuniary or significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter, they must not participate in any consideration of or decision making in relation to that matter. If anyone has any concerns that a council official has failed to comply with these requirements, they should report it to the Office of Local Government so that it can be considered further.

* 9184 CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Local Government—

(1) Given that as part of the approval of DA 877/2016, which in 2017 consolidated Council land with private landholdings and gifted increased zoning to a commercial planning proposal in exchange for Canterbury-Bankstown Council receiving 4426 sqm for “Council Administration Building”:

(a) Has the Minister been provided with an update from Canterbury-Bankstown Council on the status of Council’s move to this administration building?

(i) If yes, what is the update?

Answer—

I am advised:

Neither I, nor the Office of Local Government, hold information on the status of the City of Canterbury Bankstown Council's move to a new administration building.

This question would be more appropriately directed to Council.

* 9185 EAL CONSULTING PLANNING PROPOSALS—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

(1) Has EAL Consulting had any involvement with any planning proposal in New South Wales in the past 10 years?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Department of Planning and Environment has not engaged the services of EAL Consulting based on a search of its relevant vendor records dating back to 2015.

The Department is unable to comment on whether EAL Consulting was engaged by any third parties or made submissions in relation to any planning proposals during this period.

* 9186 PRIMARY AND HIGH SCHOOL ENROLMENT IN BANKSTOWN, EAST HILLS AND LAKEMBA—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) For each primary and high school in the Electorates of Bankstown, East Hills and Lakemba, please advise:
 - (a) The Number of students enrolled in 2022.
 - (b) The Approved Department enrolment capacity in 2022.
 - (c) The number of demountables in 2022.
 - (d) The total value of maintenance requests made by each school.

Answer—

- (1)
 - (a) Enrolment data for NSW public schools is published annually and made publicly available on the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE) Data Hub.
 - (b) Schools do not have an enrolment capacity; every eligible student who wishes to attend a NSW public school will be given a place at their local school.
 - (c) The number of demountables at each school is available via the ‘demountables’ tab of the individual school page located on the School Infrastructure NSW website at <https://www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/>.
 - (d) Maintenance provided to schools is both planned and reactive. This includes planned maintenance, preventative/statutory maintenance and ad hoc, reactive maintenance. The estimated total maintenance expenditure for each school is determined at the end of each financial year. Accordingly, the total value of requested maintenance alone cannot be easily determined.

Moreover, the NSW Government is investing an additional \$1.2 billion, taking the total planned maintenance investment to \$2.2 billion over four years.

The funding will address high priority maintenance and keep students learning in some of the best school facilities in Australia. Works such as ceiling repairs, floor renewals, roof replacements, pavement repairs and painting are some examples of this work. Maintenance projects are prioritised according to need, using data collected at the school level.

* 9187 BANKSTOWN HOSPITAL SERVICES—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Health—

- (1) Will the new Bankstown Hospital include provision for the following services?
 - (a) Increased inpatient mental health beds
 - (b) Inpatient drug and alcohol treatment or detox services
 - (c) Inpatient palliative care services
- (2) If not, then why not?

Answer—

(1 – 2)

The scope of services included in the new Bankstown Hospital will be confirmed following completion of the site selection process. An announcement will be made in due course.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

* 9188 LOCAL PLANNING MATTERS MEETING—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) What “local planning matters” (as per your Meeting Disclosure Summary) did you discuss with Canterbury-Bankstown Council on 4 August 2022?

<https://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/assets/dpc-nsw-gov-au/publications/2127/Minister-for-Planning-and-Homes.pdf>

- (2) Who attended this meeting?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The meeting discussed the acquisition of land at 30 Trevenar Street, Ashbury, for the creation of public recreational land and open space.
- (2) The attendees were:
- Khal Asfour – Mayor
 - Matthew Stewart - General Manager
 - Simon Manoski - Director Planning
 - Myself and relevant advisors

* 9189 NO INCREASE IN FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO FOSTER CARERS—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Corrections representing the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services—

Noting that foster carers in the Electorate of Lismore who have raised this issue with me need the increase to keep pace with the Consumer Price Index.

Why has the Government not applied any increase in the financial support paid to foster carers for the care of children in out-of-home care in New South Wales for the current financial year?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government has increased the carer allowance by 5.5 per cent, to alleviate the cost of living pressures.

The allowance increases, backdated to July 2022, have been applied to statutory care allowances, supported care allowances, out-of-home-care adoption allowances and Post Care Education Support for the Department of Communities and Justice carers.

Non-government service providers must, at a minimum, match the government's rate.

* 9190 VISIBILITY OF WATERNSW RAIN GAGES BYRON CREEK AND COOPERS CREEK—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

Noting the O’Kane-Fuller Independent Flood Report made commentary that existing gauge assets could be brought into service to assist with flood warnings. This would aid the situational awareness of residents living downstream.

Will the Government ensure that real-time information from WaterNSW’s rain gauges on Byron Creek and Coopers Creek at Fairmeadow is made visible to the public on the Bureau of Meteorology website and Lismore City Council’s Disaster Dashboard?

Answer—

WaterNSW operates one gauge at Byron Creek and three gauges at Coopers Creek in accordance with the WaterNSW Water Monitoring Program and its regulatory and statutory obligations.

These are river gauges (which record river height and river flow) and do not presently record rainfall. There are other gauges in this vicinity that record rainfall, operated by Lismore City Council.

WaterNSW has both a mechanism and a responsibility to provide real-time or near real-time information from dams, rivers and meteorological monitoring stations to the Bureau of Meteorology. There are existing mechanisms for local councils and the public to access the monitoring data from these river gauges directly from WaterNSW.

The NSW Government is committed to building more accurate and complete data for flood threat identification, warning and modelling systems, and is considering how to implement relevant recommendations of the NSW Independent Flood Inquiry.

- * 9191 BUY BACK OFFER FOR LISMORE TAXI OWNERS—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

Why is the Government only offering Lismore's taxi licence owners an average of \$55,000 to buy back their plates, considering that they paid an average of \$250,000 for each plate when they entered the industry?

Answer—

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

- * 9192 UPPER HOUSE INQUIRY REGARDING VALUE IN TAXI LICENSES—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

Do you accept an Upper House Inquiry's findings from 2020 that the Government was solely responsible for the destruction of value in taxi licences in New South Wales, including in regional areas where people rely heavily on taxis due to the lack of public transport?

Answer—

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

- * 9193 ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN FOR NORTHERN NSW—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Premier—

Now that the \$800-million Resilient Homes Fund is open for expressions of interest, will the Government task the Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation with developing a comprehensive Economic-Environment Recovery Plan for the region?

Answer—

The NSW Government is committed to supporting the reconstruction and recovery of the Northern Rivers.

The Commonwealth and NSW Government \$800 million Resilient Homes program will support around 2,000 residential homeowners impacted in the February-March 2022 floods to raise, repair, retrofit or have their home voluntarily bought back.

Further questions should be directed to the Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW.

- * 9194 FOUR ZONES FOR MAXIMUM BUY-BACK OF REGIONAL TAXI LICENCES—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

Why does the Government's maximum buy-back offer of \$130,000 for regional taxi licences only apply to four zones, including Tweed Heads, Ballina and Coffs Harbour/Sawtell?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Answer—

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

- * 9195 VISIBILITY OF ROCKY CREEK DAM RAIN AND SPILLWAY GAUGE—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

Noting that the O’Kane-Fuller Independent Flood Report made commentary that existing gauge assets could be brought into service to assist with flood warnings. This would aid the situational awareness of residents living downstream.

Will the Government ensure that real-time information from Rous County Council’s rain and spillway gauges at Rocky Creek Dam is made visible to the public on the Bureau of Meteorology website and on Lismore City Council’s Disaster Dashboard?

Answer—

The NSW Government is committed to building more accurate and complete data for flood threat identification, warning and modelling systems, and is considering how to implement relevant recommendations of the NSW Independent Flood Inquiry.

- * 9196 VARIANCES IN BUY-BACK OFFERS FOR REGIONAL TAXI LICENCES—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

Can the Government explain the variances in how much it is offering to buy back regional taxi licences, i.e. \$25,000 for Byron Bay, Kyogle and Casino; \$55,000 for Lismore; \$75,000 for Mullumbimby; and \$130,000 for Tweed Heads, Ballina and Coffs Harbour-Sawtell?

Answer—

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

- * 9197 INVESTMENT COMMITMENTS—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

(1) On 20 February 2019, the former Transport Minister said the Government would deliver specific investment commitments in South Coast services, including:

- 10 car trains for peak hour services;
- An extra peak hour service between Wollongong and Sydney providing a 15 minute frequency for express services at Wollongong, North Wollongong, Thirroul and Helensburgh;
- An extra off peak service each hour between Wollongong and Sydney CBD
- Expanded weekend OSCAR services.

(a) Have all of these commitments made been delivered?

(i) If not, which of the commitments made remain undelivered?

(ii) Why have the commitments in (i) not been delivered?

Answer—

I am advised

From January 2020, customers travelling on the South Coast Line on the weekend benefitted from more than 19,000 additional seats, with most four-car services between Kiama, Wollongong and Sydney being replaced by eight-car services.

The delivery of the remaining service improvements planned for the South Coast Line are linked to the introduction of Mariyung trains in the region.

Transport for NSW is working closely with the Rail Tram and Bus Union to get the new fleet into service as soon as possible.

* 9198 SPATIAL DIGITAL TWIN—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) What council areas are currently hosted on the Spatial Digital Twin?
- (2) How much has been spent on developing the Spatial Digital Twin to date?
- (3) What was the total budget allocation for the development of the Spatial Digital Twin?
- (4) Which council areas will be added to the Spatial Digital Twin in:
 - (a) 2022?
 - (b) 2023?
- (5) How long will it take for all communities in New South Wales to be part of the Spatial Digital Twin?
- (6) What is the estimated total cost to have all communities part of the Spatial Digital Twin?

Answer—

The NSW Spatial Digital Twin (SDT) provides 3D spatial data coverage for the LGAs of Camden, Shoalhaven, Fairfield, Hawkesbury, Liverpool, Maitland, Penrith, The Hills, Wollondilly, Blacktown, Blue Mountains, Campbelltown, City of Parramatta, Newcastle, Wollongong and Bathurst.

It also provides 2D foundation spatial data coverage across the state, produced and supplied by DCS Spatial Services. There is additional statewide coverage of some NSW Government agency and Commonwealth spatial data that includes near real-time (4D) data feeds.

- (1) \$16,550,101 has been spent developing the SDT to date.
- (2) A total of \$40 million was allocated from the Digital Restart Fund to develop and rollout the NSW Spatial Digital Twin, with the funding allocated to end of June 2024.
- (4)
 - (a) LGAs included in the 2022 SDT include: Camden, Shoalhaven, Fairfield, Hawkesbury, Liverpool, Maitland, Penrith, The Hills, Wollondilly, Blacktown, Blue Mountains, Campbelltown, City of Parramatta and Newcastle, Wollongong and Bathurst.
 - (b)

The 2023 program plans to incorporate the LGAs of Port Stephens, Central Coast, Goulburn Mulwaree, Parkes, Canterbury-Bankstown, Cessnock, Cumberland, Kiama, Lake Macquarie and Shellharbour.
- (5) Subject to full funding of the program, as per the approved business case, full 3D coverage of all NSW communities can be completed by June 2026.
- (6) \$99.5 million.

* 9199 CYBERATTACKS—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

What programs are currently in place to assist individuals, not-for-profit organisations, and small businesses reduce their susceptibility to cyberattacks?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Answer—

NSW Government collaborates with other states, territories and the Commonwealth to strengthen the nation's cyber security and ability to respond to cyber incidents.

- This includes through active participation in cyber security bodies, such as the National Cyber Security Committee and the Digital and Data Ministers' Meeting.
- Cyber Security NSW collaborates with industry professionals, sharing best practice knowledge and management for government agencies and departments.
- While citizens, not-for-profit organisations and small businesses are not directly within the remit of NSW Government's prevention and response cyber security services, Cyber Security NSW has a key role in keeping our communities safe when they access public services online, by uplifting the cyber security of all NSW Government entities.
- The Commonwealth government, coordinating with state and territory governments and industry representatives, assists individuals, not-for-profits and small businesses to reduce their susceptibility to cyber attacks through:
 - the Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) 'Small Business Cyber Security Guide', which details how to reduce the impact of cyber security incidents
 - the provision of information by the ACSC on what individuals and families can do to be more cyber safe, and
 - the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC), whose Scamwatch outlines areas in the cyber environment for caution.
- Through ID Support NSW, NSW Government takes an active role in assisting citizens impacted by cyber attacks or data breaches.
- ID Support NSW is a nation-leading unit helping customers after government proof-of-identity credentials are stolen or fraudulently obtained.
- ID Support NSW can assist impacted NSW Citizens by:
 - guiding victims to resecure their identity
 - informing best cyber safe practices
 - directing victims to additional support when necessary
 - performing harm assessments on stolen identities creating an identity risk profile for those affected

* 9200 PARKS FOR PEOPLE PROGRAM—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

How much of the Parks for People program remains uncommitted as at 10 November 2022?

Answer—

I am advised:

The entire program budget has been allocated.

* 9201 NATIONAL HOUSING ACCORD—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) What role is the Government playing in the implementation of the National Housing Accord?
- (2) What work has the Minister tasked the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) to undertake to implement New South Wales' obligations under the National Housing Accord?

(3) When will this work be completed?

Answer—

I am advised:

This is a matter for the Treasurer and Minister for Energy.

* 9202 MALDON-DOMBARTON RAIL LINK—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

(1) Has Transport for NSW or any related agencies commissioned any investigations into an assessment of any kind into the Maldon-Dombarton rail link since the Register of Interest process in October 2014?

(a) If so, what is the scope of this work?

(b) If so, by what date will these investigations be completed?

(i) Will the findings of these investigations be made public?

(1) If so, by what date?

(2) If not, why not?

(c) Is the project still listed on Infrastructure Australia's Priority List?

(i) How long has the project been on the Infrastructure Australia Priority List?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Malden to Dombarton rail link was most recently identified in Transport for NSW's Illawarra-Shoalhaven Regional Transport Plan as an initiative for investigation.

Information about the Maldon-Dombarton Rail Link project can be found on the Infrastructure Australia website.

* 9203 SERVICE NSW ADVERTISING—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

(1) What is the monthly spend on all forms of advertising of the Service NSW Saving Finder for:

(a) 2020?

(b) 2021?

(c) 2022?

(2) What is the monthly forecast expenditure for all forms of advertising of the Service NSW Saving Finder:

(a) 2022?

(b) 2023?

(3) What is the monthly spend on all forms of advertising of the Service NSW Saving Finder that is targeted at residents of the Wollongong local government area for:

(a) 2020?

(b) 2021?

(c) 2022?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (4) What is the monthly forecast expenditure for all forms of advertising of the Service NSW Saving Finder that is targeted at residents of the Wollongong local government area for:

- (a) 2022?
(b) 2023?

Answer—

(1)

January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November
\$759,310	\$90,846	\$23,551	\$1,401,399	\$1,113,866	\$1,968,782	\$160,482	\$1,254,256	\$2,248,464	\$1,314,778	\$1,518,242

(2)

(a)

December
\$1,480,637

(b)

January
\$1,780,455

(3)

The advertising spend for 2022 is below. Seeking amounts for other months would direct resources unnecessarily.

January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November
\$14,255	\$1,442	\$199	\$31,088	\$22,753	\$40,780	\$3,477	\$29,895	\$43,872	\$35,986	\$31,643

(4)

(a)

December
\$30,234

(b)

January
\$52,271

* 9204 GREENER NEIGHBOURHOODS PROGRAM—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) How much funding has been allocated to the Greener Neighbourhoods Program?
(2) How many founding rounds of the program have there been?
(3) Is this an ongoing program?
(4) What projects have been funded under the program as of 10 November 2022?

- (5) Will the program be extended to cover the local government areas now part of the Six Cities Regions under the Greater Cities Commission?
- (6) Has Wollongong City Council received any funding under the program?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) This information is publicly available at <https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/premiers-priorities/greening-our-city/greener-neighbourhoods>
- (2) To date, funding has been provided through one grant round under the Greener Neighbourhoods Grant Program. The recipients of funding were notified in April 2022.
- (3) The Greener Neighbourhoods Program is funded from the Climate Change Fund and is within its program of funding until 2030.
- (4) A full list of successful projects is publicly available at <https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/premiers-priorities/greening-our-city/greener-neighbourhoods>
- (5) The Greener Neighbourhoods program comprises three components: data, funding and policy support for councils. The data and funding components of the program apply to Greater Sydney councils. The policy component of the program is designed to be accessible to all NSW councils, with the Greener Neighbourhoods Guide, released in 2021, applicable state-wide.
- (6) This information is publicly available:
<https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/premiers-priorities/greening-our-city/greener-neighbourhoods>

* 9205 RECOMMENDATION IMPLEMENTATION—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) What is the range of work that is underway to implement each recommendation of the NSW Productivity Commission's White Paper in the areas of planning and infrastructure, which have been listed as 'under consideration' or 'in progress' in the Commission's Status Report published in August 2022?
- (2) Please list the work that is underway for each recommendation listed in the Commission's Status Report?
- (a) Which agency is conducting this work?
- (b) When will this work be completed?
- (c) When will the recommendations be fully implemented?
- (3) Has the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) or any of its agencies examined the productivity of the construction industry in New South Wales?
- (a) If not, why not?
- (b) If so, has this work been released publicly?
- (i) Where is it published?

Answer—

I am advised:

Work is ongoing in relation to a number of recommendations in line with government, financial and resourcing priorities. More information is available at www.productivity.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-08/20220817-Implementation-status-of-White-Paper-recommendations.pdf

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Q.3: This question should be directed to the Department of Customer Service.

* 9206 RURAL ACCESS GAP PROGRAM—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

With respect to Rural Access Gap Program:

- (1) What was the total capital cost and the recurrent cost of the Rural Access Gap program?
- (2) Have all the schools in the program been completed?
 - (a) If not, when will they be completed?
 - (b) Why have there been delays?
- (3) Is there any school in the Kiama Electorate not included in the program?
 - (a) If not, which schools haven't been included and why?
- (4) When will the program goals be evaluated and will a report on this program be publicly available?
- (5) What was the total cost of consultants on this program?
- (6) Were these consultants existing Departmental staffed roles or were they outsourced?
- (7) Of the consultancy budget for this project, what proportion of the budget comprised outsourced consultants?
- (8) Does the Department of Education employ project management teams for projects like this?
 - (a) If yes, how many departmental staff were engaged in delivering this program and what role did they play?

Answer—

- (1) The Rural Access Gap program is a \$365.8 million investment by the NSW Government in the digital uplift of regional and remote schools.
- (2) The Rural Access Gap program consists of two main components, an infrastructure upgrade and an uplift to the teaching and learning capabilities of schools.

The infrastructure upgrades have been completed at all schools included in the program except for six that are currently on hold due to flood impact.

The teaching and learning uplift includes the investment in school staff by funding and mentoring Digital Classroom Officers (DCOs). This engagement with each school is for a period of one day a week for 12 months. DCOs then support schools with digital uplift in the classroom and the school's front office. The program is on-going, with the final engagement to 451 schools due to commence in Term 1, 2023.

- (3) Schools were included in the Rural Access Gap program based on classifications for regional, rural and remote schools. There are five schools in the Kiama electorate that are not included in the program.
- (4) As per the DRF legislation, the Rural Access Gap program is required to have independent ICT Assurance Gateway Reviews facilitated by the Department of Customer Service (DCS). During these reviews, the program's progress and goals are evaluated.
- (5) The Department reports on consultancy expenditure in the annual report.
- (6) The Department of Education utilises both internal government consultants and external consulting firms on the Rural Access Gap program.

- (7) The total outsourced to major consulting companies as a percentage of the total program budget is equal to 0.23 per cent.
- (8) Yes, the Department of Education employs dedicated project, technical, administrative and educational staff.

* 9207 GREINER REVIEW OF RETIREMENT VILLAGES—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) With respect to Greiner Review of Retirement Villages:
 - (a) Will the Government undertake a review of changes implemented as a result of the Greiner Review into Retirement Village and relevant legislation and regulations in New South Wales?
 - (b) Will the Minister consider addressing concerns with respect to s26AA of the Retirement Village Regulations 2017 (NSW) which allow a retirement village operator to increase recurrent charges on existing residents' once a former occupant's liability to pay fees ceases?
 - (i) If not, why not?
 - (c) With respect to question (c), has the Minister been made aware of the concerns of local residents?
 - (i) Will the Minister undertake measures to address these concerns?
 - (d) Noting that the Assessment Management Register for retirement villages captured by the Act is now available to residents as a result of the Greiner reforms, how does the Minister respond to concerns from residents that they are being made to pay for the maintenance of assets once they have reached the end of their serviceable life rather than a retirement village honouring its obligation to replace broken assets?
 - (e) With respect to (d), would the Minister consider limiting the requirement that residents may have to pay for asset repairs only until an asset's depreciation has reached the end of its depreciable value?
 - (f) Does the Minister acknowledge resident concerns that current arrangements allow retirement village operators to force residents to keep on maintaining assets that would be cheaper to replace?
 - (g) Will the Minister meet with retirement village residents in my electorate to discuss these concerns?
 - (i) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (a) Yes.
- (b) The Minister has considered concerns relating to s26AA. The Department has updated guidance material available on the Fair Trading website.
- (c) If this should be in respect to (b), the Minister has been made aware and ensured a response to these concerns.
 - (i) The Department has updated guidance on the NSW Fair Trading website relating to the operation of s.26AA. The guidance was prepared in conjunction with the Property Council of Australia (PCA) and the Retirement Village Residents Association (RVRA).
- (d) Operators must maintain each item of capital for which they are responsible, in a reasonable condition considering the age and prospective life of the item and the money residents pay to the operator. If it is not practical to maintain, operators may replace the item.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (e) The Secretary Guideline for Retirement Village Asset Management Plans encourages a discussion between operators and residents before deciding to prolong the life of the item through maintenance or whether to replace it.
- Ideally, residents and operators would agree on what to do with these items. The aim of this provision is to ensure transparency and good management of finances by not replacing an item of capital if it is unnecessary to do so.
- Residents have recourse for the approval of expenditure through the budget process.
- (f) A strict policy geared toward replacement of assets where maintenance is reasonable could result in certain assets not being replaced if the cost is prohibitive. Such a policy could also be to the detriment of residents.
- (g) NSW Fair Trading is the regulator for retirement villages and meets regularly with residents and the RVRA to address resident concerns. The Minister supports easy access to Government for residents to discuss any issues impacting their experience in NSW retirement villages.

15 NOVEMBER 2022

(Paper No. 178)

* 9208 DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES OWNED HOUSES—Ms Sophie Cotsis to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) How many houses are owned under the Department of Family and Community Services in the electorate of Canterbury?
 - (a) How many of these houses are currently vacant?
- (2) How many homes in Campsie 2194 are currently owned under the Department of Family and Community Services?
 - (a) How many of these are standalone houses?
 - (b) How many of these are 1-bedroom homes?
 - (c) How many of these are 2-bedroom homes?
 - (d) How many of these are 3-bedroom homes?
 - (e) How many homes in Campsie 2194 are currently vacant?
- (3) How many houses in Canterbury 2193 are currently owned under the Department of Family and Community Services?
 - (a) How many of these are standalone houses?
 - (b) How many of these are 1-bedroom homes?
 - (c) How many of these are 2-bedroom homes?
 - (d) How many of these are 3-bedroom homes?
 - (e) How many homes in Canterbury 2193 are currently vacant?
- (4) How many houses in Kingsgrove 2208 are currently owned under the Department of Family and Community Services?
 - (a) How many of these are standalone houses?
 - (b) How many of these are 1-bedroom homes?
 - (c) How many of these are 2-bedroom homes?

- (d) How many of these are 3-bedroom homes?
- (e) How many homes in Kingsgrove 2208 are currently vacant?
- (5) How many houses in Roselands 2196 are currently owned under the Department of Family and Community Services?
 - (a) How many of these are standalone houses?
 - (b) How many of these are 1-bedroom homes?
 - (c) How many of these are 2-bedroom homes?
 - (d) How many of these are 3-bedroom homes?
 - (e) How many homes in Roselands 2196 are currently vacant?
- (6) How many houses in Earlwood 2206 are currently owned under the Department of Family and Community Services?
 - (a) How many of these are standalone houses?
 - (b) How many of these are 1-bedroom homes?
 - (c) How many of these are 2-bedroom homes?
 - (d) How many of these are 3-bedroom homes?
 - (e) How many homes in Earlwood 2206 are currently vacant?
- (7) How many houses in Belmore 2192 are currently owned under the Department of Family and Community Services?
 - (a) How many of these are standalone houses?
 - (b) How many of these are 1-bedroom homes?
 - (c) How many of these are 2-bedroom homes?
 - (d) How many of these are 3-bedroom homes?
 - (e) How many homes in Belmore 2192 are currently vacant?

Answer—

I am advised:

This is a matter for the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services.

* 9209 BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT—Mr Jihad Dib to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

- (1) What changes has the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) overseen to establish formal processes in bushfire agencies for continuous improvement in bushfire management, ie. to systematically review, document and learn from past actions?

Answer—

In 2020 the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) was given the statutory function to promote continuous improvement of emergency management, overseeing the implementation of lessons learned through reviews and inquiries, exercises, training, and operational responses.

The SEMC has endorsed a Lessons Management Framework for the NSW Emergency Management Sector, and has established the Lessons Management Advisory Group, a multi-agency forum to oversee analyses activities and lessons learned, to support improvement by individual agencies, and to identify where lessons may be applied across the emergency management sector. This framework is not exclusive to bush fires and is equally applied to any emergency management response.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

The SEMC considers an annual State Lessons Report outlining state level recommendations for improvement across the emergency management sector.

The 2020 State Lessons Report made 11 recommendations for improvement, with a focus on increasing capability across the sector in four key areas:

- Situational intelligence, information sharing and interoperability;
- Operations management and co-ordination;
- Community engagement, planning, capacity and resilience; and
- Community information, alerts and warnings.

The SEMC endorsed the report in March 2021, and as of 30 May 2022, 100% of the 11 recommendations completed or in progress.

The Lessons Management Framework for the NSW Emergency Management Sector may be viewed at www.opengov.nsw.gov.au

* 9210 METRO/MINERVA THEATRE—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Regional Youth, and Minister for Tourism—

- (1) What consideration has the Government given to re-activation of the Metro/Minerva Theatre in Kings Cross since LA 1740?
- (2) Will the Government buy the building and re-activate it as a theatre?
- (3) What further plans does the Government have to encourage use of this building as a theatre?

Answer—

- (1) The Metro/Minerva building was listed on the State Heritage Register in December 2020.

In 2020, Create NSW and the City of Sydney co-funded a feasibility study into the restoration of the Minerva Theatre. The study considered whether it could re-open and operate sustainably as a performance venue into the future. In September 2021, this study was supplemented by a further report, which investigated in more detail whether the restoration could accommodate 1,000 seats.

Executive summaries of both studies are available on the Create NSW website: <https://www.create.nsw.gov.au/resources/minerva-theatre-feasibility-study/>

- (2) The government is awaiting the outcome of the current DA process. Any investment decision will be subject to approval of a business case.
- (3) In 2021, Central Element, the owner of the Metro/Minerva building, lodged an integrated DA with the City of Sydney to redevelop the site as a boutique hotel with live entertainment and hospitality offerings.

In the DA, Central Element proposes two entertainment and bar facilities, one with capacity for 250 people and the other for 440.

On 12 August 2021, the DA was referred to Heritage NSW and was on public exhibition until 15 September 2021. The DA is under consideration by the City of Sydney. As an item of State Heritage, the development application is also subject to review by the Heritage Council of NSW.

Archaeological testing was required for both historical archaeology and Aboriginal cultural heritage due to the excavation proposed by the development which prolonged the DA process. I understand that the archaeological reports have been received.

The NSW Government understands that the City of Sydney is undertaking an assessment of the proposal against the relevant planning controls, and this assessment will be submitted to the Local Planning Panel in 2023 who will then make a final decision.

* 9211 WORK READY, RELEASE READY—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Corrections—

- (1) What assessment has the Government made of the South Australian Work ‘Ready, Release Ready’ program that supports prisoners to build skills, confidence and readiness for jobs?
- (2) What programs does the Government fund or provide that help prisoners identify skills and job goals, develop a training plan, work in prison industries and/or get vocational qualification while they are in prison?
 - (a) How many prisoners in New South Wales receive this help?
- (3) What programs does the Government fund or provide that help prisoners prepare a resumé, role-play job interviews, apply for jobs and plan for release?
 - (a) How many prisoners in New South Wales receive this help?
- (4) What programs does the Government fund or provide that help prisoners transition from prison, prepare for employment and provide 12 months post-employment support as in the Work Ready, Release Ready program?
 - (a) How many prisoners in New South Wales receive post-release employment help?
- (5) What plans does the Government have to fund or provide programs like Work Ready, Release Ready?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Corrective Services NSW (CSNSW) has not formally assessed the South Australian ‘Work Ready, Release Ready’ program but CSNSW will review this program in 2023. CSNSW undertakes regular literature and research reviews as part of evidence gathering to inform policy of new insights, ideas and learning.
- (2) An individualised case plan is developed for sentenced inmates which considers matters such as literacy, numeracy and digital literacy and vocational training (workplace licences, traineeships, apprenticeship and part qualifications). Inmates may work in business units in correctional centres, undertaking employment in areas such as engineering, facilities maintenance, logistics/warehousing and food services.
 - (a) As at October 2022, 5,366 inmates were employed in business units and 2,076 were engaged in education from July to October 2022. All sentenced inmates have an individualised case plan.
- (3) CSNSW supports inmates to write resumes and prepare for job interviews through two key programs: Work Release and the Pathways to Employment (P2E) program. P2E provides pre and post release employment support to inmates towards the end of their sentence. P2E teams work with pre-release inmates on career planning, skills identification and interview preparation/resume building.

The Work Release Program provides a pathway for inmates to progress through security classification levels to a degree which allows them to engage in day release to attend paid employment with approved employers. Resume building and interview preparation form part of the suite of deliverables under Work Release.

- (a) As at November 2022, 169 inmates were currently participating in the Work Release Program. Since the P2E program commenced on 1 June 2021, 196 participants have commenced P2E (to 12 December 2022).

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (4) CSNSW delivers NEXUS, an 8-module intervention program delivered to inmates commencing 12 months prior to their release. It assists offenders to focus on barriers that affect the risk of reoffending. The eight modules cover areas including money, wellbeing, relationships, education and employment.

P2E features formalised agreements with industry partners in areas such as construction, hospitality, automotive and warehousing. Post release, P2E matches participants with available jobs which suit their skills, experience and post release location. P2E provides post release support for up to six months.

The Commonwealth funded Time to Work Employment Service operates in NSW correctional centres, providing Aboriginal inmates with pre-release assistance on employment related matters. Participants receive: an assessment of their employment barriers; assistance to develop a detailed transition plan; and a facilitated transfer from their in-prison service provider to their post-release employment service provider, where possible.

- (a) Since the P2E program commenced on 1 June 2021, there is a total 196 P2E participants (as at 12 December 2022).

The NSW Government considers funding and program needs on a regular basis. CSNSW delivers the Work Release and the Pathways to Employment (P2E) program.

* 9212 MARANGUKA JUSTICE REINVESTMENT—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Corrections—

- (1) What action has the Government taken to expand and extend programs like the Maranguka Justice Reinvestment in Bourke, which the KPMG evaluation found reduced bail breaches by 14 per cent and days in custody by 42 per cent, and had an economic benefit of \$3.1 million in 2017?
- (2) What similar programs does the Government provide or fund and where are these located?
- (3) What similar programs does the Government fund or operate that target disadvantaged First Nations communities?
- (4) What plans does the Government have to provide additional programs like Maranguka Justice Reinvestment?

Answer—

I am advised these matters fall under the portfolio responsibility of the Attorney General. The Member should direct his questions to The Hon. Mark Speakman, SC MP.

* 9213 LIGHT RAIL PRIORITY—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What changes have been made to the Central Business District (CBD) and South East light rail service to safely speed up services since LA 5415?
- (2) What plans does the Government have to give priority for public transport including light rail services over vehicle traffic in the CBD and inner city?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Since March 2021, Transport for NSW has implemented further refinements to traffic signals and phasing, including improving the use of advanced warning signals to reduce delays resulting from Light Rail Vehicles slowing down and accelerating in response to traffic signals.

Despite record patronage, in October 2022, CBD and South East Light Rail journey times further reduced to an average of 34.5 minutes.

- (2) There are a number of initiatives currently being delivered by Transport for NSW in conjunction with the City of Sydney and other stakeholders to provide increased priority to Light Rail Vehicles

services within the CBD. For example, the George Street north pedestrianisation project will consolidate intersection phasing, providing improved throughput at intersections, as well as reducing wait times for pedestrians through this area. The first improvements from this project will be delivered in first quarter of 2023.

* 9214 SUSTAINABLE CEMENT—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) What assessment has the Government made of alternatives to Portland cement, which is estimated to contribute seven per cent of greenhouse emissions?
- (2) What investigation has the Government made into more sustainable construction cement materials such natural fibres, industrial by-products and waste materials as reinforcement?
- (3) What information or advice does the Government provide to industry and community about more sustainable construction materials?
- (4) What plans does the Government have to encourage and support more sustainable construction materials to reduce emissions, resource depletion and waste?

Answer—

As this matter is the responsibility of the Minister for Planning, the question should be redirected to him.

* 9215 PARTY BOATS—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police—

- (1) What action has been taken to strengthen the Commercial Vessels Association's Code of Conduct since LA 6682 was answered in December 2021?
- (2) Are incident reports to NSW Police about party boat noise and anti-social behaviour on Sydney Harbour increasing or decreasing?
- (3) What numbers of reports were recorded this year each month?
 - (a) What locations are the subject of most reports?
- (4) What evaluation has the Government carried out into the effectiveness of current operations to address noise and anti-social behaviour impacts, particularly from persistent offenders?
- (5) What assessment has the Government made of the need for strong regulation?
- (6) What plans does the Government have to protect harbourside communities from offensive noise and anti-social behaviour associated with party boats late at night?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (2) Refer to the response provided to QoN 6209.

All other questions are a matter for the Minister for Transport to address.

* 9216 PUBLIC ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

- (1) What action has been taken under the NSW Electric Vehicle Strategy to provide easy access to public electric vehicle (EV) charging in inner city areas for residents without access to off-street parking charging options?
- (2) What action has been taken under the NSW Electric Vehicle Strategy to provide easy access to public EV charging for residents of apartment buildings without charging infrastructure?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (3) How many off-street public EV charging stations are operating and how many are planned under the Strategy?
- (4) How many of these public charging stations are in the inner city?
 - (a) How many are planned for the inner city?
- (5) What further action will the Government take to improve access to public electric vehicle charging in the inner city?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Government is investing \$149 million in electric vehicle (EV) fast-charging infrastructure across NSW. This includes the installation of fast charging stations throughout Greater Sydney along major highways and commuter corridors, ensuring that EV drivers in Sydney are no more than five kilometres away from the nearest public charger on average.

In June 2022, the NSW Government made a new budget announcement confirming the investment of an additional \$10 million for the provision of EV kerbside charging infrastructure in high-density areas to support residents with limited access to off-street parking. Suitable kerbside locations in the inner city that meet funding criteria are being identified during the program's research and development phase.

- (2) Under the NSW Net Zero Plan in 2020, the Electric Vehicle Ready Buildings program was created to provide guidance and support for apartment residents so that they can gain easy access to EV charging within apartment buildings. The program has provided case study examples in pilot buildings and a suite of online guidance materials. The information included tools for owners, tenants, building managers and strata managers to guide them through the process of retrofitting existing buildings to be EV-ready.

In June 2022, the NSW Government announced \$10 million to co-fund EV charging infrastructure upgrades in approximately 120 medium-to-large apartment buildings. This program will publicly commence in 2023, with applications opening mid-2023 once industry consultation and program design have been completed.

- (3) The EV Council's State of Electric Vehicles October 2022 report listed 33 ultra-fast charging locations (100kW and above), 85 fast charging locations (between 24kW and 99kW), and 529 regular charging locations (below 24kW) in NSW.

Under the Fast-Charging Grants program, 275 fast charging stations will be built across NSW. The first co-funding round for the fast-charging grants was recently completed, with the NSW Government approving 86 fast charging stations to be installed and ready for public use by the end of 2024.

The Destination Charging Grants program plans to install up to 3500 7kW-22kW AC chargers in regional location across the State over the next four years.

There are approximately 103 existing public charging stations located in the inner city. This covers suburbs located in the north shore, inner west, inner city, and eastern suburbs of Sydney.

- (4) Under the Drive Electric NSW EV Fast Charging Grants, it is planned to co-fund 40 fast charging stations in the inner city. This does not include EV stations planned by the private sector or outside of the NSW Government's EV Strategy. These 40 sites include suburbs located in the north shore, inner west, inner city, and eastern suburbs of Sydney.
- (5) In June 2022, the NSW Government dedicated an additional \$18 million to build larger fast charging stations in areas of high demand in metropolitan Sydney. Of these 22 larger stations that will be co-funded, 10 fall within the inner-city suburbs of the north shore, inner west, inner city, and eastern suburbs of Sydney.

The NSW Government is also investing an additional \$10 million for the provision of EV kerbside charging infrastructure in high-density areas to support residents with limited access to off-street parking. See the response to question 1 for more detail.

* 9217 COMMON SEWER LINES—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Environment and Heritage—

- (1) What assessment has the Government made of problems for landowners where defects in common sewer lines run across a number of properties requiring all owners to take action and agree on repairs?
- (2) Has the Government considered measures to speed up resolution and repairs apart from council orders under the Protection of the Environment Act?
- (3) What other measures will the Government introduce to make it easier and quicker for landowners with common sewer lines to repair defects and prevent sewage leaks or overflows?

Answer—

- (1) This question should be referred to the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Wendy Tuckerman MP.
- (2) This question should be referred to the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Wendy Tuckerman MP, and the Minister for Fair Trading, the Hon Victor Dominello MP.
- (3) This question should be referred to the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Wendy Tuckerman MP.

* 9218 CASINO OVERSIGHT—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

- (1) During the period between when Liquor and Gaming NSW took over casino regulation in 2016 and the delivery of the Bergin report, what casino offences were identified and prosecuted by Liquor and Gaming?
- (2) Why were the multiple and serious Star Casino offences identified by the Bell report not identified by Liquor and Gaming during that period?
- (3) Were all the interview panel members for the new NSW Independent Casino Commission positions current Liquor and Gaming staff?
- (4) How many former Star or Crown casino gaming personnel are currently employed by Liquor and Gaming?
- (5) How many of these staff were employed during the four years that Liquor and Gaming was the enforcement agency for casinos?
- (6) Were any current or ex Star or Crown casino gaming staff interviewed for roles with the new NSW Independent Casino Commission?
 - (a) If so, why did this occur when the Bergin report recommended restrictions on appointing former officers of any casino licensee to the dedicated casino authority at 5.2.39?
- (7) To what extent will the NSW Independent Casino Commission use its powers against board members and senior associates who have found to have breaches or committed wrongdoings but have now resigned, such as issuing an exclusion order?

Answer—

- (1) This information is published in the Liquor and Gaming annual reports.
- (2) Several Star Casino offences canvassed by the Bell Review and referenced in the Bell Report were identified by Liquor & Gaming NSW and submitted to the Review. These either formed part of the

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Terms of Reference for the Review or informed questioning by Counsel Assisting the Review. Liquor & Gaming NSW continued to brief Counsel Assisting during the course of the Review.

- (3) No.
- (4) Nine.
- (5) Eight.
- (6) No current employees of The Star or Crown Sydney were interviewed for roles in the Office of the NSW Independent Casino Commission.
 - (a) The Bergin Report did not make any formal recommendation in this regard. The Report stated that “It is suggested that there should be restrictions on former officers of any casino licensee being appointed to the ICC so as to avoid issues, actual or perceived, with regulatory capture.” The actions above are consistent with the Report’s suggestion.
- (7) The NSW Independent Casino Commission is an independent statutory agency which exercises its powers independent of government.

* 9219 COUNCIL FUNDS USE—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Local Government—

In light of your comments on A Current Affair on 20 October 2022 concerning Council paid expenses for Mayors and Councillors, why will you not take action over the Liverpool Council policy or proposed policy to use Council funds for individual Councillors to obtain professional advice?

Answer—

I am advised:

Refer to answer to LA QoN 8407.

* 9220 LOCAL GOVERNMENT CYBER SECURITY POLICY—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Local Government—

Has any further progress been made in the implementation by local government areas of the Local Government Cyber Security Policy?

Answer—

I am advised:

The guidelines have been published and a circular has been issued to councils.

* 9221 MASTERPLAN PROPOSALS—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) Why did your answer to Question 8608 not acknowledge that the concept of a 30kph zone in the Liverpool Central Business District in the City Centre Public Domain Masterplan was part of a ten year plan involving many other as yet not implemented proposals?
- (2) When will you provide funding for these other linked proposals:
 - (a) Upgrade of Macquarie Street?
 - (b) Upgrade the streetscape of Elizabeth Street?
 - (c) Upgrade Moore Street?
 - (d) Upgrade the streetscape of Scott Street and Memorial Avenue?
 - (e) Upgrade the Bigge Street streetscape?
 - (f) Upgrade George Street?
 - (g) Upgrade the streetscape of Railway Street?

- (h) Street tree planting along Hume Highway/Copeland Street?
- (i) Improve intersections along Hume Highway/Copeland Street?

Answer—

I am advised:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Metropolitan Roads.

* 9222 SES FUNDING—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

- (1) What was the total quantum for funding the SES NSW in the Liverpool Local Government Area for the following financial years:
 - (a) 2017-2018?
 - (b) 2018-2019?
 - (c) 2019-2020?
 - (d) 2020-2021?

Answer—

The NSW State Emergency Service uses a centralised model where costs are captured at an Agency or Zone level rather at the unit level to ensure strengthened and streamlined financial governance

* 9223 GRAFFITI CONTROL ACT REVIEW—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General—

When will the statutory review of the Graffiti Control Act be complete?

Answer—

I am advised:

I refer the Member to my answer to LA QON 8171.

* 9224 UPGRADE TO FIFTEENTH AVENUE—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

When will the State Government take action to upgrade Fifteenth Avenue, west of Cowpasture Road?

Answer—

I am advised:

Transport for NSW is progressing the planning for the Western City Road Transport Network, which includes Fifteenth Avenue, West of Cowpasture Road.

* 9225 ILLAWARRA REGION DRUG COURT—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General—

- (1) Will you implement a Drug Court for the Illawarra region?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government continues to consider opportunities to further expand the Drug Court, including to regional areas.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- * 9226 GREEN VALLEY POLICE STATION—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police—

When will an upgrade be provided to Green Valley Police station?

Answer—

I am advised:

Green Valley Police Station has not been identified for an upgrade under the NSW Police Force Capital Investment Plan for investment prioritisation in forward years.

Ongoing maintenance work will continue to be provided to Green Valley Police Station through the property services management portfolio.

- * 9227 RELOCATION OF DEPARTMENT STAFF—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General—

- (1) Has the relocation of Department of Communities and Justice corporate services staff from Liverpool to Parramatta been completed?

(a) If yes, how many staff did that involve?

(b) If no, when will it be completed?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Yes.

(a) Around 300.

(b) Not applicable.

- * 9228 ACQUISITION OF ASSUMED IDENTITIES AND OTHER MATTERS—Mr Paul Lynch to ask the Attorney General—

- (1) Will you support the recommendations in the report by the Inspector of the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission concerning LECC's acquisition and use of assumed identities and other matters related to covert investigations?

(a) If not, why not?

Answer—

The NSW Government carefully considers any and all recommendations made by the Inspector of the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission.

- * 9229 GROYPE AT THE ENTRANCE—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) In relation to the groyne located at The Entrance beach on the Central Coast constructed by Public Works during 2017 please advise:

(a) Is the groyne meeting its designed function?

(b) Are any other works examined in The Entrance Channel Options Study required to improve the management of The Channel?

(c) Are any other works required to support the operation of the groyne?

Answer—

I am advised

The groyne is meeting its designed function and is operating as intended and expected.

Questions relating to other works examined in The Entrance Channel Options Study required to improve the management of The Channel are a matter for the Minister for Local Government.

* 9230 QTOPIA SYDNEY—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Health—

- (1) Are you aware that Qtopia Sydney will provide transformative stories of LGBTQIA+ history and experiences to broaden the knowledge and perspectives of students, educators and the general public, through innovative education participatory programs?
- (2) Are you aware that Qtopia is interested in moving into the old Darlinghurst Police Station facility on the corner of Forbes and Bourke Streets near Taylor Square?
- (3) What existing services are provided in that existing building?
- (4) Can these services be relocated?
- (5) What specific action is the Government taking to support the establishment of Qtopia?

Answer—

(1 – 5)

I am advised that the building located at 301 Forbes Street, Darlinghurst, is currently fully occupied by South Eastern Sydney Local Health District Population and Community Health. Services based in the building include outreach HIV and support services to vulnerable populations that support the health and well-being of the local community.

* 9231 PLANS FOR SOCIAL HOUSING—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) In relation to the Future Directions plans for social housing:
 - (a) Are there any plans for the suburb of Bellambi 2518?
 - (i) If so, what are they?
 - (b) Are there any future plans to transfer management of Government owned homes to the non-government sector, moving from around 18% to 35% of all social housing in New South Wales being managed by the sector in Bellambi?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) is planning to deliver 18 new social housing dwellings at Bellambi with construction due to commence in 2023. LAHC continues to work with Wollongong City Council under a broad Collaboration Agreement to deliver more and better fit-for-purpose social housing across the Wollongong local government area.
 - (a) No.
 - (b) LAHC does not currently have any plans for whole of location transfer of Government owned homes to the non-government sector, including Bellambi.

* 9232 WESTCONNEX ROZELLE—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) With regard to the WestConnex Rozelle Interchange tunnelling between The Crescent, Annandale and Iron Cove Bridge, Rozelle:
 - (a) How many claims for compensation have been made against the contractor for damage to property?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (b) What is the quantum of compensation that has been paid out in total, in response to claims arising from damage to property?
- (c) What percentage of claims for compensation arising from damage to property have been:
 - (i) Denied by the contractor?
 - (ii) Approved by the contractor without recourse to an independent arbiter or court?
 - (iii) Approved at the recommendation of an independent arbiter or court?

Answer—

I am advised:

Home-owners within 50 metres of the outer edge of the WestConnex Rozelle Interchange tunnels were offered a property condition survey before construction and will be offered another after construction. These surveys are designed to provide residents a record of the condition of their property.

Extensive monitoring both inside the tunnels and on the surface will also detect any ground movement. Tunnel support and structures are designed for the local ground conditions. While no impact to homes is expected, any impact found to be caused by construction will be addressed at no cost to residents.

Transport for NSW uses an Independent Property Impact Assessment Panel to review and determine the cause of any damage claims escalated to Transport for NSW.

16 NOVEMBER 2022

(Paper No. 179)

- * 9233 REVIEW OF PENSIONER CONCESSIONS FOR WATER—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

Given that the pensioner concession available to Essential Water (Broken Hill) customers has not increased in many years, is capped and is significantly lower than the pensioner rebate available to pensioners serviced by other water entities, will the Minister review the pensioner concession for Essential Water users and increase the rebate?

Answer—

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal has asked the NSW Government to consider the appropriateness of pensioner rebates across NSW and the Government is currently considering potential approaches for this review.

- * 9234 RELEASE OF GOVERNANCE REPORT—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Local Government—

When will the Minister release the Governance Report determining the future of the Central Darling Shire, that has been prepared by the Office of Local Government?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government is currently considering the report and will consult with the community prior to making any decisions.

- * 9235 COMMUNITY ROUND TABLE IN WILCANNIA—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police—

Given that on a recent visit to Wilcannia, a Community Round Table was promised, can the Deputy Premier confirm when this will be held?

Answer—

I am advised:

The roundtable is likely to be held in the week commencing February 6 2023. Details are currently being finalised.

- * 9236 DOPPLER RADAR IN FAR WESTERN NEW SOUTH WALES—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

Considering the weather events that have taken areas of the far west of New South Wales by surprise over the last year, due partly to the gap in radar coverage over that part of the state, when will the Government commit funds for the installation of a Doppler radar which will provide better coverage and weather predictive capabilities for Broken Hill, Central Darling Shire and Unincorporated New South Wales?

Answer—

Please refer to Question on Notice LA 8939

- * 9237 LEGISLATION REVIEWS—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) Noting that the Consultation Paper on the review of the Motor Vehicle Sports (Public Safety) Act 1985 was issued in October 2019:

- (a) Will a Government response to the consultation process be prepared?

(i) If yes, when will it be released?

(ii) If not, why not?

- (b) Will the Government develop a draft exposure bill to respond to the outcomes of the consultation process?

(i) If yes, when will it be released?

(ii) If not, why not?

- (2) Noting that the Review of the Combat Sports Act 2013 (June 2018) recommended that the Combat Sports Act 2013 be reviewed in five years in order to evaluate whether there is a need for a model under which sports bodies and organisations would be able to apply to the Authority to self-regulate, and whether such a model is viable:

- (a) Has the review commenced?

(i) If yes, when did it commence?

(ii) If not, why not?

- (3) Noting that the Review of the Combat Sports Act 2013 (June 2018) recommended that an Industry Advisory Committee (IAC) be established by the Authority under s 82 of the Combat Sports Act 2013, subject to the approval of the Minister, to provide ongoing target industry consultation:

- (a) Has the IAC been established?

(i) If yes, when was it established and who are its members?

(ii) If not, why not?

- (4) Noting that the Motor Sports Events Act 2022 commenced on 13 April 2022:

- (a) How many applications to 16 November 2022 have been received for a motor race authorization have been received?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (b) How many applications to 16 November 2022 have been approved for a motor race authorization have been received?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) I refer you to my previous answers.
- (2) Industry has been consulted in several tranches on reform options. The first tranche of consultation resulted in legislative amendments which commenced in 2019. A further set of proposals for legislative and regulatory reform is being finalised.
- (3) The Combat Sports Authority of NSW Industry Advisory Group has been established, details are on the Authority website.
- (4) Please check your questions wording.

* 9238 OUTSTANDING MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) Will the Minister be responding to outstanding correspondence sent to the Hon Natalie Ward MLC, former Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans in relation to:
 - (a) Briefing request sent on 14 July 2021 and resent on 9 November 2021 to Minister Ward; and forwarded to Minister Ayres on 21 January 2022; and forwarded to Minister Henskens on 12 September 2022?
 - (b) Briefing request sent on 16 July 2021 and resent on 9 November 2021 to Minister Ward; and forwarded to Minister Ayres on 17 January 2022; and forwarded to Minister Henskens on 12 September 2022?
 - (c) Letter and meeting request sent on 13 December 2021; and forwarded to Minister Henskens on 12 September 2022?
- (2) Will the Minister be responding to outstanding correspondence sent to the Hon Stuart Ayres MP, former Minister for Tourism and Sport in relation to:
 - (a) Letter and meeting request sent on 17 December 2021; and forwarded to Minister Henskens on 12 September 2022?
 - (b) Briefings request sent on 30 December 2021 and resent to Minister Ayres on 17 January 2022?
 - (c) Letter sent 20 June 2022; and forwarded to Minister Henskens on 12 September 2022?
- (3) Will the Minister be responding to outstanding correspondence sent to him in relation to:
 - (a) Letter sent on 19 August 2022?
 - (b) Letter sent on 11 November 2022?

Answer—

I am not aware of any outstanding correspondence for the Minister for Sport.

* 9239 SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE FLOOD RECOVERY FUND—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) In relation to the closing of applications for grants from the Sport Priority Needs Program on 24 August 2022:

- (a) How many applications were received?
- (b) What is the total value of the applications received?
- (c) When will successful applications be approved?
- (d) When will successful applications be announced?

Answer—

Successful projects have been published on the Office of Sport website.

* 9240 YOUTH PARLIAMENT—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Corrections representing the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services—

- (1) Noting your answer to Supplementary Question 144 to the Budget Estimates hearing on 30 August 2022 that “I am advised: I am yet to meet with the NSW Youth Parliament but hope to meet with the young members as soon as practicable”:
 - (a) Have you met with the NSW Youth Parliament?
 - (i) If yes, what was discussed?
 - (ii) If not, why not and when do you intend to meet the Members?
- (2) Noting the answer to Supplementary Question 8 to the Budget Estimates hearing on from the Minister for Regional Youth that “The NSW Youth Parliament Bills cross over several ministerial portfolios, and it is outside of the remit of the Minister for Regional Youth to make a comment about overall Government support for each Bill”:
 - (a) Does the Government have a process to ensure the NSW Youth Parliament’s bills and reports are considered by relevant Ministers and relevant agencies?
 - (i) If yes, what consideration is given to the bills?
 - (ii) If yes, will a response be provided?
 - (iii) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) I have met with a range of youth organisations and hope to connect with members of the NSW Youth Parliament soon.
- (2) (a) Relevant government ministers and agencies consider the bills as appropriate. Responses are a matter for the relevant minister and agency, in line with their standard allocation processes.

* 9241 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WELLBEING RECOVERY INITIATIVE—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police—

- (1) In relation to the large grants for storm and flood impacted regions:
 - (a) How many applications were received to 16 November 2022?
 - (b) What is the total value of the applications received to 16 November 2022?
 - (c) How many successful applications were approved to 16 November 2022?
 - (d) How many successful applications have been paid to 16 November 2022?
- (2) In relation to large grants for storm and flood impacted regions in metropolitan Local Government Areas (LGA):
 - (a) How many applications were received from metropolitan LGAs to 16 November 2022?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (b) What is the total value of the applications in metropolitan LGAs received to 16 November 2022?
- (c) How many successful applications in metropolitan LGAs approved to 16 November 2022?
- (d) How many successful applications in metropolitan LGAs have been paid to 16 November 2022?
- (3) In relation to the large grants for storm and flood impacted regions in regional LGAs:
 - (a) How many applications were received from regional LGAs to 16 November 2022?
 - (b) What is the total value of the applications in regional LGAs received to 16 November 2022?
 - (c) How many successful applications in regional LGAs approved to 16 November 2022?
 - (d) How many successful applications in regional LGAs have been paid to 16 November 2022?

Answer—

I am advised:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery.

* 9242 PACER PROGRAM—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Health—

Will the Minister be responding to outstanding correspondence sent to your office on 12 July 2022 concerning the PACER (Police, Ambulance, Clinical, Early, Response) program?

Answer—

I refer the Member to an email sent to her electorate office on 12 July 2022 that advised the matters raised fall under the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Mental Health and were therefore referred for response.

* 9243 CROWN RESERVES IMPROVEMENT FUND—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

- (1) How many parcels of land in the Granville electorate are eligible for applications to the Crown Reserves Improvement Fund?
- (2) How many parcels of land in the Cumberland Local Government Area (LGA) are eligible for applications to the Crown Reserves Improvement Fund?
- (3) How many parcels of land in Western Sydney are eligible for applications to the Crown Reserves Improvement Fund?
- (4) How many parcels of land in the Granville electorate have received funding for repairs, maintenance and improvements on Crown reserves since 2015?
- (5) How many parcels of land in the Cumberland LGA have received funding for repairs, maintenance and improvements on Crown reserves since 2015?
- (6) How many parcels of land in Western Sydney have received funding for repairs, maintenance and improvements on Crown reserves since 2015?
- (7) What is the total funding provided by the Crown Reserves Improvement Fund for repairs, maintenance and improvements on Crown reserves since 2015 in the Cumberland LGA?
- (8) What is the total funding provided by the Crown Reserves Improvement Fund for repairs, maintenance and improvements on Crown reserves since 2015 in Western Sydney?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) All parcels of Crown land, including freehold showgrounds, in the Granville electorate are eligible for funding from the Crown Reserves Improvement Fund (CRIF).
- (2) All parcels of Crown land in the Cumberland LGA, including freehold showgrounds, are eligible for funding from the CRIF.
- (3) All parcels of Crown land in Western Sydney, including freehold showgrounds, are eligible for funding from the CRIF.
- (4-8) successful grants are published on the Crown Land website.

* 9244 CLOSING THE GAP—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Regional Youth, and Minister for Tourism—

- (1) What progress has been achieved in New South Wales under the 'Close the Gap' national agreement's 17 targets?
 - (a) Is it true that only four of the 17 targets are on track to meet targets?
- (2) What assessment has the Government made about those targets not reached and what is needed to address these failings and reach the identified targets?
- (3) What further action will the Government take to achieve significant progress in closing the gap?

Answer—

I am advised:

All Information relating to Closing the Gap targets can be found in the 2021-22 NSW Closing the Gap Annual Report.

* 9245 CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL PLAN 2041—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) In relation to the Central Coast Regional Plan 2041, please advise:
 - (a) What consultation occurred with residents of the Central Coast?
 - (b) What specific consultation occurred with state parliamentary members representing the Central Coast?
 - (c) Which organisation or authority will prepare the 'urban development program' referred to on page 14?
 - (i) When will this occur?
 - (ii) Will residents have input into the program?
 - (d) Which organisation/authority will conduct the 'audit' referred to on page 14?
 - (i) When will this occur?
 - (ii) Will the information be shared with residents?
 - (e) Which organisation/authority will provide quarterly and annual reports?
 - (f) What is the status of the 'urban development committee' under the plan?
 - (g) Who decides when a 'place delivery group (PDG)' is created?
 - (h) Who is the 'Regional leadership executive'?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (i) How is this group created?
- (ii) What input do residents have to the body?

Answer—

I am advised:

This information is publicly available: <https://pp.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/draftplans/made-and-finalised/central-coast-regional-plan-2041#:~:text=Following%20a%20review%20that%20involved,2021%20until%204%20March%202022>

- (h) This is a matter for the Minister for Regional New South Wales.
- (i) This is a matter for the Minister for Regional New South Wales.
- (ii) This is a matter for the Minister for Regional New South Wales.

* 9246 CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL PLAN 2041 - BIODIVERSITY CORRIDORS—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) In relation to the Central Coast Regional Plan 2041, please advise:
 - (a) How can residents access the 'detailed mapping' of biodiversity corridors referred to on figure 5?
 - (i) Can these be identified on the ground?
 - (ii) What mechanism and regulation supports the protection of the corridors?
 - (iii) What input have residents had into the corridors?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) https://shared-drupal-s3fs.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/master-test/fapub_pdf/Lisa+Drupal+Documents/Central-Coast-Regional-Plan-2041.pdf
 - (a) Residents can request geographic information system (GIS) data from the Department of Planning and Environment.

* 9247 CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL PLAN 2041 - HIGHER DENSITY ALLOTMENTS—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) In relation to the Central Coast Regional Plan 2041, please advise:
 - (a) Will local strategic planning and the work of Place Delivery Groups override existing master plans?
 - (b) What mechanisms are available to encourage amalgamation of residential allotments into larger allotments suitable for higher density development?

Answer—

I am advised:

This information is publicly available at:

Central Coast Regional Plan 2041

https://shared-drupal-s3fs.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/master-test/fapub_pdf/Lisa+Drupal+Documents/Central-Coast-Regional-Plan-2041.pdf

Central Coast Local Environmental Plan 2022
<https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/epi-2022-0308#statusinformation>

* 9248 CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL PLAN 2041 - AFFORDABLE HOUSING ROUNDTABLE—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) In relation to the Central Coast Regional Plan 2041, please advise:
- (a) When will the department establish the 'Central Coast Affordable Housing Roundtable' on page 54?
 - (b) Will the target of 7,600 affordable homes between 2016-2036 provided by the 'Central Coast Affordable Alternative Housing Strategy' (page 54) be in addition to the housing targets provided in the Plan?
 - (c) How will the targets in the Plan and Strategy be monitored and reported?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) 2023.
- (b) Central Coast Council's target of 7,600 affordable homes is included in the Department's implied dwelling requirement.
- (c) Public reporting is set out in the Central Coast Regional Plan 2041 which is publicly available at www.planning.nsw.gov.au/-/media/Files/DPE/Plans-and-policies/Plans-for-your-area/Regional-plans/Central-Coast-Regional-Plan-2041.pdf?la=en

* 9249 HOSPITAL CODE BLACK—Mr Ryan Park to ask the Minister for Health—

- (1) In relation to Wollongong, Shoalhaven and Shellharbour hospitals, can you advise:
- (a) How many code blacks have been recorded for each of these hospitals over the last 5 calendar years and up to 15 November 2022?
 - (b) For each of these incidents could you indicate whether or not New South Wales police were called?

Answer—

I am advised that Code Black data does not indicate the number of incidents occurring in a hospital, rather, workers are trained to activate Code Black procedures before an incident develops. Consistent with recommendations from the review Improvements to Security in Hospitals, Code Blacks include planned, pre-emptive responses that anticipate a potentially challenging situation and put into place the necessary resources if a situation evolves.

I am further advised that NSW Health does not hold information centrally on whether police were called.

* 9250 PRINCES HIGHWAY IN THE KIAMA ELECTORATE—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) With respect to the Princes Highway in the Kiama Electorate:
- (a) Following your meeting with myself, Shellharbour City Council and your agency, what actions have been instigated to resolve flooding and traffic congestion in Albion Park?
 - (i) Can the Minister list those actions?
 - (b) Is another access required of the Princes Highway to help alleviate traffic congestion from Calderwood and in Albion Park?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (c) Has your department undertaken a review of traffic noise associated with the Albion Park Rail bypass?
 - (i) If yes, where is the review published and what did the review find with respect to further noise abatement measures?
- (d) Is the Minister aware of concerns from Gerringong residents about the increase in highway noise?
- (e) Is the Minister aware that his agency had previously recommended a three-metre noise wall for the Gerringong upgrade but this was reduced to two metres?
 - (i) Can the Minister provide reasons as to why the noise wall was reduced from its previously published height?
- (f) Will the Minister commit to a review of highway noise at Gerringong and possible noise mitigation measures?
 - (i) If not, why not?
- (g) Will the Minister consider the inclusion of Gerringong as part of those communities listed for relief from the Government noise abatement program?
- (h) Will the Minister consider further vegetation and screening of highway noise at Gerringong?
 - (i) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) Transport for NSW is working with Shellharbour City Council to resolve flooding and congestion on the Princes Highway, Albion Park. This work includes reviewing the current flood model including Frazers Creek and the Albion Park Rail bypass. Transport for NSW is also actively investigating upgrades on the State Road network, as well as active transport and public transport improvements to reduce congestion in Albion Park.
- (b) Transport for NSW is progressing a Mount Ousley to Yallah Integrated Transport Plan. This strategic planning will continue while Shellharbour City Council remains focused on the delivery of their local road project, the Tripoli Way extension.
- (c) A post-construction operational noise report was completed in August 2022 and is published on the Transport for NSW website.
- (d) Transport for NSW was recently referred correspondence from a Gerringong resident, regarding an apparent increase in highway noise.
- (e) The concept design for the Gerringong upgrade project originally proposed a three-metre-high noise wall. Following further investigations and consultation with impacted residents, a two-metre-high wall was determined to be sufficient. Community feedback indicated a preference for a lower noise wall to minimise visual impact and to maintain views of the escarpment.

Transport for NSW conducted one pre-construction and two post construction rounds of noise monitoring in this area. These assessments indicated the two-metre-high noise wall was compliant with the NSW Environment Protection Authority's Road Noise Policy criteria.
- (f) Post-construction noise monitoring has been conducted, and noise levels are compliant with the project approval. There is no planned review of highway noise at Gerringong.
- (g) The Noise Abatement Program is a state-wide program. Gerringong residents are therefore covered as part of the program. However, access to the Noise Abatement Program is subject to strict eligibility criteria.

- (h) No. Vegetation is not a recognised noise treatment option because it does not screen highway noise.

* 9251 SHORTAGE OF MEDICINAL DRUG—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Health—

- (1) I refer to the shortage of the drug semaglutide (Ozempic) and concerned constituents in my electorate unable to secure the medication for treatment of their type 2 diabetes.

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has directed health professionals to prioritise the supply of semaglutide for people with type 2 diabetes, and I quote: “To prioritise essential continuity of care for people with type 2 diabetes during the shortage, health professionals should limit prescribing and dispensing of semaglutide to its approved use:

Treatment of adults with insufficiently controlled type 2 diabetes mellitus as an adjunct to diet and exercise:

- as monotherapy when metformin is not tolerated or contraindicated
- in addition to other medicinal products for the treatment of type 2 diabetes.”

- (a) What are the current levels of supply for the state, and, if possible, the Kiama electorate?
- (b) How many prescriptions have been filled for type 2 diabetes versus weight loss?
- (c) Can the Minister provide an update on how the Government is planning to deal with the ongoing shortage of supply?
- (d) What, if any, alternatives are available for people with type 2 diabetes under section 19A of the Therapeutic Goods Act 1989, and what are not, due to global supply constraints?
- (e) Will the Minister consider supporting the local manufacturing of semaglutide or similar, to ensure consumers with type 2 diabetes have access to medication?

Reference: <https://www.tga.gov.au/news/safety-alerts/joint-statement-prioritisation-semaglutide-ozempic-supply-people-type-2-diabetes-during-shortage>, Published 17 May 2022, Last updated 5 September 2022.

Answer—

- (1) (a) – (e)

The response to the global disruption to the supply of semaglutide (Ozempic) is being coordinated nationally by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). The TGA advised in their Medicine shortage alert from 4 November 2022 that patients should make an appointment with their doctor as soon as possible to have their treatment plan reassessed. There are other medicines available to effectively treat type 2 diabetes, and prescribers will advise patients about the most appropriate treatment options based on individual factors. More information is available on the TGA website about the shortage at: <https://www.tga.gov.au/safety/shortages/medicine-shortage-alerts/ozempic-semaglutide-shortage>

I am advised that stock levels are not available by electorate, and that the majority of semaglutide dispensing in NSW occurs in the community pharmacy setting, which are privately owned businesses.

* 9252 MUSEUMS IN NEW SOUTH WALES—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Regional Youth, and Minister for Tourism—

- (1) With respect to the Museums in New South Wales:

- (a) Why is the Powerhouse Museum removing major objects from Ultimo when such removal and transport of priceless objects, such as the Boulton and Watt Beam Engine, could be put at risk?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (b) Why is the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences removing the title 'Museum' from the three major development sites in Ultimo, Parramatta and Castle Hill notwithstanding the Premier's response to Mr Borsak that Parramatta and Ultimo deserve outstanding 'Museums'?
- (c) What will the total project cost of all three museum projects be, when aggregated?
 - (i) Has the department allowed for inflation in these figures and if so, what was the impact on the total cost?
 - (ii) What allowance was made for cost over-runs and to what value?
 - (iii) Will the impact of inflation and cost over-runs impact on the scale and quality of the three museum projects?
- (d) When are the five Business Cases in respect of the three main Powerhouse Museum projects going to be released?
 - (i) Where will they be published?
- (e) Did the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences dismiss a leading Volunteer, Mr Tom Lockley?
 - (i) If so, on what grounds was Mr Tom Lockley dismissed?
 - (ii) Was a written explanation provided to him?
- (f) Where is the Risk Register of the Powerhouse Museum Projects, especially those risks stated in respect of the movement of priceless major objects from Ultimo?
 - (i) Can the Minister provide a link to the register?
 - (1) If yes, where can this be found?
 - (2) If not, why not?
- (g) What are the costs of those major object removals and transport, and in addition, what are the projected costs of their restoration?
- (h) With respect to part (g), when will they be returned to Ultimo and will the Number 1 Train as well as the loco be returned to Ultimo?
- (i) Will the steaming system in the Ultimo Powerhouse Museum be retained and restored?
- (j) Was an EIS undertaken as part of the redevelopment of the Ultimo Powerhouse Museum project?
 - (i) If yes, how many responses were received?
 - (ii) What changes were made based on the EIS feedback?
- (k) Is an organisational restructure currently planned by the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences?
 - (i) If yes, when will it take place and how many positions will be deleted, completely altered in function, absorbed by other roles or removed entirely?
 - (ii) Can the Minister please list these roles?
- (l) With respect to part (k) (i), how many curatorial positions, focused on the collections, will there be and how many dedicated schools and young education specialists/education staff will be located in Ultimo and Parramatta?
- (m) In what way does an 'Arts Precinct' meet the legislated requirements and protocols of the Act governing the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences?

- (n) What does the Minister and his department predict will be the impact on Consolidated Revenue for the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences when all the projects are finished and open to the public?

Answer—

- (1) With respect to the Museums in New South Wales:

- (a) The Powerhouse collection is comprised of over 500,000 objects across applied arts and sciences. Through the renewal project, the Powerhouse Museum's collection will be consolidated at one site with trained collections professionals that are responsible for its care.

The care and preservation of the museum collection is paramount across all aspects of the Powerhouse's renewal. For objects identified as high risk, including the 'Very Large Objects', an individual risk assessment and management plan has been developed.

- (b) The Powerhouse Museums in Ultimo, Parramatta and Castle Hill will be world class museum facilities that are centred on the care, preservation and exhibition of the unique Powerhouse collection. At each site, the Powerhouse Museum will tell the diverse and untold stories of the applied arts and sciences, its connection to industry and histories of our communities.

- (c)

(i) The NSW Government has committed \$840 million to deliver Powerhouse Parramatta and Powerhouse Castle Hill Discovery Centre. The NSW Government has committed \$480-\$500 million in funding for the renewal of the Powerhouse Ultimo. These budgets include an allowance for inflation.

(ii) Consistent with standard practice, each of the project budgets includes an allowance for contingency. The specific value of the allowance for contingency is commercial in confidence.

(iii) As above, contingency and inflation has been allowed for in the project budgets, enabling the projects to be completed without impacting on scale and quality of the projects.

- (d) Business cases are Cabinet in Confidence and will not be supplied.

(i) All plans that are able to be made available publicly have been provided.

- (e) Mr Lockley was not dismissed and is still registered as a volunteer of the Powerhouse Museum.

(i) See answer to Question e.

(ii) See answer to Question e.

- (f) NSW Treasury's Risk Management Framework confirms all capital projects should formally consider risks. This is done via Project Risk Registers for all Powerhouse capital projects. The Powerhouse also operates within an established governance structure which includes museum expertise and a risk management framework. These documents are not publicly available.

(i) The documents are not publicly available.

(1) See answer to Question (f) (i)

(2) See answer to Question (f) (i)

- (g) The total projected cost of the Collection Relocation and Digitisation Project is \$65. 7 million.

- (h) The NSW Government has committed to the continued exhibition of the Boulton and Watt Engine, Locomotive No. 1 and the Catalina Flying Boat alongside other very large objects

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

from the collection at the renewed Powerhouse Ultimo. The timing for commencement and completion of the Powerhouse renewal is subject to the competition of planning, design and procurement processes.

- (i) The steam exhibition is an iconic part of Powerhouse Ultimo. It is over 30 years old and in need of updating. The curation of all exhibitions will be considered in the context of the renewed Powerhouse.
- (j) An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was submitted to the Department of Planning as part of the Stage 1 State Significant Development Application process.
 - (i) Details regarding the process and engagement as part of the EIS can be found in EIS Appendix X - Consultation Outcomes Report, Powerhouse Ultimo Renewal on the NSW Department of Planning Major Projects Planning Portal.
 - (ii) See answer to (j) (i)
- (k) The Powerhouse is developing a workforce plan in parallel to the projects work. This will support preparations for the transition and expansion of staff required to run all four sites in the Powerhouse's future state. The changes to workplace locations are essential to deliver the museum's new operational model across multiple major locations.
 - (i) The workforce plan is currently being developed in consultation with staff. It is not possible to provide further details until this process is complete.
 - (ii) See answer to Question (k) (i)
- (l) See answer to Question (k)
- (m) It is unclear what the 'arts precinct' outlined in the question refers to.

The Museum's Act requires it to effectively administer to the needs and demands of the community in any or all branches of applied science and art, and the development of industry by: the display of selected objects arranged to illustrate the industrial advance of civilisation and the development of inventions and manufactures; the promotion of craftsmanship and artistic taste by illustrating the history and development of the applied arts; lectures, broadcasts, films, publications and other educational means; scientific research, or; any other means necessary or desirable for the development of the natural resources and manufacturing industries of NSW.
- (n) All available details regarding current operational costs can be found in the 2022-23 Budget Papers. Information beyond the forward estimates is Cabinet in Confidence.

17 NOVEMBER 2022

(Paper No. 180)

- 9253 **EDUCTAION IN THE MAITLAND ELECTORATE**—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—
- 9254 **TEACHERS ON EXTENDED LEAVE**—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—
- 9255 **SOCIAL HOUSING IN MAITLAND ELECTORATE**—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

-
- 9256 ROAD UPGRADES IN MAITLAND ELECTORATE—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 9257 MAITLAND TRAIN STATION ROUNDABOUT—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 9258 ROAD CLASSIFICATION REVIEW AND TRANSFER AUDIT REPORT—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 9259 REGIONAL ROAD CLASSIFICATION REVIEW AND TRANSFER FUNDS—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 9260 SCHOOL DRIVE SUBSIDY—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 9261 TERTIARY STUDENT OPAL CARDS—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 9262 BUILD BACK BETTER FUNDING—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police—
- 9263 CCTV FUND—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Attorney General—
- 9264 SPECIAL DISASTER GRANTS – NSW SEVERE WEATHER AND FLOODING—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales—
- 9265 LANDHOLDER ACCESS TO LIVESTOCK HELICOPTER CHECKS—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—
- 9266 LUMP SUM SUPPORT PAYMENTS—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—
- 9267 EDUCATOR TO STUDENT RATIO—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—
- 9268 PROPERTY SALES IN NEWCASTLE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—
- * 9269 NSW TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—
- (1) Has the NSW Telecommunications Authority put sensitive Emergency Communications at risk by engaging Optus as a carrier?
 - (2) Are NSW emergency services at risk because of agreements signed with Optus?
 - (3) Was there any NSW Telecommunications Authority data accessed in the recent Optus hack?
 - (4) Did the Minister declare any conflicts of interest before NSW Telecommunications Authority entered into agreements with Optus?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (5) Did the former Premier have any role in the agreements between Optus and the NSW Telecommunications Authority?
- (6) Did the former Premier lobby members of the NSW Telecommunications Authority board to sign agreements with Optus?

Answer—

Public Safety Network

NSWTA manages the Public Safety Network (PSN), a radio communications network used by frontline responders and essential services. Unlike commercial telecommunications networks, the PSN is a mission-critical radio communications service and is not managed by commercial carriers or accessible to the general public.

Commercial agreements with Optus

NSWTA has entered into contracts with Optus Pty Ltd to provide transmission services at 50 PSN sites. These services are mission-critical grade and encrypted. Contracts with Optus were awarded in line with NSW Government procurement processes including those under the Whole-of-Government Mandatory Panel - Telecommunications Purchasing Arrangement (TPA). The performance of the PSN in providing critical communications services is not placed at risk as a result of the provision of Optus transmission services.

Optus data breach

NSWTA was not impacted by the Optus data breach.

- 9270 LAND AND HOUSING CORPORATION WASTE MANAGEMENT—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—
- 9271 GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—
- 9272 STOCKTON EROSION—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—
- 9273 NEW SOCIAL HOUSING PROPERTIES—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—
- 9274 HISTORICAL CLAIMS RECORDS—Mr Michael Daley to ask the Attorney General—
- 9275 FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ACCOMMODATION AT RADIOTHERAPY UNIT—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health—
- 9276 NARRANDERA TO TOCUMWAL RAIL LINE—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- * 9277 DEATH CERTIFICATES—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—
 - (1) Considering the registry of births, deaths and marriages:
 - (a) What is the delay in the issuances of death certificates?
 - (b) What checks and balances are in place to ensure death certificates are correct?

Answer—

- (a) There are no current delays in issuing death certificates. Deaths are being registered, and certificates printed and posted within 2 business days. If there are specific cases that have experienced delays, please do not hesitate to contact my office.
- (b) Registry staff ensure accuracy of death registrations by checking data supplied from funeral directors, doctors and coroners during the registration process which populates the certificate. A visual check is also made once death certificates are printed to check the quality of the certificate prior to postage.

* 9278 CARRYOVER OF WATER IN EXTREME FLOOD EVENTS—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

Considering current water levels, why is carryover water not stored in our dams to be reallocated for productive use in years of extreme flood?

Answer—

Water accounting rules, including rules for carryover, are prescribed in statutory water sharing plans that were designed in consultation with local stakeholders and water users. The rules are different across NSW regulated river water sources.

I can confirm that, in the NSW Murray and Murrumbidgee, carryover water is stored in our dams for productive use by its owners, including during years of extreme flood.

In some northern water sources, water sharing plan rules require that carryover water is removed from accounts in conjunction with a physical spill from storage.

* 9279 SUPPORT FOR TRANSPARENT WATER REGISTER—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

Considering we now have a searchable online Member of Parliament pecuniary interest form where water is specifically mentioned, will you now support a transparent water register for the rest of New South Wales, in line with Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) recommendations?

Answer—

NSW already has public, transparent and searchable water registers online.

9280 HELIPAD FOR GRIFFITH BASE HOSPITAL—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health—

* 9281 TG MILLNER GROUNDS, MARSFIELD—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

(1) Noting that the Hon Victor Dominello MP, Member for Ryde called plans to build 132 terrace homes and a private park on the privately owned TG Millner Field in Marsfield totally unacceptable; and “That’s why we must fight to save TG Millner Field for future generations. If proponents of the plan don’t think rugby is popular anymore, then we then we should work together to accommodate other sports” (Sydney Morning Herald, 7 August 2022):

- (a) What is the Government’s intention for the future use of TG Millner Grounds?
- (b) Does the future plan involve terrace homes and a private park?
- (c) Does the future plan involve rugby?
- (d) Does the future plan involve other sports?
- (e) What meetings have you had to discuss this matter?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

Answer—

I refer you to my answer provided for Budget Estimates supplementary questions

* 9282 WAKEFIELD PARK RACEWAY—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) Noting that Wakefield Park raceway closed indefinitely on 1 September 2022 and a report in the Goulburn Post that you only recently met with the Goulburn Mulwaree Council Mayor and CEO, the Benalla Auto Club CEO and the Member for Goulburn:
- (a) What discussions were had concerning the economic impacts of the closure of Wakefield Park raceway on Goulburn?
 - (b) What solution/s for the reopening of the raceway were discussed?
 - (c) What commitments were given by the Minister to fast track a workable solution?
 - (d) Why did it take so long to secure the meeting with all parties present?
 - (e) What work is now being undertaken by the Office of Sport to identify a solution?
 - (f) What commitments were given that the Wakefield Park paceway would be up and running again before the end of the year?

Answer—

I am advised that the NSW Government, via the Office of Sport, has convened meetings since August 2022 between Regional NSW, Planning NSW and with Council to look at all viable options. The NSW Government is providing assistance to the Council and the Benalla Auto Club to help them arrive at a joint solution that complies with the ruling of the Court and considers all the stakeholders' requirements.

* 9283 SPORT PROMOTION—Ms Julia Finn to ask the Minister for Health—

- (1) In relation to the Live Life Well @ School program in New South Wales primary schools to promote healthy eating and physical activity to students:
- (a) What funding was allocated to the program?
 - (b) How many schools participate in the program?
 - (c) How many students participate in the program?
 - (d) What assessment was undertaken of the effectiveness of the program?

Answer—

- (1) (a – d)

I am advised that more than 80% of NSW primary schools have participated in the Live Life Well @ School program, which is estimated to reach over 600,000 students across NSW each year. In 2022-23, the NSW Ministry of Health allocated approximately \$3 million to the program. The program has been delivered statewide since 2010 but had reduced delivery during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ministry of Health and the Department of Education are leading a review of the program to develop a refreshed approach that aligns with the current evidence base and education sector priorities. The Association of Independent Schools of NSW, and Catholic Schools NSW will also be consulted.

* 9284 SYDENHAM ROAD AND FITZROY STREET MARRICKVILLE—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) What investigations has Transport for NSW undertaken regarding installing traffic lights at the intersection of Sydenham Road and Fitzroy Street, Marrickville?
- (2) Does Transport for NSW plan to install traffic lights at the intersection?
- (3) What other safety measures are under consideration?

Answer—

I am advised:

In 2015, Transport for NSW carried out a Road Safety Review of the intersection of Sydenham Road and Fitzroy Street, Marrickville. Further investigations are planned for early 2023 to assess the utility of additional safety measures, including traffic lights.

* 9285 CHILD TRANSPORT FINES—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) How many transport fines for travelling without a valid ticket/card have been issued to children aged 16 and under in each of the past four financial years?
- (2) How many of those fines have been reviewed in each of the past four financial years?
- (3) How many of those fines have been waived after review in each of the past four financial years?

Answer—

I am advised

This is a matter for the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government.

9286 DRUG DETECTION DOG INDICATIONS—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police—

* 9287 SYDNEY TRAIN NETWORK FINES BY TRAIN LINE—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

For the financial year 2021-2022, how many fines were issued for travelling without a valid ticket/card, broken down by train line?

Answer—

I am advised

During the 2021-22 financial year, a total of 29,315 fines were issued for travelling without a valid ticket on the Sydney Trains network.

The offence location is based on the information captured by the Transport Officer at the time of intercept and not recorded against the train line.

9288 SYDNEY TRAIN NETWORK ON TIME RUNNING FACTORS—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

9289 SYDNEY TRAIN NETWORK ON TIME RUNNING ADVICE—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

9290 SYDNEY TRAIN NETWORK ON TIME RUNNING MAINTENANCE—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

9291 SYDNEY TRAIN NETWORK ON TIME RUNNING WEATHER—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

* 9292 YASMAR HOUSE WATER DAMAGE—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

- (1) What works have been undertaken by NSW Crown Lands to fix the flooding of the cellar at Yasmar House, Haberfield?
- (2) What was the cost of undertaking these works?
- (3) What is the total amount of funding expended in each of the past three financial years to manage the flooding of the cellar at Yasmar House?
- (4) What is the cause of the flooding of the cellar at Yasmar House?
- (5) What damage has occurred as a result of the flooding?
- (6) What works will NSW Crown Lands undertake to ensure the issue is resolved permanently?
- (7) What is the timeline for these works?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Flooding of Yasmar cellar occurred due to continued wet weather and was first notified in April 2022 by “The Friends of Yasmar”. The water entry was monitored and when evident that it was not self-draining the cellar was pumped out. As a result of further ingress of water, the Department of Planning and Environment - Crown Lands engaged a contractor to undertake a secondary pump out and install an automatic sump pump.
- (2) Initial works to pump out of the cellar and prevent further ingress cost \$5,922.94 (ex GST). Secondary pump-out and installation of an automatic sump pump has been contracted at \$5,298.08 (ex GST).
- (3) \$11,221.02 (ex GST)
- (4) The flooding of the Yasmar cellar is assumed to be the result of continued, wet weather experienced throughout 2022 and sub-soil water saturation and ingress.
- (5) The extent of potential damage will be identified by a structural assessment, planned to take place prior to 30 June 2023.
- (6) A contractor has been engaged to undertake a secondary pump out of the cellar and install an automatic sump pump. The sump pump is planned to be installed within an existing pit located within the cellar to remove water before it reaches the sandstone foundation and timber supports.
- (7) A contractor was engaged on 14 November 2022 and the works should be completed before 23 December 2022.

9293 SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE ON PARRAMATTA ROAD—Mr Jason Li to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

9294 RESPONSE TO CORRESPONDENCE—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Corrections representing the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services—

9295 SOCIAL AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

9296 FISHING BUSINESSES—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

-
- 9297 ACCOMMODATION OUTREACH—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Corrections representing the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services—
- 9298 ACCOMMODATION OUTREACH—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Corrections representing the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services—
- 9299 DEVELOPMENT PLANS GUARANTEE—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—
- 9300 AUDIT OF MAYORAL AND GENERAL MANAGERS EXPENSES—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Local Government—
- 9301 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Local Government—
- 9302 ENERGY PROVIDER PARTNERSHIPS—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—
- 9303 ENERGY PROVIDER PARTNERSHIPS—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Local Government—
- 9304 BANKSTOWN CITY MASTERPLAN—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Local Government—
- 9305 LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTIONS PLAN 2022—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Local Government—
- 9306 DEVELOPER INCENTIVE MAPS—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—
- 9307 STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS—Ms Tania Mihailuk to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—
- 9308 MAINTENANCE IN SCHOOLS—Dr Marjorie O'Neill to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—
- 9309 BUS NOISE—Dr Marjorie O'Neill to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 9310 RENTAL SUBSIDY APPLICATIONS—Dr Marjorie O'Neill to ask the Minister for Corrections representing the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services—
- * 9311 CRITICAL PRODUCER GRANT—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—
- (1) What has been the take-up for the Critical Producer Grant (\$100,000) in the Northern Rivers region?
- (2) How many applications have been lodged, and of these, how many have been approved and how many have been declined?

Answer—

This question should be referred to the Minister for Agriculture.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

* 9312 COMMERCIAL PROPERTY RETURN TO BUSINESS GRANT—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) What has been the take-up for the Government's Northern Rivers Commercial Property Return to Business Support Grant (up to \$50,000)?
- (2) How many applications have been lodged, and of these, how many have been approved and how many declined?

Answer—

- (1) As of 12 December 2022, there have been 272 total applications for the Commercial Property Return to Business Support Grant.
- (2) As of 12 December 2022, there have been 272 total applications lodged. Of these, 58 have been approved and 4 have not been approved.

* 9313 MEDIUM SIZE BUSINESS GRANT—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) What has been the take-up for the Northern Rivers Medium Size Business Grant (up to \$200,000)?
- (2) How many applications have been lodged, and of these, how many have been approved and how many have been declined?

Answer—

This information is made publicly available on the Service NSW website which can be accessed here:

<https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/performance-dashboard/disaster-recovery-support-statistics#business-flood-recovery-grants>

* 9314 PRIMARY PRODUCER SPECIAL DISASTER GRANT—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) What has been the take-up for the Primary Producer Special Disaster Grant (up to \$75,000) in the Northern Rivers region?
- (2) How many applications have been lodged, and of these, how many have been approved and how many have been declined?

Answer—

This question should be referred to the Minister for Agriculture, the Hon Dugald Saunders MP, as the Primary Producer Special Disaster Grant is administered by the Rural Assistance Authority.

* 9315 STORM AND FLOOD DISASTER RECOVERY SMALL BUSINESS GRANT—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) What has been the take-up for the Storm and Flood Disaster Recovery Small Business Grant (up to \$50,000) in the Northern Rivers region?
- (2) How many applications have been lodged, and of these, how many have been approved and how many have been declined?

Answer—

The following data is for the Storm and Flood Disaster Recovery Small Business Grant (up to \$50,000) for Feb 2022 grant.

- (1) As at 23 November 2022, 7,939 applications had been received.

- (2) As at 23 November 2022, 7,939 applications had been lodged, 5,062 applications had been approved, and 2,761 had been declined.
- 9316 NURSING ROSTER—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health—
- 9317 NIMBIN'S ICONIC AQUARIUS FESTIVAL—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Regional Youth, and Minister for Tourism—
- 9318 AMENITIES BLOCK IN NIMBIN'S PEACE PARK—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police—
- 9319 RURAL DOCTORS NETWORK PROPOSAL—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health—
- 9320 SENTENCING COUNCIL REPORT—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Attorney General—
- 9321 UPDATE TO FIGURES PROVIDED—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Finance, and Minister for Employee Relations—
- 9322 UPDATE TO FIGURES PROVIDED—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Finance, and Minister for Employee Relations—
- 9323 COMMON PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—
- 9324 HYDROGEN PROJECTS SUPPORT—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—
- 9325 ILLAWARRA RENEWABLE ENERGY ZONE—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—
- 9326 M1 BETWEEN PICTON ROAD AND BULLI TOPS—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- 9327 MOUNT OUSLEY TO YALLAH CORRIDOR STUDY—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- * 9328 LIFTS AT UNANDERRA STATION—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- (1) Further to LA 8639:
- (a) On what date did you receive advice that the date for the completion of the construction and opening of the lifts at Unanderra Station would be delayed from October 2023, as advised on 13 October 2022 to early 2024?
- (b) What reasons were provided for a further delay in this project by up to 6 months?
- (c) Is the construction timeline impacted by limited windows for track closure for maintenance?
- (i) If so, have any investigations been requested or made as to whether additional line closures could be accommodated to meet the October 2023 completion date or one close to it?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (d) Given that work on this project commenced in September 2021, is a construction timeline of 20 or more months acceptable for this project?

Answer—

I am advised

Transport for NSW expected to have the project completed by December 2022. However, due to industrial action preventing Transport for NSW from obtaining electrical permits, the project has unfortunately been delayed, which are required for footbridge installation during weekend closures.

Transport for NSW apologises to the community for these delays and is working to complete the project as soon as possible.

9329 AGRITOURISM PLANNING CHANGES—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

9330 JAMBEROO MOUNTAIN ROAD—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

* 9331 PRIVATE CERTIFIERS IN NEW SOUTH WALES—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

(1) With respect to private certification:

- (a) Will the Minister commit to an inquiry or review into concerns about private certification and private certifiers in New South Wales?
- (b) When was the last time the Code of Conduct for Private Certifiers has been reviewed, updated or amended?
- (c) When was the last time the practice standards for registered certifiers were reviewed, updated or amended?
- (d) How does the Minister respond to concerns from New South Wales councils and residents about the impacts of private certification?
- (e) How many private certifiers have been subject to disciplinary action each year for the last three years?
 - (i) How many of these actions resulted in deregistration, suspension or adverse finding?
- (f) How are suspensions or adverse findings recorded about individual private certifiers?
 - (i) Is this record publicly available?
- (g) How many insurers offer professional indemnity insurance for private certifiers?
- (h) How is the requirement for professional indemnity insurance for private certifiers audited and enforced?
 - (i) How many private certifiers have lost their registration in the last three years for their failure to have appropriate insurance?
- (i) How is the professional development requirements for private certifiers tracked, audited and enforced?
- (j) Who provides professional development to private certifiers?
 - (i) How are these organisations or educators accredited?
- (k) How many private certifiers are registered in the Kiama electorate?

- (l) Has your departments management, regulation and audit of private certifiers been the subject to a review by the Auditor-General or the Ombudsman?
 - (i) If not, would you be open to such an independent review?
 - (1) If not, why not?
- (m) What representations has the Minister made to move the responsibility of private certification from his ministry to either the Department of Planning or the Department of Local Government?

Answer—

(1)

- (a) The introduction of the Building and Development Certifiers Act 2018 (BDC Act), which commenced on 1 July 2020, followed an independent review of the former Building Professionals Act 2005 (BP Act). The BDC Act strengthened measures to improve the conduct of certifiers including clear conflict of interest requirements, clarified roles and responsibilities through a Code of Conduct setting out professional standards and strengthened compliance and enforcement powers for the regulator.

The BDC Act was recently the subject of a Parliamentary Inquiry conducted by the Public Accountability Committee into the regulation of building standards, which reported on 25 February 2022. The Government response to the Committee's report is published on the NSW Parliament website at: <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lcdocs/inquiries/2831/Government%20Response.pdf>

- (b) The Code of Conduct for registered certifiers was established as part of the development and implementation of the BDC Act. The code of conduct is a statutory requirement for all private and council registered certifiers.
- (c) There are two Practice Standards for registered certifiers. A new edition of Volume One – new residential apartment buildings was published in November 2022. Volume Two – Class 1a Buildings was published for the first time in November 2022.
- (d) Private certification commenced in NSW in 1998 as part of microeconomic reforms to promote competition with councils in the provision of certification services, as there had previously been concerns about the quality and timeliness of those services by council.

Since July 2020 both private and council certifiers have been regulated under the BDC legislation, which prescribes comprehensive rules around competency and independence for all private and council certifiers and enhanced the regulator's powers to enforce these standards.

In addition, the Government has introduced Certifier Practice Standards which are a prescriptive set of standards certifiers must follow in carrying out their work. Ultimate responsibility for carrying out building work and ensuring it is in accordance with the Building Code of Australia and the approved plans rests with the builder and trades.

The Government is satisfied it has the tools and resources to effectively oversee the work of private and council certifiers and will continue to take action against those practitioners who fall short of the exacting standards that Government and the community demand. This includes taking timely action against certifiers, both private and council, that fail to carry out their duties in the public interest.

Over 2021/22, NSW Fair Trading audited 11 certifiers who were certifying a significant number of high-rise apartment buildings. This audit resulted in three certifiers being referred for further investigation, two certifiers being given warnings, and four certifiers provided with further education.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

An audit of certification work in nine councils is currently underway and has examined work on 31 construction certificates and 26 occupation certificates issued in relation to high-rise apartment buildings. Several areas of poor certifier performance have been identified during this audit with preliminary findings including the acceptance of substandard certifications, incorrect references to legislation in reports and the use of incorrect forms.

(e)

Date Range	Number of private certifiers subject to disciplinary action
19 Nov 2019 to 18 Nov 2020	9
19 Nov 2020 to 18 Nov 2021	1
19 Nov 2021 to 18 Nov 2022	2

(i)

Date Range	Number of disciplinary actions resulting in deregistration, suspension or adverse finding
19 Nov 2019 to 18 Nov 2020	2
19 Nov 2020 to 18 Nov 2021	1
19 Nov 2021 to 18 Nov 2022	2

(f) Suspensions or adverse findings about individual private certifiers are recorded via the Certifier Disciplinary Register.

(i) Yes. The Certifier Disciplinary Register is accessible at: <https://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au/trades-and-businesses/business-essentials/building-certifiers/certifier-disciplinary-register>

(g) NSW Fair Trading does not have data on the number of insurers who offer professional indemnity insurance (PII). The BDC Act and Building and Development Certifiers Regulation 2020 (BDC Regulation) only prescribes the requirement to hold PII and the parameters in and around the level and type of cover required.

(h) An individual applying for registration as a certifier is required to provide a valid PII Certificate of Currency as a part of the registration assessment process. To maintain registration, a certifier is required to provide a valid PII Certificate of Currency as a part of the renewal process.

NSW Fair Trading monitors the currency of PII policies based on its records and sends reminder emails to registered certifiers requesting an updated Certificate of Currency, prior to a policy expiring.

On 1 July 2022, Clause 9A(c) of the BDC Regulation was introduced to allow NSW Fair Trading to suspend registration if a certifier is not adequately insured.

- (i) There is no legislative requirement to report at the level of detail sought in this question and NSW Fair Trading does not record this information due to system reporting limitations.
- (i) A registered certifier is required to provide information at registration renewal to confirm they have completed the necessary continuing professional development requirements since their last renewal. As part of the renewal application, the certifier declares that the statements made, and the information provided in the application are, to the best of their knowledge, true and correct.
- (j) A range of activities may be undertaken by certifiers to obtain continuing professional development. These are set out in published guidelines:
https://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0003/871833/Certifiers-CPD-guidelines.pdf
- (i) Fair Trading does not specifically accredit continuing professional development training for certifiers except for swimming pool inspectors. Specific courses for pool inspectors undergo assessment by Fair Trading with input from expert independent reviewers.
- (k) As at 25 November 2022, there are 43 registered certifiers in the Kiama electorate. Of these 43 registered certifiers, 26 are employed by a local council and 17 are considered to be private certifiers. The 26 registered certifiers employed by council may carry out private certification work subject to their registration conditions and insurance status.

The details above are based on the postcodes within the Kiama electorate and the certifiers' business address as per NSW Fair Trading's records.

- (l) No.
- (i) NSW Fair Trading would co-operate with any review which the Auditor General or the Ombudsman decided to undertake.

(1) Refer to the above answer.

- (m) No representation has been made.

9332 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN THE KIAMA ELECTORATE—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health—

9333 RELOCATION OF SYRIAN FAMILIES—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Attorney General—

* 9334 NEW SOUTH WALES INTEGRITY AGENCIES—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Premier—

- (1) With respect to integrity agencies:
 - (a) Since 2019, how has funding changed to support the operation of integrity agencies?
 - (i) Has funding increased or decreased in real terms?
 - (b) What savings measures have been undertaken by integrity agencies?
 - (i) How much money was saved?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (ii) What impact on investigations and functions have these savings measures had?
- (c) In dollar terms, what is the total value of contractors engaged by integrity agencies?
 - (i) Can the Premier detail a list of these contractors and their purposes?
- (d) Will the Premier implement Auditor-General recommendations to provide for greater independence around the funding of integrity agencies to undertake their statutory objectives and requirements?
- (e) Has the Premier or his department compared the difference in transparency measures with respect to reporting and subsequent actions of integrity agencies, such as the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission (LECC) with other integrity agencies, such as the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC)?
- (f) How has the Premier ensured consistency in transparency measures between integrity agencies?
- (g) Notwithstanding the statutory independence of the LECC, will the Premier encourage the LECC to develop a memorandum of understanding between the LECC and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) similar to the Memorandum of Understanding between the ODPP and the ICAC?
 - (i) If not, why not?
- (h) What changes has the Premier undertaken, as the responsible Minister, to improve the transparency and accountability of the LECC and other integrity agencies?
- (i) Noting that the Independent Commission Against Corruption publishes a list of recommendations and actions, including prosecutions by the DPP, will the Premier seek to encourage changes, such as this, to improve transparency and reporting by the LECC, the NSW Electoral Commission and integrity agencies?
- (j) Has the Premier been briefed on the failure of iVote at 2021 Local Government Elections by the NSW Electoral Commission?
- (k) Has the Premier been briefed on the decision of the NSW Supreme Court concerning the failure of iVote at the 2021 NSW Local Government Elections?
- (l) Has the Premier been briefed on the decision of the NSW Electoral Commissioner to cease using iVote at the 2023 NSW State Election?
- (m) Given that people with disabilities, regional and remote residents rely on electronic voting, will the Premier support the NSW Electoral Commission with sufficient funding to ensure the development and delivery of a safe, secure and reliable system of electronic voting in New South Wales?
- (n) Does the Premier support the maintenance of electronic voting in New South Wales?
- (o) Has the Premier been briefed on the preparedness of the NSW Electoral Commission ahead of the 2023 NSW State Election?
- (p) How will the NSW Electoral Commission specifically comply with its obligations to support people with disabilities both standing as candidates and participating as electors in the 2023 NSW State Election?
- (q) Does the Premier support the Strategic Plan of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Disability Champions Network to encourage more people with disabilities to stand for public office and what will the NSW Premier do to promote the plan?
- (r) What specific initiatives does the NSW Electoral Commission have to support and educate candidates with disabilities for public office?

- (s) Does the NSW Electoral Commission have an officer within its agency dedicated to disability inclusion with respect to our democracy?
- (i) If not, why not?
- (ii) Will the Premier encourage the NSW Electoral Commission to create such a role?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1)

- (a) The NSW Budget 2022-23 funded all proposals submitted by the Audit Office of NSW, Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), Law Enforcement Conduct Commission (LECC), NSW Electoral Commission (NSWEC), and the NSW Ombudsman's Office (collectively, integrity agencies) as part of the budget process, providing a record Government investment of \$441.8 million in the State Outcome of accountable and responsible government in respect of the integrity agencies.

Information regarding the funding provided to integrity agencies in prior budgets is available on the NSW Treasury website at <https://www.treasury.nsw.gov.au/>

- (b) The integrity agencies operate independently of the NSW Government. Questions regarding operational matters should be directed to the integrity agencies.
- (c) The integrity agencies publish information regarding operating expenses, including the cost of engaging contractors, in their annual reports.
- (d) On 9 May 2022 NSW Government responses to the recommendations of the Public Accountability Committee and the Auditor-General in relation to funding arrangements for the integrity agencies were tabled in Parliament.

These revised funding arrangements to safeguard the independence of integrity agencies include removing the integrity agencies from Premier and Cabinet cluster financial management processes; providing that no efficiency dividends will be imposed on the integrity agencies; and establishing a specialist integrity agency unit within Treasury to manage representations for budget and supplementary funding.

- (e) Reporting requirements are provided for in the relevant legislation in respect of each integrity agency.
- (f) See the response to (1)(e).
- (g) This is an operational matter for the LECC. Questions regarding the operations of the LECC should be directed to the LECC.
- (h) A statutory review of the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission Act 2016 was undertaken by the Department of Premier and Cabinet in 2020. The Report on the Statutory Review was tabled in Parliament on 11 May 2021.
- (i) See the response to (1)(b).
- (j) Yes.
- (k) Yes.
- (l) Yes.
- (m) The NSW Budget 2022-23 funded all proposals submitted by integrity agencies as part of the budget process, including providing the NSWEC with an additional \$50.5 million to conduct and deliver the 2023 State election, and establishing a \$20 million appropriation for integrity agency contingencies.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

The 2022-23 Total Budget for the NSWEC is \$259.1 million, which is up 257.6% from the 2010-11 Budget of \$72.4 million.

- (n) The NSW Electoral Commissioner is undertaking a review of technology assisted voting in NSW in consultation with stakeholders, and intends to provide recommendations for future options for technology assisted voting to the Government by August 2023.
- (o) The NSW Electoral Commissioner advises the Premier, the Attorney General and the Treasurer about matters relating to preparations for the State election when the matter is directly relevant to their portfolio responsibilities. Being an independent agency not subject to ministerial direction and control, however, it does not routinely brief ministers directly about its administration of elections.

The NSW Electoral Commission advises that on 17 October 2022, the Electoral Commissioner also hosted a forum at Parliament House for Members and political party officials to update them on preparations for the State election. Officials from the NSW Electoral Commission also convene inter-agency working groups in the lead up to all major election events to ensure effective co-ordination across the NSW Government of services for participants and electors, security and public safety.

- (p) The NSW Electoral Commission has provided the following advice:

The NSW Electoral Commission has reported on its achievements from its Disability Inclusion Action Plan for 2018-2021 which was extended to cover the postponed Local Government elections. See Appendix B of the NSW Electoral Commission's 2021-2022 Annual Report.

A 2022-2024 Disability Inclusion Action Plan which will cover the delivery of SGE2023 is being finalised. The 2022-2024 Disability Inclusion Action Plan will include analysis of 2021 ABS Census data to inform engagement strategies.

The NSW Electoral Commission has an Equal Access to Democracy Disability Reference Group with a broad membership from key peak organisations and advocacy groups representing people with disability. This engagement includes formal meetings, information sharing and one-on-one engagements. Input is sought from the reference group on election specific matters as well as longer term policies. The new Disability Inclusion Action Plan is being developed with feedback and advice from the reference group.

The NSW Electoral Commission:

- provides information and training to its election workforce about supporting people with disability at an election
- provides access to the elector enquiry call centre via the National Relay Service. In election periods, the availability of the National Relay Service and Auslan interpreters on election day are promoted to callers
- follows the Australian Government Digital Service Standard on its website and endeavours to meet the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) standards
- prior to every election, reviews the availability of voting venues for their suitability within each district with regards to key criteria. Accessibility remains a primary focus and priority in the selection and procurement of over 2,500 venues for the State election event
- enhanced its website for the 2021 Local Government elections with an address look-up feature that provided a map (and list view) of voting centres and information about their accessibility levels. This enhanced feature will also be available for the State election
- at all elections, provides accessible voting screens at voting centres, and visual aids including magnifying sheets. Maxi pens are available at voting centres

- makes Auslan interpreter support available, including at the recent 2021 Local Government elections and promotes the service through key stakeholders and on posters in voting centres. This will also be available for the State election encourages political participants to provide candidate information and how-to-vote cards in accessible format for publishing on its website. Accessibility guidelines are provided to candidate and parties
- will make telephone voting available at the State election to electors who are blind or have low vision
- develops targeted resources for people with disability, which are available on the website and are also shared with peak disability organisations and the Equal Access to Democracy (EAD) Disability Reference Group. Content items for the State election that are in development include:
 - Easy read guides on key election information, enrolment and voting
 - Videos with information on the election and how to vote, with a specific video targeted to people with intellectual disability (developed with Council for Intellectual Disability)
 - Community awareness videos with audio description for people who are blind or have low vision
 - Videos with Auslan interpreting.
- (q) The NSW Government is committed to working towards achieving an inclusive society through the framework of the NSW Disability Inclusion Plan 2021-2025, which provides a whole of Government strategy aligned with the objects and principles of the Disability Inclusion Act 2014.
- (r) The NSW Electoral Commission has provided the following advice:

As an independent election administrator, the NSW Electoral Commission does not proactively seek to promote people becoming candidates in a state or local government election. Its equal access to democracy activities, including with peak organisations in the disability sector, are also primarily focused on elector participation in the democratic process.

For regulated stakeholders, however, a range of regulatory and other material is made available in accessible formats, including fact sheets, video animations, webinars and online registration and disclosure processes, in addition to direct telephone and email support for all potential candidates at elections in NSW.
- (s) I am advised that, in recognition of the importance of disability inclusion, the Electoral Commission will be seeking funding for dedicated role(s) relating to disability inclusion.

21 DECEMBER 2022

(Paper No. 181)

9335 REGIONAL ROAD TRANSFER AND NSW ROAD CLASSIFICATION REVIEW—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) Given that the Regional Road Transfer and NSW Road Classification Review - Independent Panel delivered their final report on 8 November 2022, why has the report not been released to the public?
 - (a) When will the report be publicly available?

9336 SINGLETON BYPASS LAND—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

How many representations have you received from the Member for Upper Hunter relating to the acquisition of land for the Singleton Bypass?

9337 FLOOD RECOVERY DISASTER RELIEF GRANT—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery—

- (1) How many applicants from the Maitland LGA have applied for the flood recovery Disaster Relief Grant?
 - (a) How many have been approved?
 - (i) What is the total quantum of the approved grants?
 - (b) How many have been denied?
 - (i) Why were they denied?
 - (c) How many applicants are still waiting for their application to be processed?
 - (d) What is the average time for processing the application?
 - (e) What is the average time from when the application is submitted to when the applicant receives funding in their bank account?

9338 FLOODGATE LOCATIONS—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

Can you please provide the location of all floodgates in the Maitland electorate? Please disaggregate by controlling authority.

9339 NON-OPERATIONAL FLOODGATES—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—

- (1) In relation to an answer provided to LA Question 7885, have the two floodgates that were not operating correctly during the March 2022 flood now been repaired?
- (2) You previously advised ‘There are 164 floodgates in the Maitland Local Government Area (LGA) under state or council control’ and ‘During the February/March 2022 flood, 132 scheme floodgates and all 26 council floodgates were operational.’ There are six floodgates that are not accounted for. Were these floodgates non-operational?
 - (a) If so, have they now been repaired?

9340 MRI MACHINE AT MAITLAND HOSPITAL—Ms Jenny Aitchison to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health—

- (1) What are the operating hours of the MRI machine at Maitland Hospital for:
 - (a) Inpatients?
 - (b) Outpatients?
- (2) Can outpatients now access an MRI scan at Maitland Hospital?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- (3) How many MRI scans have been performed at the hospital to date? Please disaggregate between inpatient and outpatient.

9341 FLEXIBILITY FOR RURAL AND REMOTE EARLY EDUCATION CENTRES—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

- (1) Considering the education and early childhood sector is facing workforce shortages, with more children going without the opportunity of learning experiences at that crucial young age, long waitlists across Barwon meaning the children of critical workers are without access to care, and places like Bourke and District Children's Service closed due to damage to their original premises forcing local children to go without, will the Minister consider flexibility for remote communities to the capacity rules in a simple way to allow more children to attend Preschool and more critical workers being able to go to work?
 - (2) Will the Minister review the temporary building options available to centres like Bourke while the long wait for funding and construction of new centres is being conducted?
- 9342 SELF-FUNDED SCHOOL BUS SERVICE—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—
- (1) Considering that a regional New South Wales school has established and funded a school bus service to support students who live remotely but are unable to support this service moving forward, also that a request was made to the Minister asking for support in 2024 but was declined due to student demand not meeting the requirements of the School Student Transport scheme (SSTS), when regional schools are unable to support the requirements of the SSTS model, can consideration be made by the Minister to ensure a service can be offered to those who live remotely?
 - (2) If a bus service is already established and self-funded, would the Minister consider some support to ensure the service can remain active?
 - (a) If not, why?
- 9343 PRIMARY PRODUCER VEHICLES REGISTRATION—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—
- Considering that Service NSW cannot accept an email copy of the Primary Producer Declaration (PPD) as Transport for NSW auditing requires the original document and when establishing a vehicle registration under the PPD, the original is required. For Primary Producers in flooded areas this is impossible. Will the Minister adjust Service NSW's requirements so that Primary Producers can register their vehicles under this declaration whilst flood conditions remain?
- 9344 SCHOOL STUDENT TRANSPORT SCHEME—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- Considering the fact that in regional NSW Boarding Schools students utilise the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) as means of travelling to and from school each term, a Government subsidy which enables students to be returned to school without parents having to travel hundreds of kilometres, and often incurring an accommodation cost as the trip has to be travelled over a two day period and that travel cards are issued based on students returning to their hometown/suburb only, rather than a close regional centre. However, regionally this is not always viable as bigger town centres have the availability of more reliable and frequent public transport options that may suit families better, can the Minister advise whether the scheme can be designed more specifically for regional Boarding School travellers or have flexible options?
- 9345 BROADMEADOW LOCOMOTIVE DEPOT—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Environment and Heritage—
- (1) Will the Minister seek clarification from the NSW Heritage Council as to why it has not endorsed any s38A Heritage Act 1977 (NSW) conservation management plan (CMP) for the Broadmeadow Locomotive Depot State Heritage Inventory Site at 35 Cameron Street, Broadmeadow?
 - (2) Noting that the site's irreplaceable heritage values are falling into disrepair, will the Minister commit to ensuring a CMP for the site is prepared for the Heritage Council's consideration without

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

delay and before the development proposed for the site pursuant to DA 2022/01269 (Newcastle City Council Local Government Area) proceeds?

- (3) Noting the state of disrepair into which the site has fallen, will the Minister commit to assessing whether use of his enforcement powers under s120 of the Act is necessary in order to ensure the Transport Asset Holding Entity complies with its obligations under clauses 10 and 25 of the Heritage Regulation to protect the heritage values of the site?

9346 NEW SOUTH WALES HYDROGEN STRATEGY—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

- (1) I refer to page 60 of the NSW Hydrogen Strategy, what resources have been dedicated to the Australian Hydrogen Council to support their program of works related to skills and training?
- (2) How much money has the Government provided to the Australian Hydrogen Council to support their program of works related to skills and training?
- (3) What skills and training does the Australian Hydrogen Council provide?

9347 BROADMEADOW HERITAGE LOCOMOTIVE DEPT LOTS—Mr Tim Crakanthorp to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What is the purpose of the Transport for NSW subdivision at the Broadmeadow Locomotive Depot located 35 Cameron Street, Broadmeadow?
- (2) Can the Minister please indicate the proposed use for each of the following lots:
 - (a) Lot 49/A/4020?
 - (b) Lot 57/A/DP4020?
 - (c) Lot 26 in DP1147480?
 - (d) Lot 13/1231619?
 - (e) Lot 14/1231619?
 - (f) Lot 15/1231619?
 - (g) Lot 16/1231619?
- (3) Has Transport for NSW ever had a conservation management plan for the former Broadmeadow locomotive depot?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- (4) Are the heritage values being maintained at the Broadmeadow locomotive depot?

9348 389 BUS SERVICE—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

What locations have been explored for a potential new bus stop for the 389 in Pyrmont and in the Central Business District (CBD)?

9349 ADOPTION REVERSAL—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Attorney General—

- (1) What consideration has been given to the Western Australian adoption reversal process?
- (2) What steps are being taken to make the process of adoption reversal easier for residents of New South Wales?

9350 COAL MINING: SCOPE 1 AND 2 EMISSIONS—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

-
- (1) Given coal mines are responsible for three percent of the state's electricity use and 14 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions in New South Wales, including methane, the most destructive greenhouse gas:
- (a) How does the Government require all coal mines in New South Wales implement all "reasonable and feasible" mitigation measures for scope 1 and 2 emissions?
 - (b) What greenhouse gas abatement measures are imposed on the 24 coal mines that are "high emitting facilities"?
 - (c) What work is the Government doing to achieve the IEA goal of eliminating technically avoidable methane emissions by 2030 in the coal mining sector?
- 9351 COAL MINING: SCOPE 1 AND 2 EMISSIONS—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police—
- (1) Given coal mines are responsible for three percent of the state's electricity use and 14 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions in New South Wales, including methane, the most destructive greenhouse gas:
- (a) What work is the Government doing to ensure all coal mines in New South Wales transition to using renewable energy?
 - (b) Under this work, when will all coal mines in New South Wales be powered by 100 percent renewable energy?
 - (c) What work is the Government doing to ensure all coal mines in New South Wales transition their fleet to electric or low/zero carbon fuel?
 - (d) Under this work, when will the fleet in all coal mines in New South Wales be electric or low carbon fuel?
 - (e) Other than the demonstration project to partially abate some of the Scope 1 fugitive ventilation air methane (VAM) emissions at South32's Appin /Bulli Seams coal mine by 2024-2025, what is the government doing to fast-track VAM abatement at underground coal mines in New South Wales?
 - (f) What are the current barriers to broad deployment of VAM abatement and what is the Government doing to work through these?
 - (g) What does the Government estimate will be the cumulative total of new and additional Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions from the following projects to be determined in 2023 (annual GHG and lifetime emissions):
 - (1) Newstan Mine Extension Project?
 - (2) Boggabri MOD 8?
 - (3) Mt Arthur Coal MOD 2 (Pathway to 2030)?
 - (4) Angus Place West?
 - (5) HVO Continuation Project?
 - (6) Chain Valley Colliery Consolidation?
 - (7) Ulan Coal Mod 6 - u/ground extension?
 - (8) Moolarben OC3 Extension Project?
- 9352 RESTRICTED DATA BREACHES—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Attorney General—
- (1) To what extent can a victim who has had their personal restricted data illegally accessed or modified take action against the perpetrator if the unauthorised access occurred through a company

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

information or computer system, such as an employee illegally accessing customer data held by their employer?

- (2) To what extent is there a gap in pursuing the perpetrator if the company where the data breach occurred does not pursue the perpetrator for the data breach?
- (3) What steps have been taken to ensure that customers are protected from unauthorised access and what penalties are there for companies whose employees exercise breaches?
- (4) What steps are being taken to better protect customers from unauthorised access to their data in New South Wales?

9353 LIGHT POLLUTION—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

- (1) What laws or controls are currently in place to regulate light pollution?
- (2) How are residents able to protect themselves from the impacts of light pollution in their homes at night, particularly from signs and advertisements in new developments?
- (3) What plans does the Government have to reduce light pollution such as introducing new controls?

9354 STRATA SCHEMES TERMINATIONS—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) How many applications for strata schemes termination have been made to the Land and Environment Court since the commencement of the Strata Schemes Development Act 2015?
- (2) How many of these were in the Sydney electorate?
- (3) How many applications did the Land and Environment Court approve and how many did the court reject:
 - (a) Across New South Wales?
 - (b) In the Sydney electorate?
- (4) How many requests for assistance have come through the Strata Collective Sales Advocacy Service since it commenced?
- (5) To what extent have requests for assistance increased since the legislation passed?

9355 RETURN AND EARN EXPANSION—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Environment and Heritage—

- (1) How many submissions were made to the recent consultation on expanding the Return and Earn container deposit scheme to include wine bottles and other packaging?
- (2) When will the Government report on the findings of the consultation?

9356 MILTON STREET RESIDENTS—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) What support has been provided to residents impacted by excessive night works at Milton Street for the Georges River Road widening project?
- (2) How many complaints were received by residents?
- (3) On how many occasions was nightwork carried out between the hours of 8pm-6am?

9357 SYDENHAM ROAD AND FITZROY STREET, MARRICKVILLE—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—

- (1) What is the status of investigations into the installation of traffic lights at the corner of Sydenham Road and Fitzroy Street, Marrickville?
 - (2) What conversations have Transport for NSW had with Inner West Council regarding this issue?
 - (3) What other consideration is being given to a pedestrian crossing on Sydenham Road between Vitoria Street and Buckley Street?
- 9358 DULWICH HILL STATION TRAFFIC LIGHTS—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Cities, and Minister for Active Transport—
- (1) What is the status of the permit applications to install traffic lights on Wardell Road at Dulwich Hill Train Station?
 - (2) When are traffic lights due to be installed at the intersection of Dudley Street and Wardell Road?
- 9359 MARRICKVILLE TRAIN STATION—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- (1) Given residents have reported a persistent odour from Marrickville Train Station over the past few months, possibly associated with works to convert the line to Metro, what investigations have been undertaken by Transport for NSW?
 - (2) What actions are planned to fix the issue?
- 9360 EMERALD CLASS 2—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- Have the Emerald Class 2 Ferries ever been inspected and certified in any other jurisdiction apart from New South Wales?
- 9361 QUEENSCLIFF—Ms Jo Haylen to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- When does Transport for NSW expect the Queenscliff to return to service after works at Garden Island?
- 9362 LAND VALUE AND LAND TAX REVENUE—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Lands and Water, and Minister for Hospitality and Racing—
- (1) What was the total revenue from Premium Threshold land tax in the 2021/22 Financial Year?
 - (a) How many properties are currently subject to the Premium Threshold land tax payment in New South Wales?
 - (i) What is the breakdown by Local Government Area?
 - (2) How many residential properties in New South Wales have a land value greater than \$10 million?
 - (a) What is the breakdown by Local Government Area?
 - (3) How many residential properties have an improved land value of over \$20 million?
 - (a) What is the breakdown by Local Government Area?
 - (4) What data is available regarding the improved land value of residential properties in New South Wales?
 - (5) What data is available regarding the numbers of residential properties owned by a single person or company in New South Wales?
 - (6) How many people who pay land tax in New South Wales own 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 or more properties in New South Wales?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (a) What is the breakdown by Local Government Area?

9363 LAND VALUE AND LAND TAX REVENUE—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

- (1) What was the total revenue from Premium Threshold land tax in the 2021/22 Financial Year?
 - (a) How many properties are currently subject to the Premium Threshold land tax payment in New South Wales?
 - (i) What is the breakdown by Local Government Area?
- (2) How many residential properties in New South Wales have a land value greater than \$10 million?
 - (a) What is the breakdown by Local Government Area?
- (3) How many residential properties have an improved land value of over \$20 million?
 - (a) What is the breakdown by Local Government Area?
- (4) What data is available regarding the improved land value of residential properties in New South Wales?
- (5) What data is available regarding the numbers of residential properties owned by a single person or company in New South Wales?
- (6) How many people who pay land tax in NSW own 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 or more properties in New South Wales?
 - (a) What is the breakdown by Local Government Area?

9364 PUBLIC HOUSING WAITLIST—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Corrections representing the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services—

- (1) As of December 2022, how many people are on the waiting list for public housing in New South Wales?
 - (a) How does this figure compare with the waiting list figures from 2012?
 - (b) Please provide breakdown of application numbers and numbers of people for 2022 and 2012?
- (2) Of the total number of people on the waiting list for public housing, how many are:
 - (a) Children under the age of 18?
 - (b) People over the age of 65?
 - (c) Women over the age of 65?
 - (d) People living with a disability?
- (3) In the 2021-22 financial year, how much money did the Department of Communities and Justice - Homes spend on temporary accommodation for public housing tenants?
- (4) How many transfer requests by people over the age of 65 are currently pending?
- (5) How many transfer requests by people with a disability are currently pending?

9365 REDEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) Explorer Street, Eveleigh is included on the list of locations identified for redevelopment under the Department of Planning & Environment's recently announced Rezoning Pathways Program.
 - (a) What is the timeline for redeveloping locations that have been included on this list?

- (b) Does inclusion on this list supersede the 2020 plan to redevelop the Explorer Street public housing estate under the Communities Plus model?
 - (c) If it does supersede the 2020 plan, what is the projected number of social and affordable housing units that would be developed on site through the Rezoning Pathways Program?
 - (2) We understand that the planned redevelopment of the Clothing Store sub-precinct in Eveleigh has a 15% affordable housing target. Does this 15% figure refer specifically to the new development or is it inclusive of the Platform Apartments affordable housing that is already on the sub-precinct site?
 - (3) Has the Department of Planning and Environment received any unsolicited proposals for the Newtown Tram Sheds in Newtown? If so:
 - (a) From whom were these received, and when?
 - (b) What was the substance of these proposals?
- 9366 REDEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Cities, and Minister for Active Transport—
- (1) Explorer Street, Eveleigh is included on the list of locations identified for redevelopment under the Department of Planning & Environment's recently announced Rezoning Pathways Program.
 - (a) What is the timeline for redeveloping locations that have been included on this list?
 - (b) Does inclusion on this list supersede the 2020 plan to redevelop the Explorer Street public housing estate under the Communities Plus model?
 - (c) If it does supersede the 2020 plan, what is the projected number of social and affordable housing units that would be developed on site through the Rezoning Pathways Program?
 - (2) We understand that the planned redevelopment of the Clothing Store sub-precinct in Eveleigh has a 15% affordable housing target. Does this 15% figure refer specifically to the new development or is it inclusive of the Platform Apartments affordable housing that is already on the sub-precinct site?
 - (3) Has the Department of Planning & Environment received any unsolicited proposals for the Newtown Tram Sheds in Newtown? If so:
 - (a) From whom were these received, and when?
 - (b) What was the substance of these proposals?
- 9367 LAND VALUE AND LAND TAX REVENUE—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Finance, and Minister for Employee Relations—
- (1) What was the total revenue from Premium Threshold land tax in the 2021/22 Financial Year?
 - (a) How many properties are currently subject to the Premium Threshold land tax payment in New South Wales?
 - (b) What is the breakdown by Local Government Area?
 - (2) How many residential properties in New South Wales have a land value greater than \$10 million?
 - (a) What is the breakdown by Local Government Area?
 - (3) How many residential properties have an improved land value of over \$20 million?
 - (a) What is the breakdown by Local Government Area?
 - (4) What data is available regarding the improved land value of residential properties in New South Wales?
 - (5) What data is available regarding the numbers of residential properties owned by a single person or company in New South Wales?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (6) How many people who pay land tax in NSW own 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 or more properties in New South Wales?
- (a) What is the breakdown by Local Government Area?
- 9368 WYONG ROAD AND BROOKE AVENUE—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- (1) I refer to my QON 8185 regarding the roundabout at Wyong Road and Brooke Avenue, Killarney Vale. Can you please advise:
- (a) What is the outcome of the feasibility investigation?
- (b) What is the current status or progress of any works determined by Transport for NSW at this location?
- 9369 TUGGERAH ST UPGRADE—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- (1) On 21 December 2022, I made representations on behalf of Lisarow Public School P&C regarding the road upgrade being made to the Tuggerah St and MacDonalds Rd intersection in Lisarow (my Ref: 530/22/ak). Can you please advise:
- (a) Whether Transport for NSW have indeed consulted with Central Coast Council to obtain their approval to changes to pedestrian safety at the location?
- (b) If a Transport for NSW representative has contacted the Principal of Lisarow Public School on this matter?
- (i) If so, when?
- (ii) If not, why?
- (c) What action Transport for NSW is going to take to ensure that the relevant works are undertaken prior to Term 1 2023?
- 9370 TUGGERAH STATION—Mr David Mehan to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- (1) In November 2022, concerns were raised by the community regarding changes to the plans for the upgrade to Tuggerah Station. Can you please advise:
- (a) What is the status of the station upgrade?
- (b) Have the plans been downgraded so that the platforms will no longer be widened?
- (c) Will any changes be publicly made?
- (i) If so, when will this happen?
- 9371 WASTE MANAGEMENT—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Minister for Environment and Heritage—
- (1) Following the release of the Audit Office's report into 'Waste levy and grants for waste infrastructure' which showed that less than 15% of revenue collected from the NSW Waste Levy is being spent on waste management, will the Government review this spending in order to allocate more funds to waste management?
- (2) What is the Government doing to build soft plastic recycling facilities here in New South Wales to reduce our state's reliance on overseas and interstate recycling facilities?
- 9372 SHORE POWER AND WHITE BAY BERTHS 3 AND 4—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Given the NSW Port Authority is open to including shore power capabilities at White Bay berths 3 and 4 once long-term users of the sites have been identified, what steps are now being taken to ensure the use of shore power is being encouraged and prioritised for potential users of these sites?

- 9373 RED-LIGHT SPEED CAMERA INSTALLATION CRITERIA—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Given Transport for NSW's safety audit of September 2020 found there is an "intolerable" risk of pedestrian safety resulting in potential fatality by motorists running red lights at the Victoria Road and Darling Street intersection, Rozelle, (which is a major pedestrian crossing for children attending Rozelle Public School) and that this intersection was not included in the shortlist for installation of a red-light speed camera in previous site selections, what is the criteria against which decisions to install red-light speed cameras are made?

- 9374 NOISE MONITORING DATA AT WHITE BAY CRUISE TERMINAL—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

What are the results of noise monitoring for the Pacific Adventure during its stay at White Bay Cruise Terminal on December 17 2022?

- 9375 GLEBE FERRY SERVICE PATRONAGE—Mr Jamie Parker to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—

How many trips have been taken each day on the F10 ferry service running between Glebe and Barangaroo since the service resumed in January 2022?

- 9376 INSURANCE GAP—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy—

What action have you taken with your Federal counterpart to address the insurance gap we have across the flood-impacted communities within the electorate of Lismore and wider Northern Rivers region?

- 9377 NON-GOVERNMENT HEALTHCARE BUSINESS GRANT—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health—

Has the Government made representations to the Commonwealth Government to share the costs of a Northern Rivers Non-Government Healthcare Business Grant to help flood-impacted general practices and specialists rebuild and remain in the region to continue providing essential health services?

- 9378 STATE MITIGATION PLAN—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

Does the New South Wales Reconstruction Authority realise that the State Mitigation Plan requires more than planning as indicated in their statement on the Authority's website?

- 9379 PREPARATION FOR NATURAL DISASTERS—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

How does the New South Wales Reconstruction Authority propose to prepare for natural disasters?

- 9380 NATURAL DISASTER PLAN—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

If a natural disaster happened today how would the New South Wales Reconstruction Authority coordinate the rescue, response, recovery and rebuild?

- 9381 REGIONAL LIAISON OFFICERS—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

When will the New South Wales Reconstruction Authority's promised Regional Liaison Officers be onboarded and allocated to local councils?

9382 RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY STAFF—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

How many staff does the New South Wales Reconstruction Authority have?

9383 MURWILLUMBAH EDUCATION CAMPUS—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

Will you accept Tweed Shire Council's latest invitation sent earlier this month (5 December 2022) to meet with community representatives, Parents and Citizens, students and families affected by the Government's decision to move ahead with the Murwillumbah Education Campus and closing the four public schools in Murwillumbah?

9384 MURWILLUMBAH EDUCATION CAMPUS CONCERNS—Ms Janelle Saffin to ask the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology, Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, and Minister for Sport representing the Minister for Education and Early Learning—

Are you aware that Tweed Shire Council as of this month (December 2022) is still formally objecting to the Government's proposed Murwillumbah Education Campus due to 'remaining concerns' about 'a number of unresolved matters', including carparking, traffic and vegetation clearing associated with the proposal?

9385 COVID RELATED FINES—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Treasurer, and Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Finance, and Minister for Employee Relations—

- (1) How many residents in the Wollongong electorate received COVID related fines?
- (2) What was the total revenue collected from those fines?
- (3) Have all of those who received COVID related fines been advised they can receive a refund?
- (4) What was the method of communication for providing this advice?
- (5) As of 21 December 2022, how many fines have been refunded:
 - (a) Across New South Wales?
 - (b) Across the Wollongong electorate?

9386 LOBBYING REPORT—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Premier—

Could you please provide an update on the Government's implementation of each recommendation from the Independent Commission Against Corruption report, entitled Lobbying and the NSW public sector - the regulation of lobbying, access and influence in New South Wales (Operation Eclipse)?

9387 REGISTRATION OF INTEREST FOR LAND—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) Why are commercial real estate agents responsible for collating responses to the Registration of Interest for the land on King Street, Warrawong?
 - (a) How were these agents chosen?
 - (b) What background do these agents, or their firm have in conducting public registration of interest processes?
 - (c) Will the results of the registration of interest process be published?

- (i) If so, where and by when?
 - (ii) If not, why not?
 - (2) Why are registration of interest only being accepted via webform given that the land is in an area with relatively low household internet connectivity?
 - (3) What is the cost of conducting the registration of interest process?
 - (4) Why were commercial real estate agents chosen to conduct this process rather than a Government department or agency?
 - (5) How were the dates for the conduct of the registration of interest process chosen?
 - (6) By what date will a decision be made on whether this parcel of land will be sold?
 - (7) What is the latest valuation of this parcel of land and when was the valuation conducted?
 - (8) What price will Property and Development NSW seek to achieve on this parcel of land?
 - (9) How much sale revenue, if any, will be reserved for projects in and on Lake Illawarra if the property is sold?
 - (10) What measures are in place to guarantee that the data collected by the commercial real estate agent for the registration of interest process is secure and protected?
 - (11) What guarantees have been secured from the real estate agent that no data obtained from this process will be used for private marketing purposes?
 - (a) If no guarantees have been secured, why not?
- 9388 PLANNING PROCESS—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—
- (1) Could you please provide an update on the current planning process underway for:
 - (a) Lizard Rock?
 - (b) TG Milner Grounds?
 - (2) Have the respective planning panels assessed these planning proposals?
 - (a) On what date did they do so?
 - (b) What was the outcome of this assessment?
 - (c) If not, when are the respective panels expected to assess the proposals?
- 9389 GOVERNMENT OWNED LAND—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—
- (1) How many Government owned parcels of land are currently involved in a registration of interest process?
 - (2) On what date do each of these registrations of interest processes close?
 - (3) Please provide the location of each of the properties in (1)
- 9390 LAND REZONING HOMES—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—
- (1) In relation to the Minister's media announcement on 5 December 2022, in what year will the first home be built on each of the 10 land rezonings in:
 - (a) Broadmeadow, Newcastle?
 - (b) Camellia-Rosehill?
 - (c) Explorer Street, Eveleigh?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (d) Macquarie Park Stage 1?
 - (e) Orchard Hills?
 - (f) Parramatta North's University and Northern sites?
 - (g) Riverstone East Stage 3?
 - (h) Appin?
 - (i) Gilead?
 - (j) North Appin?
 - (2) Is there an infrastructure plan for the provision of local roads, sewage, and other services for each of the locations listed in (1)?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- 9391 LIFTS AT UNANDERRA STATION—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Transport, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- (1) Further to LA9328:
 - (a) Have the electrical permits required to complete the construction of lifts at Unanderra Station been obtained?
 - (i) If not, why not?
 - (b) Has Transport for NSW revised its maintenance program to allow for weekend closures to install the footbridges at Unanderra Station?
 - (i) If not, are these being reviewed and when will this be completed?
 - (c) Has the timeline for completion and opening of the lifts at Unanderra Station been revised?
 - (i) If so, by what date and year are the lifts expected to be open for public use?
- 9392 WAKEFIELD PARK RACEWAY—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—
- (1) What discussions has the Minister and the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) had about the future of Wakefield Park Raceway in Goulburn?
 - (2) Please list the a) participants in these discussions and b) the date they were held.
 - (3) What proposals have been put to the Minister and DPE on options to resolve the issues presented by the decision of the NSW Land and Environment Court on 13 July 2022?
 - (4) Has the Government assessed these options?
 - (a) If so, what is the outcome of this assessment?
- 9393 WOMEN ON WORK SITES—Mr Paul Scully to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—
- (1) How was the Government's objective to achieve a target of 15 per cent women on work sites by 2030 determined?
 - (2) Which organisations were consulted in determining this target?
 - (3) Did any a) agency or b) stakeholder suggest a higher target?
 - (a) If so, which a) agency or b) stakeholder?

- (4) How and b) what milestones will be used to determine whether the 15 per cent target is on track?
- (5) On what date will applications for funding under the Industry Innovation Program close?
- (6) Does the Government intend to announce recipients for round one funding under the program before 25 March 2022?

9394 NOWRA BYPASS CONFIRMATION—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) With respect to a Nowra Bypass:
 - (a) Will the Government commit to a Nowra Bypass?
 - (b) Has the Commonwealth Government agreed to an 80/20 funding split for beyond the planning money it has committed to a Nowra Bypass in conjunction with the State?
 - (c) Will the Government seek a commitment for an 80/20 funding split for the construction costs of a Nowra Bypass from the Commonwealth Government?
 - (i) If yes, when will the Government seek this commitment from the Commonwealth?
 - (d) With respect to planning money announced, how will these funds be used, and will the community be consulted?
 - (e) Will planning involve revisiting the route for the Nowra Bypass identified in the Regional Environmental Plan to the west of Nowra?
 - (f) How will the Government consult and update the community on the planning process?
 - (g) Once the planning process is complete, when is it estimated that a Nowra Bypass will start construction and how long does the Government anticipate this project may take?

9395 SHELLHARBOUR HOSPITAL BUILD CONSIDERATIONS—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Health—

- (1) With respect to capital works in the Illawarra-Shoalhaven Local Health District:
 - (a) How many items of correspondence have you received from the Members for Kiama, Shellharbour, Wollongong, Keira and Heathcote each year for the last four years?
 - (b) Why will the new Shellharbour Hospital not have a helipad when it opens to the public?
 - (c) Has the Minister been briefed on the reasons why the new Shellharbour Hospital will not have a helipad?
 - (d) Is the Minister aware that the existing Shellharbour Hospital does have a helipad?
 - (e) Is the Minister aware of concerns from local ambulance officers and paramedics about the lack of a helipad at the new Shellharbour Hospital and will the Minister consider bringing forward plans to ensure the new Shellharbour Hospital has a helipad?
 - (f) Will the Minister meet with me and local paramedics to discuss this issue?
 - (g) Is the Minister aware that a new Shellharbour Hospital will not have birthing services?
 - (h) Will the Minister seek to recruit more obstetricians, including those who live in the Illawarra, to practise at the new Shellharbour Hospital for the provision of birthing services at the new Shellharbour Hospital?

9396 SUSTAINABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Environment and Heritage—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (1) With respect to Commonwealth Government initiatives to promote offshore wind farms and renewables in general:
- (a) What engagement (if any) has the Minister had with the Commonwealth on Commonwealth proposals to develop off-shore wind farms on the south coast of New South Wales?
 - (b) Has the Minister been briefed on specific proposals for an offshore wind farm on the South Coast of New South Wales?
 - (c) What is the Government's position on offshore wind farming?
 - (d) Is the Minister aware of environmental impacts and amenity concerns from local residents with respect to proposals to expand pumped hydro at Kangaroo Valley?
 - (e) Has the Minister been briefed on the proposal?
 - (i) If no, will the Minister seek a briefing on the environmental impacts of this proposal?
 - (ii) Will the Minister meet with concerned locals about these proposals as part of the consultation process?
- 9397 YALLAH INTERCHANGE—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Metropolitan Roads, and Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence—
- (1) With respect to the Yallah Interchange on the Princes Highway:
- (a) Is the Minister aware of calls by locals to provide for a Yallah Interchange on the Princes Highway?
 - (b) What planning was undertaken as part of the Albion Park Rail bypass to integrate a Yallah Interchange with the Princes Highway?
 - (c) Will the Minister request a briefing from her department to progress this matter?
 - (d) Will the Minister agree to meet with me and the Mayors of Shellharbour and Wollongong councils to discuss this matter?
 - (e) Will the Minister consider working with other agencies to examine population growth in the southern Illawarra and consider partnering with Wollongong and Shellharbour councils to upgrade local council roads such as Calderwood Road and Marshall Mount Road?
- 9398 SHELLHARBOUR TRAFFIC—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Agriculture, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—
- (1) With respect to traffic congestion in the Shellharbour Local Government Area (LGA) component of the Kiama electorate:
- (a) What consultation did the Minister undertake with respect to recent clearway changes on Tongarra Road in Albion Park?
 - (b) Did the Minister's department consult with the local MP?
 - (i) If not, why not?
 - (c) Did the Minister's department consult with local businesses, including the local Chamber of Commerce?
 - (i) If not, why not?
 - (d) Is the Minister aware of calls to upgrade Calderwood and Marshall Mount Roads to ease traffic congestion created by residential development in the western part of the Shellharbour LGA?

- (e) Will the Minister instruct his department to work with Wollongong and Shellharbour Councils to plan for and identify funding opportunities to upgrade critical local infrastructure to ease congestion in Calderwood, Tullimbar and Albion Park?

9399 THE COST OF LIVING—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Small Business, and Minister for Fair Trading—

- (1) With respect to the Government's cost of living program:
 - (a) What grants, subsidies and relief are available to residents of the Kiama electorate with respect to the cost of living?
 - (b) Can the Minister list the total value of each cost of living measure for the Kiama electorate?
 - (c) Can the Minister list the total number of applications for each cost of living measure for the Kiama electorate?
 - (i) If yes, can the Minister list how many applications were rejected and provide reasons for their rejection?
 - (d) With respect to question (c), how does the number of applications, both successful and unsuccessful, in the Kiama electorate compare to the rest of the State, on average?
 - (e) What is the Government doing to promote cost of living relief and measures available to residents in the Kiama electorate?

9400 THE PRESUMPTION OF INNOCENCE—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Attorney General—

- (1) With respect to the presumption of innocence:
 - (a) What is the Government's position on the presumption of innocence?
 - (b) What initiatives has the Attorney General undertaken to safeguard the presumption of innocence since 2011?
 - (c) How does the Government educate the public about the fundamental tenants of our justice system, such as the presumption of innocence?

9401 SHOALHAVEN CITY COUNCIL 2016-2022—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) With respect to Shoalhaven City Council:
 - (a) Can the Minister please provide the breakdown of staff salaries and Full time equivalent (FTE) head count at Shoalhaven City Council for the following years:
 - (i) 2016/17?
 - (ii) 2017/18?
 - (iii) 2018/19?
 - (iv) 2019/20?
 - (v) 2020/21?
 - (vi) 2021/22?
 - (b) Can the Minister please provide the total amount of roads funding received by Shoalhaven City Council from the Government (broken down by department) and the Commonwealth Government under the FAGS program for the following years:
 - (i) 2016/17?
 - (ii) 2017/18?

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Wednesday 21 December 2022

- (iii) 2018/19?
- (iv) 2019/20?
- (v) 2020/21?
- (vi) 2021/22?
- (c) Can the Minister please provide the number of Code of Conduct Complaints received at Shoalhaven City Council for the following years:
 - (i) 2016/17?
 - (ii) 2017/18?
 - (iii) 2018/19?
 - (iv) 2019/20?
 - (v) 2020/21?
 - (vi) 2021/22?
- (d) With respect to question (c), what was the cost to ratepayers for each investigation?
- (e) Can the Minister please provide the total costs (broken down by type) for councillor expenses for Shoalhaven City Council for the following years:
 - (i) 2016/17?
 - (ii) 2017/18?
 - (iii) 2018/19?
 - (iv) 2019/20?
 - (v) 2020/21?
 - (vi) 2021/22?

9402 PLANNING DECISIONS AND POWERS—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Planning, and Minister for Homes—

- (1) With respect to the NSW Coalition's commitment in 2011 to return planning powers back to local communities:
 - (a) How as the Government returned planning powers back to local communities?
 - (b) How many planning proposals did the Government consider each calendar year from 2011 to 2022?
 - (c) How many amendments to planning legislation has the Government made since 2011?
 - (d) With respect to question (c), how many changes to planning policies, regulation, rules or legislation enhanced community consultation and community-based decision making?
 - (e) With respect to question (c), how many changes to 'exempt and complying' rules has the Government made since 2011?
 - (f) What role and input will local communities have in planning decisions that relate to offshore wind farms (and related onshore substations and networks) on the south coast of New South Wales?
 - (g) What role and input will local communities have in planning decisions that relate to the expansion of pumped hydro at Kangaroo Valley?

- (h) With respect to questions (f) and (g), will the Minister meet with me and locals to discuss these concerns?