



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2023

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 82

THURSDAY 31 AUGUST 2023

(The Questions and Answers Paper published on Monday to Friday of each week will contain, by number and title, all questions to which answers have been received the previous day and any new questions asked that day. Consequently, the full text of any question will be printed only twice: when notice is given; and, when answered.)

Notice given on date shown.

Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
Q & A No. 23 (Including Question Nos 0300 to 0355)	30 June 2023
Q & A No. 67 (Including Question Nos 1031 to 1031)	31 August 2023
Q & A No. 68 (Including Question Nos 1032 to 1036)	1 September 2023
Q & A No. 69 (Including Question Nos 1037 to 1096)	4 September 2023
Q & A No. 70 (Including Question Nos 1097 to 1100)	5 September 2023
Q & A No. 71 (Including Question Nos 1101 to 1102)	6 September 2023
Q & A No. 72 (Questions—Nil)	-
Q & A No. 73 (Including Question Nos 1103 to 1124)	8 September 2023
Q & A No. 74 (Including Question Nos 1125 to 1133)	11 September 2023
Q & A No. 75 (Including Question Nos 1134 to 1136)	12 September 2023
Q & A No. 76 (Including Question Nos 1137 to 1145)	13 September 2023
Q & A No. 77 (Including Question Nos 1146 to 1147)	14 September 2023
Q & A No. 78 (Including Question Nos 1148 to 1151)	15 September 2023
Q & A No. 79 (Including Question Nos 1152 to 1157)	18 September 2023
Q & A No. 80 (Including Question Nos 1158 to 1179)	19 September 2023
Q & A No. 81 (Including Question Nos 1180 to 1182)	20 September 2023
Q & A No. 82 (Including Question Nos 1183 to 1184)	21 September 2023

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(Paper No. 67)

* 1031 EDUCATION AND EARLY LEARNING—THE VOICE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Finance, and Minister for Natural Resources representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, Minister for Western Sydney, and Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education—

- (1) What rules has the Education Department established for the involvement of schools and teachers in The Voice referendum campaign?
- (2) Are Teachers allowed to display and/or teach advocacy for either Yes or No?
 - (a) If yes, why are schools not required to be neutral in this campaign?
- (3) Is the Teachers Federation position in favour of voting Yes prohibited in schools?

Answer—

I am advised by the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning and Minister for Western Sydney that:

The Department of Education has published advice for teachers with regards to The Voice referendum. This advice indicates that teachers are expected to comply with the Controversial Issues in Schools policy when discussing any content with students that may be deemed controversial by the local community.

31 AUGUST 2023

(Paper No. 82)

1183 ENVIRONMENT—PARKS AND RESERVES OF THE TWEED CALDERA PLAN OF MANAGEMENT—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

- (1) Can the Minister advise whether the Parks and Reserves of the Tweed Caldera Plan of Management (PRTCMP) allows public access to climb the summit of Mt. Warning?
- (2) Can the Minister advise when the PRTCMP was last amended to give effect to the Aboriginal Place Management Plan for Mt. Warning, which states, on page 19, that the PRTCMP “would require amendment to ensure the Aboriginal Place is managed in accordance with this Aboriginal Place Management Plan into the future”?
 - (a) If the PRTCMP has not yet been amended to give effect to the provisions of the Aboriginal Place Management Plan as described above, what is the present status of the legal enforceability of the provisions of the Aboriginal Place Management Plan ?
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that one of the seven protesters who climbed Mt. Warning on Australia Day was interviewed by National Parks and Wildlife Services investigators?
 - (a) What was the nature of this investigation?
 - (i) Under what authority was this investigation taken?
 - (ii) How many National Parks and Wildlife Services investigators were involved?
 - (iii) How long did the National Parks and Wildlife Services investigation take place?
 - (b) Can the Minister confirm that among the issues raised was the alleged “desecration” of the site?
 - (c) What other issues were the subject of the National Parks and Wildlife Services investigation?
 - (d) What was the outcome of the National Parks and Wildlife Services investigation?
 - (i) Is there a report on this National Parks and Wildlife Services investigation?
 - (e) Is the report publicly available?

- (i) If not, can the Minister provide a copy of this report?
- (4) Can the Minister clarify whether a charge or allegation of “desecration” is open to National Parks and Wildlife Services investigators under the PRTCPM?
- (a) What is the definition of “desecration” under the PRTCPM?
- (b) Under what provision of the PRTCPM is “desecration” addressed?
- (c) Under what provision of the PRTCPM are charges or allegations of “desecration” enforced?
- 1184 ENVIRONMENT—RENEWABLE ENERGY ZONES—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—
- (1) Can the Minister advise:
- (a) How many renewable energy projects have been approved for the first Renewable Energy Zone to date?
- (b) How many renewable energy projects are presently before the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change awaiting a decision?
- (c) What is the average anticipated approval process for renewable energy projects in the first Renewable Energy Zone?
- (d) What is the anticipated operative date for the first Renewable Energy Zone?
- (2) Is the Minister aware of any delays associated with renewable energy projects before the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change?
- (a) If so, how many complaints have been received with respect to these delays?
- (b) What are the reasons for these delays?
- (c) What action has been taken with respect to mitigating these delays?

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Clerk of the Parliaments