



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

2023-24

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 50

TUESDAY 7 MAY 2024

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.

Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
Q & A No. 43 (Including Question Nos 2348 to 2417)	14 March 2024
Q & A No. 44 (Including Question Nos 2418 to 2477)	16 April 2024
Q & A No. 45 (Including Question Nos 2478 to 2515)	17 April 2024
Q & A No. 46 (Including Question Nos 2516 to 2594)	18 April 2024
Q & A No. 47 (Including Question Nos 2595 to 2622)	23 April 2024
Q & A No. 48 (Including Question Nos 2623 to 2665)	24 April 2024
Q & A No. 49 (Including Question Nos 2666 to 2725)	25 April 2024
Q & A No. 50 (Including Question Nos 2726 to 2786)	11 June 2024

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12 MARCH 2024

(Paper No. 44)

- * 2418 FAIR TRADING COMPLAINT HANDLING—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections—

In relation to the Fair Trading general complaint handling process, could the Minister please advise:

- (1) The exact number of complaints received between 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023?
- (2) The average number of days for complaints received between 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023 to be resolved?
- (3) The exact number of complaints received between 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023 that have been resolved?
- (4) The exact number of complaints received between 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023 that remain unresolved?
- (5) The exact number of complaints received between 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023 that were referred to a tribunal?
- (6) The exact number of complaints received between 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023 that were referred to another government department?
- (7) The exact number of complaints received between 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023 where the consumer was referred to seek independent legal advice?
- (8) The exact number of complaints received between 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023 that remain unresolved?
- (9) The process for resolving complaints where the trader does not respond to NSW Fair Trading's efforts to make contact?
- (10) The exact number of complaints received between 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023 that were unable to be resolved due to the trader's refusal to respond to NSW Fair Trading?

Answer—

I am advised:

Information relating to NSW Fair Trading complaints is available in the Department of Customer Service Annual Report.

- * 2419 NSW POLICE OFFICERS AND THE MENTAL HEALTH ACT 2007—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

Could the Minister please advise:

- (1) If there is a policy, protocol, and/or document detailing how NSW Police Officers are to apply Section 22 of the Mental Health Act 2007 (NSW)? Could you please identify where that document is publicly available?
- (2) What training do NSW Police receive to assist them in managing cases where alleged offenders appear to be mentally unwell?
- (3) What alternatives are available to Police other than exercising their power under section 22 of the Mental Health Act?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The NSW Health-NSW Police Force Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) 2018 - incorporates provisions of the Mental Health Act 2007 (NSW) No 8 and the Mental Health (Forensic Provisions) Act 1990 (NSW). The MoU provides the framework and principles that guide the NSW Police Force and multi-agency response with NSW Health (including NSW Ambulance) to situations involving people experiencing mental health illness or disorder. This document is publicly available on both the NSW Police Force and NSW Health websites at:

<https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/safety-and-prevention/your-community/mental-health>

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/mentalhealth/resources/Publications/mou-health-police-2018.pdf>.

- (2) Commencing at recruitment and continuing throughout their career, NSW Police Force officers undertake various training programs and mandatory continuing policing education. All student police officers receive comprehensive foundational mental health theory and scenario-based training at the NSW Police Academy prior to attestation. All NSW Police Force officers receive annual mental health training on a range of de-escalation strategies and crisis management scenario-based training. The NSW Police Force reviews training regularly to ensure best practice.
- (3) Police can refer to and engage various support services including NSW Health's Community Mental Health Team and/or Mental Health Line; NSW Ambulance; the person's treating clinician or care coordinator; or the person's family or carer.

* 2420 NOISE CAMERA TRIAL AT BAYSIDE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

- (1) Has the noise camera trial commenced in the Bayside Local Government Area?
- If not, when will the trial commence?
 - How many cameras will be installed as a part of the trial?
 - How long is the trial proposed to run for?
 - What metrics must be met for the trial to be deemed a success?
 - What is the exact amount budgeted for planning, implementing and assessing the trial?
- (2) Has the noise camera trial commenced in the Wollongong Local Government Area?
- If not, when will the trial commence?
 - How many cameras will be installed as a part of the trial?
 - How long is the trial proposed to run for?
 - What metrics must be met for the trial to be deemed a success?
 - What is the exact amount budgeted for planning, implementing and assessing the trial?

Answer—

- (1) (a) No. Deployment of noise cameras is scheduled to occur in June/July 2024.
- (b) Two (2) cameras will be installed.
- (c) The trial is scheduled to run until late 2025.
- (d) Audio and visual data captured by the system will be evaluated for utility for regulatory purposes, to reduce impacts on the community from noisy vehicles.
- (e) The NSW Environment Protection Authority has budgeted \$2.4 million over two years for the Noise Camera Trial.

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- (2) No.
 - (a) As above.
 - (b) One (1) camera to be installed.
 - (c) As above.
 - (d) As above.
 - (e) As above.

* 2421 REMEDIAL DRAINAGE AND FLOOD WORK ON MONA VALE ROAD (WEST)—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

- (1) Considering heavy rain experienced across Sydney in February 2024 and the removal of funding for Mona Vale Road (West), does the Government have any plans to conduct remedial drainage and flood work on Mona Vale Road West including addressing runoff and silt issues adjacent to the abandoned construction site?
 - (a) If yes, what works are currently planned?
 - (b) If no, why does the Government not plan on conducting remedial works?

Answer—

I am advised

As part of the Mona Vale Road East Upgrade, Transport for NSW has been constructing a new road embankment along the northern side of Mona Vale Road next to Tumburra Street at Ingleside.

This new road embankment will be landscaped to minimise soil erosion and sealed to prepare for the Mona Vale Road West Upgrade and to undertake compound rectification works.

* 2422 WILDLIFE SAFETY MEASURES ON MONA VALE ROAD WEST—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

- (1) Does the Government have any current plans to implement measures to keep wildlife safe on Mona Vale Road West considering the risks posed by the construction site and a road which halves in width along the western section?
 - (a) If yes, what measures to keep wildlife safe will be implemented?
 - (b) If no, why has the Government decided not to implement safety measures?

Answer—

I am advised

While Transport for NSW recognises there is currently no fauna fencing along Mona Vale Road (with the exception of Mona Vale Road East), it will be providing new and improved fauna connections including a 40-metre-wide fauna bridge over Mona Vale Road and two fauna underpasses, as part of the Mona Vale Road West project.

This project has been deferred for two years following the 2023-24 NSW State Budget, which was consistent with the findings of the NSW Independent Strategic Infrastructure Review.

The road alignment within the Mona Vale Road West project area has remained unchanged and will remain under existing conditions until the future upgrade of Mona Vale Road West commences.

Transport for NSW is planning to install additional signage along this section of road to remind motorists to watch for wildlife.

* 2423 INDIVIDUAL PASSENGER TRIP DATA IN PITTWATER ELECTORATE—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Transport—

Could the Minister please advise:

- (1) The average daily number of individual passenger trips for the Avalon Beach to Stokes Point (Loop Service) 192 route every Monday – Friday for the following years:
 - (a) 2020-21?
 - (b) 2021-22?
 - (c) 2022-23?
- (2) The average daily number of individual passenger trips for the Avalon Beach to Stokes Point (Loop Service) 192 route every Saturday – Sunday for the following years:
 - (a) 2020-21?
 - (b) 2021-22?
 - (c) 2022-23?
- (3) The average daily number of individual passenger trips for the Avalon Beach to Taylors Point (Loop Service) 191 route every Monday – Friday for the following years:
 - (a) 2020-21?
 - (b) 2021-22?
 - (c) 2022-23?
- (4) The average daily number of individual passenger trips for the Avalon Beach to Taylors Point (Loop Service) 191 route every Saturday – Sunday for the following years:
 - (a) 2020-21?
 - (b) 2021-22?
 - (c) 2022-23?
- (5) The average daily number of individual passenger trips for the Bayview Garden Village to Narrabeen and Frenchs Forest 155 route every Monday – Friday for the following years:
 - (a) 2020-21?
 - (b) 2021-22?
 - (c) 2022-23?
- (6) The average daily number of individual passenger trips for the Narrabeen and Frenchs Forest to Bayview Garden Village 155 route every Monday – Friday for the following years:
 - (a) 2020-21?
 - (b) 2021-22?
 - (c) 2022-23?
- (7) The average daily number of individual passenger trips for Bayview Garden Village to Narrabeen and Frenchs Forest 155 route every Saturday - Sunday for the following years:
 - (a) 2020-21?
 - (b) 2021-22?
 - (c) 2022-23?

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- (8) The average daily number of individual passenger trips for the Narrabeen and Frenchs Forest to Bayview Garden Village 155 route every Saturday – Sunday for the following years:
- (a) 2020-21?
 - (b) 2021-22?
 - (c) 2022-23?
- (9) The average daily number of individual passenger trips for the Mona Vale to Narrabeen 182 route every Monday – Friday for the following years:
- (a) 2020-21?
 - (b) 2021-22?
 - (c) 2022-23?
- (10) The average daily number of individual passenger trips for the Narrabeen to Mona Vale 182 route every Monday – Friday for the following years:
- (a) 2020-21?
 - (b) 2021-22?
 - (c) 2022-23?
- (11) The average daily number of individual passenger trips for Mona Vale to Narrabeen 182 route every Saturday - Sunday for the following years:
- (a) 2020-21?
 - (b) 2021-22?
 - (c) 2022-23?
- (12) The average daily number of individual passenger trips for the Narrabeen to Mona Vale 182 route every Saturday – Sunday for the following years:
- (a) 2020-21?
 - (b) 2021-22?
 - (c) 2022-23?
- (13) The average daily number of individual passenger trips for the Mona Vale to Narrabeen via Warriewood Valley 185 route every Monday –Friday for the following years:
- (a) 2020-21?
 - (b) 2021-22?
 - (c) 2022-23?
- (14) The average daily number of individual passenger trips for the Narrabeen to Mona Vale via Warriewood Valley 185 route every Monday – Friday for the following years:
- (a) 2020-21?
 - (b) 2021-22?
 - (c) 2022-23?
- (15) The average daily number of individual passenger trips for Mona Vale to Narrabeen via Warriewood Valley 185 route every Saturday - Sunday for the following years:
- (a) 2020-21?
 - (b) 2021-22?

- (c) 2022-23?
- (16) The average daily number of individual passenger trips for the Narrabeen to Mona Vale via Warriewood Valley 185 route every Saturday – Sunday for the following years:
- (a) 2020-21?
- (b) 2021-22?
- (c) 2022-23?
- (17) The average daily number of 181X passengers beginning their trip at Stop ID 210125, 210150, 210152 and 210153 every Monday – Friday for the following years:
- (a) 2020-21?
- (b) 2021-22?
- (c) 2022-23?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) The average weekday daily (excluding weekend & public holidays) boardings of bus route 192:
- (a) FY 2020-21: 36
- (b) FY 2021-22: 29
- (c) FY 2022-23: 36
- (2) The average weekend daily (excluding public holidays) boardings of bus route 192:
- (a) FY 2020-21: 21
- (b) FY 2021-22: <20
- (c) FY 2022-23: <20
- (3) The average weekday daily (excluding weekend & public holidays) boardings of bus route 191:
- (a) FY 2020-21: 61
- (b) FY 2021-22: 50
- (c) FY 2022-23: 69
- (4) The average weekend daily (excluding public holidays) boardings of bus route 191:
- (a) FY 2020-21: 43
- (b) FY 2021-22: 30
- (c) FY 2022-23: 38
- (5) The average weekday daily (excluding weekend & public holidays) boardings of bus route 155 Inbound direction:
- (a) FY 2020-21: 56
- (b) FY 2021-22: 38
- (c) FY 2022-23: 54
- (6) The average weekday daily (excluding weekend & public holidays) boardings of bus route 155 Outbound direction:
- (a) FY 2020-21: 54

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- (b) FY 2021-22: 38
- (c) FY 2022-23: 50
- (7) The average weekend daily (excluding public holidays) boardings of bus route 155 Inbound direction:
 - (a) FY 2020-21: 34
 - (b) FY 2021-22: 23
 - (c) FY 2022-23: 36
- (8) The average weekend daily (excluding public holidays) boardings of bus route 155 Outbound direction:
 - (a) FY 2020-21: 34
 - (b) FY 2021-22: 23
 - (c) FY 2022-23: 35
- (9) The average weekday daily (excluding weekend & public holidays) boardings of bus route 182 Inbound direction:
 - (a) FY 2020-21: 99
 - (b) FY 2021-22: 70
 - (c) FY 2022-23: 93
- (10) The average weekday daily (excluding weekend & public holidays) boarding's of bus route 182 Outbound direction:
 - (a) FY 2020-21: 81
 - (b) FY 2021-22: 63
 - (c) FY 2022-23: 94
- (11) The average weekend daily (excluding public holidays) boardings of bus route 182 Inbound direction:
 - (a) FY 2020-21: 48
 - (b) FY 2021-22: 32
 - (c) FY 2022-23: 47
- (12) The average weekend daily (excluding public holidays) boardings of bus route 182 Outbound direction:
 - (a) FY 2020-21: 40
 - (b) FY 2021-22: 30
 - (c) FY 2022-23: 44
- (13) The average weekday daily (excluding weekend & public holidays) boardings of bus route 185 Inbound direction:
 - (a) FY 2020-21: 282
 - (b) FY 2021-22: 137
 - (c) FY 2022-23: 190
- (14) The average weekday daily (excluding weekend & public holidays) boardings of bus route 185 Outbound direction:

- (a) FY 2020-21: 271
 - (b) FY 2021-22: 113
 - (c) FY 2022-23: 158
- (15) The average weekend daily (excluding public holidays) boardings of bus route 185 Inbound direction:
- (a) FY 2020-21: 236
 - (b) FY 2021-22: 82
 - (c) FY 2022-23: 108
- (16) The average weekend daily (excluding public holidays) boardings of bus route 185 Outbound direction:
- (a) FY 2020-21: 205
 - (b) FY 2021-22: 64
 - (c) FY 2022-23: 91
- (17) The average weekday daily (excluding weekend & public holidays) boardings of bus route 181X at Stop ID 210125, 210150, 210152 and 210153:
- (a) FY 2020-21:
 - 210125 - Narrabeen B-Line, Pittwater Rd, NARRABEEN: <20
 - 210150 - Pittwater Rd before Robertson St, NARRABEEN: <20
 - 210152 - Pittwater Rd after Goodwin St, NARRABEEN: <20
 - 210153 - Pittwater Rd at Clarke St, NARRABEEN: <20
 - (b) FY 2021-22:
 - 210125 - Narrabeen B-Line, Pittwater Rd, NARRABEEN: <20
 - 210150 - Pittwater Rd before Robertson St, NARRABEEN: <20
 - 210152 - Pittwater Rd after Goodwin St, NARRABEEN: <20
 - 210153 - Pittwater Rd at Clarke St, NARRABEEN: <20
 - (c) FY 2022-23:
 - 210125 - Narrabeen B-Line, Pittwater Rd, NARRABEEN: <20
 - 210150 - Pittwater Rd before Robertson St, NARRABEEN: <20
 - 210152 - Pittwater Rd after Goodwin St, NARRABEEN: <20
 - 210153 - Pittwater Rd at Clarke St, NARRABEEN: <20

* 2424 SCHEDULED SERVICES CANCELLED—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) For the period from 1 July 2022 – 16 July 2023, could the Minister please advise the exact number of scheduled services cancelled for each of the following bus services:
- (a) the B Line bus route?
 - (b) 151-bus route?
 - (c) 154X bus route?
 - (d) 155-bus route?

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- (e) 156-bus route?
 - (f) 160X bus route?
 - (g) 182-bus route?
 - (h) 183X-bus route?
 - (i) 185-bus route?
 - (j) 185X-bus route?
 - (k) 188-bus route?
 - (l) 188X-bus route?
 - (m) 189X-bus route?
 - (n) 190X-bus route?
 - (o) 191-bus route?
 - (p) 192-bus route?
 - (q) 196-bus route?
 - (r) 197-bus route?
 - (s) 199 bus route?
- (2) For the period from 17 July 2023 – 29 February 2024 or the latest date for which data is available (if this is the case, please advise the date), could the Minister please advise the exact number of scheduled services cancelled for each of the following bus services:
- (a) B Line bus route?
 - (b) 151-bus route?
 - (c) 154X bus route?
 - (d) 155-bus route?
 - (e) 156-bus route?
 - (f) 160X bus route?
 - (g) 182-bus route?
 - (h) 183X-bus route?
 - (i) 185-bus route?
 - (j) 185X-bus route?
 - (k) 188-bus route?
 - (l) 188X-bus route?
 - (m) 189X-bus route?
 - (n) 190X-bus route?
 - (o) 191-bus route?
 - (p) 192-bus route?
 - (q) 196-bus route?
 - (r) 197-bus route?
 - (s) 199 bus route?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) For the period from 1 July 2022 – 16 July 2023, the exact number of scheduled services cancelled were:
- (a) B Line bus route: 3,607 (3.16%)
 - (b) 151-bus route: 0 (0.0%)
 - (c) 154X bus route: 1,658 (11.76%)
 - (d) 155-bus route: 488 (2.37%)
 - (e) 156-bus route: 772 (2.50%)
 - (f) 160X bus route: 7,095 (8.68%)
 - (g) 182-bus route: 711 (3.72%)
 - (h) 183X-bus route: No longer in operation. Service terminated on 20 December 2020.
 - (i) 185-bus route: 1,182 (3.60%)
 - (j) 185X-bus route: No longer in operation. Service terminated on 20 December 2020.
 - (k) 188-bus route: No longer in operation. Service terminated on 20 December 2020.
 - (l) 188X-bus route: No longer in operation. Service terminated on 20 December 2020.
 - (m) 189X-bus route: No longer in operation. Service terminated on 20 December 2020.
 - (n) 190X-bus route: 1,088 (11.60%)
 - (o) 191-bus route: 333 (2.39%)
 - (p) 192-bus route: 110 (1.11%)
 - (q) 196-bus route: 123 (1.43%)
 - (r) 197-bus route: 481 (2.21%)
 - (s) 199-bus route: 3,461 (4.11%)
- (2) For the period from 17 July 2023 – 17 March 2024, the exact number of scheduled services cancelled for each of the following bus services were:
- (a) B Line bus route: 376 (0.48%)
 - (b) 151-bus route: 0 (0.0%)
 - (c) 154X bus route: 430 (5.49%)
 - (d) 155-bus route: 67 (0.50%)
 - (e) 156-bus route: 41 (0.20%)
 - (f) 160X bus route: 2,232 (4.24%)
 - (g) 182-bus route: 50 (0.40%)
 - (h) 183X-bus route: No longer in operation. Service terminated on 20 December 2020.
 - (i) 185-bus route: 74 (0.34%)
 - (j) 185X-bus route: No longer in operation. Service terminated on 20 December 2020.
 - (k) 188-bus route: No longer in operation. Service terminated on 20 December 2020.
 - (l) 188X-bus route: No longer in operation. Service terminated on 20 December 2020.

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- (m) 189X-bus route: No longer in operation. Service terminated on 20 December 2020.
- (n) 190X-bus route: 120 (3.10%)
- (o) 191-bus route: 25 (0.31%)
- (p) 192-bus route: 29 (0.39%)
- (q) 196-bus route: 93 (1.69%)
- (r) 197-bus route: 388 (2.67%)
- (s) 199-bus route: 530 (0.98%)

* 2425 MAINTAINENCE OF BUSES OPERATED BY KEOLIS DOWNER—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Transport—

Could the Minister please advise:

- (1) Who is responsible for the for the maintenance of the buses driven by Keolis Downer (considering the buses remain owned by the public not the operator)?
- (2) What regular maintenance is required to be undertaken (either by Keolis Downer or the entity responsible)?
- (3) What Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) or protocols are in place to ensure maintenance is undertaken regularly?
- (4) Who is responsible for monitoring the meeting of KPIs and protocols?
- (5) What is the percentage of KPIs that are met completely by the contractor or entity responsible for maintenance?
- (6) Are there any known maintenance issues on the Northern Beaches bus fleet? If yes, please list these issues.

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Keolis Downer Hunter Pty Ltd (trading as Newcastle Transport) are responsible for the maintenance of the buses as prescribed in the Newcastle Integrated Services Contract.

Keolis Downer Northern Beaches is the operator and maintainer of the bus fleet for Greater Sydney Bus Contract Region 8.

- (2) The Newcastle Integrated Services Contract and Greater Sydney Bus Contract outlines all asset maintenance activities including obligations for compliance with asset management standards and Transport for NSW Asset Management Framework.

Asset maintenance obligations include but are not limited to, implementation of a Maintenance Works Program as part of the Asset Management Plan that is revised annually and provided to Transport for NSW.

All bus maintenance activities are undertaken in accordance with the planned service schedule for the fleet. This is dependent on vehicle model, age, mileage, and the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) requirements and recommendations.

All buses in the Greater Sydney Bus Contract fleet are inspected every six months by the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator under the Heavy Vehicle Inspection Scheme (HVIS) in accordance with policy and inspection protocols to ensure the safety and road worthiness of the vehicles.

- (3) Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) under the Newcastle Integrated Services Contract and Greater Sydney Bus Contract Region 8 relating to asset maintenance are detailed below:

Newcastle Integrated Services Contract

- KPI 12 - Asset Presentation
- KPI 13 - Asset Condition
- KPI 15 – Incidents due to failure to conduct maintenance
- KPI 16 – Contract Bus Maintenance – Major Defects
- KPI 17 – Maintenance Regime – Contract Vehicles

Greater Sydney Bus Contract Region 8

- CE5 - Asset Presentation
- SA1 - Asset Condition
- SA2 - Contract Bus Maintenance – Major Defects
- SA3 - Contract Bus Maintenance – Minor Defects/Self Clearing Defects.

In addition, Keolis Downer Northern Beaches is required to be an accredited operator under the Bus Operator Accreditation Scheme (regulated by Transport for NSW). Accreditation requires regular audits by an independent auditor including adherence to maintenance standards and the Heavy Vehicle Inspection Scheme.

- (4) Transport for NSW is responsible for monitoring the meeting of KPIs.
- (5) Newcastle Transport and Keolis Downer Northern Beaches performance against KPIs is commercial-in-confidence.
- (6) There are no known maintenance issues in the Keolis Downer Northern Beaches fleet.

* 2426 SYDNEY WATER EXPANSION PLANS—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

- (1) Has Sydney Water ever had plans to expand its water connections to residents in Ingleside, New South Wales 2101 and if so, can you please provide details including the date it was proposed and the date these plans were cancelled (if any)?
- (2) Does the Government have any current plans to expand its water connections in Ingleside and if so, can you please provide further details and if not, will the Government consider expanding water connections in Ingleside?
- (3) Does the Government have any plans to direct Sydney Water to expand its water connections in Ingleside?

Answer—

I am advised:

In 2018, Sydney Water developed a water and wastewater servicing plan for 3,900 new dwellings in Ingleside

In 2022 former Liberal Minister for Planning, Anthony Roberts, cancelled these plans.

* 2427 BUS SERVICE BETWEEN LIVERPOOL AND SUTHERLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Does the Government have any plans to introduce a direct bus service between the Liverpool Local Government Area and Sutherland Shire Local Government Area?

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Answer—

I am advised

For travel between Liverpool Station and Sutherland Station, passengers are able to catch the T3 rail services or bus route M90 to Bankstown then interchange to bus Route 960 to Sutherland.

There are no plans to introduce a direct bus service between Liverpool Local Government Area and Sutherland Shire Local Government Area.

* 2428 RATES OF 'TAPPING ON'—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) How many individuals "tapped on" at Holsworthy train station in:
 - (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?
- (2) How many individuals "tapped on" at Liverpool train station in:
 - (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?
- (3) How many individuals "tapped on" at Casula train station in:
 - (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1)
 - (a) 1,845
 - (b) 1,431
 - (c) 1,887
 - (d) 2,505
- (2)
 - (a) 5,996
 - (b) 4,829
 - (c) 5,635
 - (d) 7,616
- (3)
 - (a) 278
 - (b) 217
 - (c) 238
 - (d) 314.

* 2429 BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE RATES—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Can the Minister advise, separately, how many students use before school care and after school care at:
 - (a) Hammondville Public School?
 - (b) Lurnea Public School?
 - (c) Wattle Grove Public School?
 - (d) Prestons Public School?
 - (e) Casula Public School?
- (2) What was the total funding provided by the Government to before and after school care in the electorate of Holsworthy for:
 - (a) 2021/22?
 - (b) 2022/23?
 - (c) 2023/24?
- (3) Does the Government have any plans for expand before and after school care?

Answer—

The Department of Education administers licences to before and after school care providers operating on government school sites, and works to find solutions for schools that have demand for a service where one is not currently in place. Individual non-government service providers hold enrolment data for their services.

* 2430 CHANGES TO PAID WORK FOR CERTIFICATE III EARLY EDUCATION STUDENTS—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Has the option for those studying a Certificate III in Early Education to study and work with a paid wage simultaneously been eliminated?
 - (a) If so what factors contributed to this decision?
- (2) Can the Minister confirm how many persons were ‘actively working towards’ their Certificate III early education qualification whilst ‘actively working in’ the industry before changes took place in July 2023?
- (3) Can the Minister advise whether there has been a reduction in enrolments for Certificate III Early education study in 2024?

Answer—

Those studying the Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care have the option to study and work with a paid wage.

A service provider can employ, and hence pay a wage to, a person who is undertaking study to achieve the Certificate III Early Childhood Education and Care. The regulations state that someone who is actively working towards the Certificate III or diploma qualification may be included in the educator-to-child ratio count for the service.

The Department of Education can only provide data on training funded through Smart and Skilled, the NSW government-subsidised training system. The NSW data indicates there has been a 7.5% increase in 2023/24 compared to the same period in 2022/23.

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* 2431 PLACE-BASED INTERVENTION INITIATIVES FOR YOUTH OFFENDERS—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

- (1) Given the significant challenge when referring youth offenders to place-based intervention initiatives in Barwon is the lack of services available in local areas, what alternate referral options are available for a youth offender who does not have access to State-based services?
- (2) What accountability measures are in place to ensure these services are being provided to rural and remote communities?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Youth Justice facilitates a number of alternate referral options for young people in the Barwon electorate. These include Police Citizens Youth Clubs for recreation and mentoring, Maranguka for youth and family support. Mission Australia for casework support and accommodation support, Birrang Enterprises for learner drivers, Aboriginal Medical Service for health services, and REDI.E for employment opportunities.
- (2) There are three Youth Justice community offices working with young people in the Barwon electorate, located in Bourke, Broken Hill, and Moree. Youth Justice has strict protocols, policies and procedures that govern the direct supervision of, and contact with, young people. Youth Justice facilitated referrals are underpinned by accountability mechanisms specific to each provider to ensure appropriate services are being provided to young people.

* 2432 DRIVERS LICENSE RENEWAL DELAYS IN BARWON—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

- (1) Can the Minister advise why it is taking up to 6 weeks for drivers to receive their hard copy licence following their renewal?
- (2) Is this considered the normal waiting time for drivers' licences to be received via post?
 - (a) Is the Minister investigating options for fast tracking this process to ensure persons will receive their licence sooner?
- (3) Can the Minister advise why Service NSW is no longer providing hard copy drivers licenses on premise instantaneously?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Standard operating procedure is for driver licences to be issued to customers within 10 business days.
 - Operational issues including unplanned power outages in January and February 2024 resulted in delays of up to 3 weeks to issue some licences.
 - Service NSW is not aware of any delays beyond three weeks for some licences to be issued.
- (2) The normal wait time to issue driver licences via post is within 10 business days.
 - (a) All licences are currently being despatched within 10 business days which is in line with normal processing and despatch timeframes.
- (3) Since the inception of Service NSW in 2013, driver licences have not been issued to customers at the time of application or renewal transaction. Following the transition from Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) to Service NSW, this function was centralised for efficiency. The printers onsite at

each RMS office had also come to end of life. Licences issued by Service NSW have always been sent via mail which aligns with most Australian States and Territories.

* 2433 CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING DAVIDSON HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

(1) Did you receive my correspondence on behalf of Davidson High Parents and Citizens' Association and the hundreds of local parents who signed a petition, requesting a new and upgraded hall, to be funded in the next 2024-25 Budget?

(a) If yes, will the Government consider this request?

Answer—

While the Department of Education has advised that no funding was ever allocated by the previous Liberal and Nationals Government for an upgrade of this kind, the department is working with the school on its infrastructure needs.

Since the Minns Government came to office, the department has advised that it has completed significant works at the school, including:

- Refurbishing learning spaces, including the re-sheeting of ceilings, painting, LED lights and ceiling fans
- Installing a new pedestrian gate
- Replacing floor coverings
- Introducing a new storm water line to mitigate localised flooding
- Repairing the storm water kerb and gutter to mitigate flooding
- Installing nine replacement walls in learning spaces
- Replacing roofs
- Refurbishing the staff bathroom.

* 2434 INTERSECTION OF ARCHBOLD AND TRYON ROADS IN LINDFIELD—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

In relation to the intersection of Archbold and Tryon roads in Lindfield:

- (1) Is it possible to add green arrow traffic lights for cars leaving Tryon Road turning right in into Eastern Arterial Road and Archbold Road?
- (2) Can Ku-ring-gai Council apply for Transport for NSW funding to widen Tryon Road at the intersection?
- (a) If yes, what is the best and proper process to do so?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Archbold and Tryon Road are classified as regional and local roads and as such fall under the care and responsibility of Ku-ring-gai Council. This includes investigating and undertaking any changes to traffic signals on these roads.

It is noted that Ku-ring-gai Council has engaged a traffic consultant to undertake design work for the intersection of Archbold Road and Tryon Road. Any questions regarding this proposal should be directed to Ku-ring-gai Council. Any proposal for changes at the intersection including the

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installation of right-turn arrows would be reviewed and approved by Transport for NSW prior to implementation.

- (2) Transport for NSW offers several grant programs which are available to local councils. Road safety programs are available for Council to nominate projects that improve road safety. It is important to note that NSW funding allocations are limited and prioritised on a state-wide basis. Priorities are determined on strict criteria which include reported crashes, road geometry and the safety benefits returned to the community.

* 2435 BUS SERVICES IN REGION 14—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Transport—

In relation to bus services in Region 14:

- (1) Does the Government have a plan to recruit more bus drivers?
(a) If yes, what is the plan?
- (2) What is the Government doing to hold CDC NSW to account?
- (3) What are the disincentives/penalties for unreliable/cancelled bus services?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Operators are actively recruiting drivers, with some implementing apprenticeships and incentive programs to attract new people. Some contracted bus operators are also offering bonuses to encourage existing drivers to remain and/or work from an alternative depot(s).

Transport for NSW is working with contracted bus operators on initiatives to improve the recruitment and retention of bus drivers.

In response to the Bus Industry Taskforce's initial recommendations to support bus driver recruitment and retention, Transport for NSW has implemented a range of initiatives including:

- a Transport for NSW three-month recruitment campaign promoting the industry's career opportunities, launched in July, has corresponded with a 9 per cent increase in driver applications.
- waiving the \$70 application fee from August 2023, followed by further changes in October 2023 to remove barriers for anyone interested in becoming a bus driver.
- the NSW Government announcement on 1 September 2023 that all bus drivers will be able to travel for free on public transport and access all staff facilities on the Opal network throughout their shift. Transport for NSW is consulting with operators, employees and unions on the rollout of these cards.
- auditing 62 driver facilities at various sites, and making improvements, such as additional bathrooms and cleaning.

The Bus Taskforce has also held a number of industry roundtable events which have brought together bus operators, workforce representatives, and key bus industry stakeholders to work together on practical solutions to bus industry workforce issues.

- (2) Fortnightly progress meetings are held with CDC NSW management and Transport for NSW where updates on performance and driver recruitment are discussed. Transport for NSW is working closely with CDC NSW to ensure service delivery and reliability, and continually engages with them and supports them in a number of ways, including monitoring and improving performance. This includes strategies for service planning, operations, staff and assets which are designed to ensure contract standards and community expectations are met in the delivery of bus services.
- (3) Transport for NSW has a number of remedies to draw upon when an operator cannot perform all the services due to driver shortages which can include:

- The number of services to be provided is reduced down toward a deliverable level to provide passengers with more certainty and a reliable service and thus the monthly payment is reduced.
- Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Abatements as described in Schedule 4 of the contract ([https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/operations/buses-and-coaches/bus-contracts#Greater_Sydney_Bus_Contract_\(GSBC\)](https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/operations/buses-and-coaches/bus-contracts#Greater_Sydney_Bus_Contract_(GSBC))).
- Transfer of services to adjacent operators if there are sufficient driver numbers in neighbouring operator contracts.

* 2436 SPEED CAMERAS AND RED LIGHT CAMERAS IN THE CASTLE HILL ELECTORATE—Mr Mark Hodges to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

- (1) Could the Minister advise whether there are any plans to install further fixed speed cameras within the road network within the Castle Hill Electorate?
- (2) If the answer to question (1) is in the affirmative please specify the location of the planned installation of the fixed speed camera and what is the time frame for the installation of such camera?
- (3) Could the Minister advise whether there are any plans to install further fixed red light cameras within the road network within the Castle Hill Electorate?
- (4) If the answer to question (3) is in the affirmative please specify the location of the planned installation of is the fixed red-light camera and what is the time frame for the installation of such camera?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) - (2) There are currently no plans to install further fixed speed cameras within the Castle Hill Electorate.

To nominate a location where you think a speed camera should be in NSW, information is available here: <https://www.saferroadsnsw.com.au/haveyoursayspeedcameras.aspx>.

The information provided, together with crash data and other road safety information, is being used to help prioritise future locations for speed cameras in NSW. While Transport greatly appreciates every submission, due to a high volume of nominations, Transport does not respond to individual nominations for automated speed enforcement. If more information is required, the nominator will be contacted using the details provided.

- (3) - (4) There are currently no plans to install further red-light speed cameras within the Castle Hill Electorate. Please note that every intersection controlled by traffic signals in NSW is reviewed every year as part of the red-light speed cameras selection process and in recent years, no intersections within the Castle Hill electorate have been selected for a red-light speed camera treatment.

* 2437 STUDENT ENROLMENTS IN THE CASTLE HILL ELECTORATE—Mr Mark Hodges to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In respect of the following Schools could the Minister advise the number of students commencing in Year 11 and Year 12 in each of the years specified for each of the listed schools:

- (1) Castle Hill High School:
 - (a) 2019?
 - (b) 2020?

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- (c) 2021?
- (d) 2022?
- (e) 2023?
- (f) 2024?
- (2) Baulkham Hills High School:
 - (a) 2019?
 - (b) 2020?
 - (c) 2021?
 - (d) 2022?
 - (e) 2023?
 - (f) 2024?
- (3) Model Farms High School:
 - (a) 2019?
 - (b) 2020?
 - (c) 2021?
 - (d) 2022?
 - (e) 2023?
 - (f) 2024?
- (4) Kellyville High School:
 - (a) 2019?
 - (b) 2020?
 - (c) 2021?
 - (d) 2022?
 - (e) 2023?
 - (f) 2024?

Answer—

Student enrolment numbers are publicly available on the Department of Education website.

* 2438 DISPOSAL OF LAND—Mr Mark Hodges to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Has the Department of Education disposed of any land holdings within the Castle Hill Electorate, the Kellyville Electorate, or the Hawkesbury Electorate within the last 12 months?
 - (a) If the answer to the above question is yes can you please identify the land holdings disposed of the Department within the last 12 months?

Answer—

The Department of Education has advised that information relating to disposals of land will continue to be included in its annual reports.

* 2439 RETURN OF BUS ROUTE 272—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) What actions have been taken to date to progress the return of bus route 272 from North Willoughby to Wynyard?
- (2) What is the intended start date for this route?

Answer—

I am advised

The NSW Government has established a Bus Industry Taskforce (the Taskforce) to make recommendations to improve the reliability, quality and effectiveness of bus services across NSW.

The Taskforce's second report outlines a plan to fix the deterioration of bus services across the state. In response to the Taskforce's recommendations, Transport for NSW is developing a proposal for a State-wide Medium Term Bus Plan, short-term improvements to local services to catch up to population growth and to support the supply of housing.

* 2440 WESTERN HARBOUR TUNNEL AND WARRINGAH FREEWAY UPGRADE—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

In relation to the Western Harbour Tunnel and Warringah Freeway Upgrade:

- (1) Has the government commissioned updated local road traffic modelling that reflects:
 - (a) The cancellation of Beaches Link?
 - (b) Post pandemic changes in traffic patterns and demand?
 - (i) If not, why not?
- (2) Will any updated modelling be publicly released?
 - (a) If so, when?
- (3) Will updated modelling materially affecting the assumptions made in the project EIS trigger a reassessment of relevant project design and delivery?

Answer—

I am advised

The Western Harbour Tunnel and Warringah Freeway Upgrade projects were approved independently of the proposed Beaches Link project. Despite the cancellation of Beaches Link, Transport for NSW is evaluating key road corridors in Sydney's Lower North Shore and Northern Beaches to manage network performance and resilience. Transport for NSW will provide recommendations by late 2024 based on extensive traffic and transport data collected over seven years, including recent surveys conducted in May 2022.

Transport for NSW is preparing a pre-opening Road Network Performance Plan before the Western Harbour Tunnel becomes operational in 2028, which will include updated analysis and mitigation measures for traffic impacts. Operational Road Network Performance Reviews will be also conducted at 12 months and five years post Western Harbour Tunnel opening to assess the adequacy of mitigation measures and identify any further actions needed to address impacts on adjoining roads.

* 2441 DELIVERY OF PUBLIC PRESCHOOLS IN CHATSWOOD AND ST LEONARDS—Mr Tim James to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Does the Government have plans to deliver public preschools co-located at the sites of the two new public schools to be built at Chatswood and St Leonards?
 - (a) If not, why not?

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Answer—

Information on the sites selected as part of the Minns Labor Government's 100 public preschools commitment can be found on the NSW Department of Education website. This is the biggest expansion of public preschools in NSW history.

- * 2442 2023/24 TUNNEL AIR QUALITY REVIEW—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

In relation to the 2023/24 Tunnel Air Quality Review:

- (1) When is the Chief Scientist & Engineer expected to report?
- (2) Will the review and its advice to Government be made public?
- (3) Is the Government considering filtration of the Sydney road tunnel network including the Western Harbour Tunnel?

Answer—

I am advised

It is anticipated the NSW Chief Scientist and Engineers review into tunnel air quality will be published on the Chief Scientist's website in the third quarter of 2024.

The NSW Government will act based on the report of the NSW Chief Scientist and Engineers review into tunnel air quality.

- * 2443 BUS INDUSTRY TASKFORCE IN WILLOUGHBY—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Transport—

In relation to the bus services in the Willoughby electorate:

- (1) Will the bus industry taskforce make recommendations on route or timetable changes?
 - (a) If yes, will these changes be implemented prior to or in close conjunction with the opening of the Sydney Metro City & South West?
- (2) What other planning is underway to fully integrate the Sydney Metro City & South West line with the wider transport network including buses?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) The Bus Industry Taskforce provided its second report to the Minister for Transport with further recommendations to deliver better bus services and improve reliability and equity across the state. The NSW Government announced its support for the Taskforce's key recommendations on 22 February 2024. The Taskforce's second report outlines a plan to fix the deterioration of bus services across the state.

In response to the Taskforce recommendations, Transport for NSW is developing a proposal for a State-wide Medium Term Bus Plan together with short-term improvements to local services to catch up to population growth, and to support the supply of housing.

- (1) (a) Transport for NSW is currently planning for adjustments to the bus network to support Sydney Metro City and South West when it opens in 2024 and 2025 respectively. These adjustments will aim to improve customer access to Metro services and reduce service duplication as part of a wider integrated transport network.

More detailed information regarding the planned changes will be released closer to the opening of Metro City and South West, accompanied by a comprehensive passenger communications campaign. As is customary with all transport improvements, any identified changes during the

planning process will be subject to operational constraints, including the costs associated with delivering extra services and the availability of necessary resources such as buses and drivers.

- (2) Transport for NSW continually reviews the public transport network to assess whether services are meeting demand and aligned to contemporary travel patterns. Passenger behaviour and feedback in response to the opening of Sydney Metro City and Southwest will inform future bus network analysis and options development in terms of providing for improved passenger journeys and making the most of integrated public transport options.

* 2444 ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL MASTER PLAN—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

In relation to the Royal North Shore Hospital Masterplan 2023-2063:

- (1) Does the masterplan provide for potential accommodation on hospital land in zones H2 and H3?

Answer—

I'm advised:

The Royal North Shore Hospital Campus Master Plan 2023 does not propose any NSW Health land be used for residential development.

The master plan includes potential provision of 'diverse accommodation' in zones H2 and H3 to support clinical service delivery at the hospital. This includes patient and carer accommodation and short-stay staff accommodation, such as overnight quarters for shift workers.

* 2445 MINISTRY OF HEALTH BUILDING—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

In relation to the Ministry of Health building at 1 Reserve Road, St Leonards:

- (1) What is the current utilisation rate of the building?
(2) How many staff currently use the building?
(3) Are there any vacant floors or spaces?

Answer—

I'm advised:

The NSW Ministry of Health building at 1 Reserve Road St Leonards is the corporate office for 10 Health entities, including:

- Ministry of Health
- HealthShare NSW
- eHealth NSW
- NSW Cancer Institute
- NSW Bureau of Health Information
- NSW Clinical Excellence Commission
- NSW Health Infrastructure
- NSW Health Pathology
- Health, Education and Training Institute
- Agency for Clinical Innovation

There are no vacant floors or spaces at 1 Reserve Road, St Leonards.

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Around 5,400 staff use the building. Use varies across the week as the Ministry supports a hybrid work program.

- * 2446 NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL AT ST LEONARDS—Mr Tim James to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In relation to the new primary school at St Leonards:

- (1) On which site will this school be located?

Answer—

The Department of Education is planning for new and upgraded schools across the state, informed by the recent Enrolment Growth Audit conducted by School Infrastructure NSW.

- * 2447 ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS ACT—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

In relation to land claims under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (NSW):

- (1) Is the register of land claims maintained by the Office of the Registrar, Aboriginal Land Rights Act publicly available and searchable?

(a) If not, why not?

- (2) Does the Minister have any plans to increase the transparency of the register and of land claims made in New South Wales?

(a) If not, why not?

Answer—

The register of land claims is maintained by the Office of the Registrar which is part of the Aboriginal Affairs portfolio. These questions should be referred to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty.

- * 2448 FIRE STATION STANDARDS ASSESSMENT—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

- (1) What measures are used to assess whether a fire station in New South Wales is built to an adequate standard to achieve:

(a) Safety and protection from contaminants inside the station?

(b) Gender equality for women in the workplace?

- (2) How many fire stations are there in New South Wales?

- (3) Of those stations, how many adequately address the standards for contaminant protection and gender equality?

- (4) In the Ryde electorate, how many of those stations adequately address the standards for contamination and gender equality?

- (5) What plans does the Government have to address those stations that do not meet an adequate standard for one or both of these metrics?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)

(a) Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) fire stations are assessed through the Operations Resource Plan, which is a performance-based assessment of fire station functionality including suitable ablutions, change rooms and locker rooms with adequate privacy for gender

equality, airset cleaning, engine bays, PPC storage, and 'clean/ dirty' area separation for protection from contaminants.

The Rural Fire Service (RFS) builds new stations to a standard design to provide upgraded facilities for the management of contaminants, including clean and dirty transition areas for Personal Protective equipment and laundering equipment. A review of diesel emission in fire stations also is being undertaken.

- (b) The NSW Government is committed to providing emergency services volunteers with well-equipped and resourced facilities for their work to protect the community.

FRNSW fire stations are assessed through the Operations Resource Plan.

New and upgraded RFS stations will provide improved amenities for volunteers including toilets, showers, change space and accommodation for a gender diverse workforce.

- (2) The RFS has 1,982 Brigades. FRNSW has 335 fire stations.
- (3) RFS brigade stations have been built over many decades to varying designs and standards. A new RFS Strategic Asset Management Plan, and a property audit currently under way, will better record asset data.

Based on the most recent assessments from FRNSW, approximately 78% of the assessed stations are considered to have inadequate privacy and 'clean/ dirty' area separations when assessed against the latest standards for new fire stations. The \$50 million, 10-year Privacy Upgrade program is delivering upgraded amenities providing privacy at various fire stations across NSW and prepare for greater female firefighter numbers.

- (4) The FRNSW station in the Ryde electorate does not currently address the standards for contamination and gender equality.
- (5) In the 2023/24 State Budget, the RFS was allocated \$808.4 million in combined recurrent and capital expenditure and is working to provide its members with new and upgraded facilities.

In 2023/24 FRNSW was allocated \$1.2 billion in combined recurrent and capital expenditure. It continues to work with Infrastructure NSW and NSW Treasury to meet the guidelines set by the Whole of Government Asset Management Policy. Fire and Rescue currently has over 20 projects in progress across its medium and major capital works program to upgrade stations for both metrics.

* 2449 FIRE AND RESCUE NSW CAPACITY TO ADDRESS INCREASED DENSITY—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

- (1) What consultation is undertaken with Fire and Rescue NSW as part of the planning process, to determine whether there is sufficient capacity to deal with density increases across New South Wales?
- (2) What additional resourcing has been provided to Emergency Services from Planning NSW in response to this challenge to ensure Fire and Rescue NSW can continue to keep all communities safe?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Fire and Rescue NSW works with the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure's population projections to allocate resources based on anticipated growth. Any Fire and Rescue issues are considered as part of the assessment process.
- (2) The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure does not have a role in funding other agencies. The funding requirements for all agencies are considered by Government.

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* 2450 SCHOOL STUDENT TRANSPORT SCHEME—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) To what extent is personal safety considered when determining whether a person is eligible under the 'School Student Transport Scheme'?
- (2) Where an application fails to meet the 'Pedestrian Access Concern' criteria, what factors are taken into account, and how are these factors assessed in practice?

Answer—

I am advised

The School Student Transport Scheme provides free travel to eligible students from Kindergarten to Year 12.

Parents can seek a review of a decision to decline their eligibility for the School Student Transport Scheme if they have evidence demonstrating that their child's walking route is unsafe. The criteria considered when assessing a student application is published on the Transport for NSW website.

Further information is available on the Transport for NSW website; <https://transportnsw.info/tickets-opal/ticket-eligibility-concessions/school-student-travel/guidelines-for-determining-safety>, and <https://transportnsw.info/tickets-opal/ticket-eligibility-concessions/school-student-travel>

* 2451 SOLAR PANEL INFRASTRUCTURE—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

What plans does the Government have to use the NSW Planning system to incentivise installation of solar panel infrastructure on new developments, especially residential apartments, commercial buildings and renovations and/or extensions?

Answer—

I am advised:

Solar panel infrastructure is a recognised feature in the BASIX online tool. Whilst solar panel infrastructure on homes is not mandatory in NSW, most homes select solar panels because it is a cost-effective way of meeting higher BASIX energy efficiency standards that commenced 1 October 2023.

BASIX applies to residential development in NSW and sets minimum sustainability standards. It has always offered choice around how homes meet their energy efficiency and thermal performance standards.

* 2452 NORTH RYDE PUBLIC SCHOOL UPGRADES—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Of the \$8.8 billion in the 2023-24 Budget for delivering new and upgraded schools, how much does the Department of Education presently plan to spend on maintenance and/or upgrade works at North Ryde Public School?

Answer—

The Minns Government's record school infrastructure investment includes projects across the State. The NSW Department of Education has advised that works at North Ryde Public School include internal painting works and an LED lighting upgrade, with planned future works including a roof replacement project.

* 2453 SCHOOL ZONE SIGNS - WINBOURNE STREET, BRUSH ROAD AND FARNELL STREET—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Of the school zone signs installed on Winbourne Street, Brush Road and Farnell Street in my electorate of Ryde, how many of them include flashing lights?
 - (a) If none, does this represent standard practice in New South Wales?

- (b) How many other school zones in New South Wales operate without flashing lights?
- (c) Listed in alphabetical order, what are the names of those schools in New South Wales without flashing lights on their school zone signs?

Answer—

I am advised

This is a matter for the Minister for Roads.

* 2454 URGENT REPAIRS ON DENISTONE TO CITY TRAIN SERVICE—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) What was the specific nature of the urgent repairs that caused the 7:35am train service from Denistone to the city to be temporarily cancelled in February 2024?
 - (a) What steps were taken to notify commuters of this cancellation?
 - (b) What steps are being taken to ensure such a disruption is avoided in future?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) The 7.29am Epping to Gordon via Central weekday service which stops at Denistone at 7:35am did not operate as timetabled from 5 to 16 February 2024. The train that is used to operate this service was undergoing major repairs after it suffered extensive damage following an earlier incident involving a trailer at a level crossing. The next service from Denistone to Central was at 7:50am. The 7:35am service from Denistone was restored to the T9 Northern Line Monday to Friday timetable from 19 February 2024.
 - (a) All efforts were made to keep customers advised of the service alterations including via transport apps and station information screens and announcements. The station team at Denistone made manual announcements and were on the concourse assisting passengers to make alternate journey plans (e.g. traveling to Eastwood or Epping and boarding a service to the city). A sign was also attached to the station's Passenger Information Screen about the train cancellation.
 - (b) Sydney Trains considers all factors including possibly cancelling individual services before a decision is made regarding network service continuity, and to minimise the impact to the majority of customers. Should a similar situation occur again Sydney Trains will consider utilising a standby train earlier.

* 2455 BUILDING GRANTS ASSISTANCE SCHEME FOR NON-GOVERNMENT PRESCHOOLS—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

As part of the Government's \$60 million commitment to build and upgrade 50 preschools on non-government school sites:

- (1) Does this particular program have a name?
- (2) When will the details (including selection criteria) of the program be announced?
- (3) Has consultation yet commenced with community, elected representatives, industry stakeholders or potential schools on the details of this specific grant program?
- (4) How will details relating to this currently unnamed program be communicated to stakeholders, providers, schools, community and elected representatives?

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Answer—

The Department of Education is working with the non-government school sector to deliver the Minns Government's election commitment to provide \$60 million for new and upgraded preschools co-located with non-government schools in areas of need.

Further information on the program will be made available on the department's website in the coming months.

* 2456 FIRES CAUSED BY LITHIUM ION BATTERIES—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

- (1) In the past 12 months, how many fires in New South Wales were caused by Lithium ION Batteries?
 - (a) Of those, how many occurred in the Ryde electorate?
- (2) How does this compare to the 12 months prior?
 - (a) Of those in the 12 months prior, how many occurred in the Ryde electorate?
- (3) What work is New South Wales Emergency Services doing to advocate for an Australian Standard for Lithium ION Batteries?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) 281 (1 Feb 2023 -31 Jan 2024).
 - (a) 2
- (2) 170 (1 Feb 2022 -31 Jan 2023).
 - (a) 2
- (3) Fire and Rescue NSW is conducting reviews of international research and testing information and international standards as they are developed to help inform guidance for the NSW context. FRNSW is working with NSW Fair Trading, the NSW Environmental Protection Agency, the NSW Department of Planning and other government agencies in relation to Lithium-ION battery risks and legislative reforms.

* 2457 GOVERNMENT SPENDING ON EVENTS AT THE INTERANATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) In the 2022-23 financial year, how much did the Government spend on bookings for the following events at the International Convention Centre (ICC) Sydney:
 - (a) Premier's Harmony Dinner?
 - (b) Premier's Gala Concert?
 - (c) International Women's Day breakfast?
 - (d) Any other events hosted by the Government?
- (2) How did this expenditure compare with each of the 5 financial years prior?

Answer—

I am advised:

These questions should be referred to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces.

- * 2458 BERT EVANS APPRNTICESHIP SCHOLARSHIP—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education—

Regarding the 116 regional recipients of the Bert Evans Apprenticeship Scholarship 2024, in which regional Electorate does each of these recipients live?

Answer—

The number of recipients in 2023 in each regional electorate is listed below.

Electorate	No of Scholarship Winners in 2023
Albury	1
Ballina	2
Barwon	1
Bathurst	1
Bega	6
Cessnock	6
Clarence	3
Coffs Harbour	3
Cootamundra	5
Dubbo	8
Goulburn	9
Keira	1
Kiama	5
Lake Macquarie	1
Lismore	2
Maitland	2
Monaro	2
Murray	2
Myall Lakes	5
Newcastle	1
Northern Tablelands	3
Orange	4
Other	4
Oxley	2
Port Macquarie	1
South Coast	8
Swansea	3
Tamworth	12

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Upper Hunter	5
Wagga Wagga	6
Wallsend	2
Total	116

- * 2459 FERTILITY TREATMENT REBATE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

Regarding the Fertility Treatment Rebate:

- (1) How many individuals from the Tweed Electorate have received the rebate since its introduction in October 2022?
- (2) Noting applications close on 1 October 2026 unless funds are expended earlier, what percentage of funds remain?

Answer—

I'm advised:

Data from this program is not available by electorate.

- * 2460 REAL-TIME TAGGED SHARK LISTENING STATIONS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

Does the Government plan to install any more real-time tagged shark listening stations along the New South Wales coastline?

Answer—

I have been advised -

As this matter falls under the portfolio of the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales, this question should be referred to Minister Moriarty.

- * 2461 ROAD TUNNEL AIR QUALITY FINDINGS—Ms Kobi Shetty to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

Noting the Transport Minister's response to LA QON 1494:

- (1) What progress has been made on the review of the New South Wales Chief Scientist and Engineer's findings on road tunnel air quality?
- (2) When will the review be published?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) In consultation with the Office of the Chief Scientist & Engineer, four independent experts have been identified to conduct various aspects of the review and a draft scope of work for each engagement has been developed.

Preliminary engagement has been conducted with each expert, and an out-of-session paper has been circulated to the Advisory Committee on Tunnel Air Quality for endorsement of the experts and the scope.

Transport for NSW has identified and has started consolidating all relevant and available air quality monitoring data.

(2) It is anticipated the review will be published in the third quarter of 2024.

* 2462 MINIMUM PASSING DISTANCE WHEN OVERTAKING BICYCLES—Ms Kobi Shetty to ask the Minister for Transport—

Regarding the minimum passing distance rule for overtaking bicycles in New South Wales:

- (1) How many instances of vehicle drivers breaching the rule have been reported to enforcement authorities in the past three years?
- (2) How many instances of vehicle drivers breaching the rule have been investigated in the past three years?
- (3) How many penalties have been issued in relation to a breach of the rule in the past three years?

Answer—

I am advised

(1-2) This is a matter for the Minister for Police.

(3) This is a matter for the Minister for Finance.

* 2463 RETURNING PUBLIC FERRY SERVICE TO ELLIOTT STREET WHARF—Ms Kobi Shetty to ask the Minister for Transport—

Noting the Minister's response to LA QON 1285:

- (1) What progress has been made on returning a public ferry service to the Elliott Street Wharf in Balmain?
- (2) When does the Government expect the service will be ready to resume?

Answer—

I am advised

To return regular route services to the wharf, Transport for NSW will need to make necessary upgrades to wharf infrastructure, install Opal, CCTV as well as safety and passenger information systems.

Transport for NSW is currently working with Transdev Sydney Ferries on service plan options to incorporate Elliott Street wharf into the ferry network using existing vessels.

* 2464 GARIE ROAD REOPENING DATE—The Hon. Mark Speakman to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

When will Garie Road reopen to the public?

Answer—

I am advised

Garie Road remains closed to ensure the safety of motorists, pedestrians and workers who need to access the site. Priority is to repair and open the road safely as soon as possible.

Transport for NSW commenced work in October 2023, and is expected to be completed by mid- 2024, weather and site conditions permitting.

* 2465 CONSULTATION ON WHARVES AT KURNELL AND LA PEROUSE—The Hon. Mark Speakman to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Has the Government called for expressions of interest or tenders for use of the wharves presently under construction at Kurnell and La Prouse?

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- (a) If not, does the Government plan to call for expressions of interest or tenders for use of those wharves?

(i) If so, when will the Government do so?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Transport for NSW has not called for expressions of interest or tenders for use of the wharves as there are no facilities on the wharves that would be subject for an agreement.

The wharves are multipurpose and available for recreational and commercial vessel use. Transport for NSW is working on the wharf operational plans and will provide details to the community closer to the wharves opening.

Transport for NSW is also working on the future ferry service. No timing has been set for an expression of interest.

- * 2466 LILLI PILLI PUBLIC SCHOOL LOWER SITE UPGRADES—The Hon. Mark Speakman to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Does the Government have plans to rebuild or upgrade any of the student bathrooms at Lilli Pilli Public School's lower site (on Lilli Pilli Point Road)?

(a) If yes, when will the Government do so and what rebuilding or upgrade will occur?

Answer—

School Infrastructure NSW has advised that it has engaged with the school in relation to its student bathroom facilities and these facilities will be considered by the department as part of a statewide assessment which is conducted on a needs-basis.

- * 2467 ALTERING GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES IN THE SUTHERLAND SHIRE—The Hon. Mark Speakman to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

- (1) Is the Geographical Names Board, or the Government otherwise, considering altering the recorded name or geographical name of any place in the Sutherland Shire?

(a) If yes, what is the alteration under consideration and when will a decision be made?

Answer—

I am advised there are no place name proposals currently before the Geographical Names Board in relation to the Sutherland Shire.

- * 2468 PERCENTAGE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING BY SUBURB—Mr Mark Taylor to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

- (1) What percentage of Housing in each of the following suburbs is considered 'Affordable Housing':

- (a) Lalor Park?
- (b) Toongabbie?
- (c) Wentworthville?
- (d) Pendle Hill?
- (e) Old Toongabbie?
- (f) Winston Hills?
- (g) Glenwood?

- (h) Kings Langley?
- (i) Seven Hills?
- (j) Blacktown?
- (k) Northmead?

Answer—

I am advised:

The State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021 (Housing SEPP) incentivises the delivery of new affordable housing. Under the Housing SEPP, affordable housing must be managed by registered community housing providers and rented to eligible low- or moderate-income households.

- * 2469 LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANNING APPROVAL TIMES—Mr Mark Taylor to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

In relation to Local Government Planning Approval times:

- (1) Can the Minister please advise the average planning approval time for the following Local Government areas:
 - (a) The City of Parramatta Council?
 - (b) The Hills Shire Council?
 - (c) Blacktown City Council?

Answer—

I am advised:

This information, and similar information for all NSW councils, is publicly available on the NSW Planning Performance Dashboard <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/eplanningreport>

- * 2470 TOONGABBIE BRIDGE—Mr Mark Taylor to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

In relation to Toongabbie Bridge:

- (1) When was the \$2 million funding allocated for a traffic study of Toongabbie Bridge?
- (2) When was the traffic study completed and report finalised?
- (3) When was advice given to Parramatta City Council and Cumberland City Council on the completion of this study?

Answer—

I am advised

A \$2 million commitment was made in 2019 to investigate and identify potential improvements to ease congestion on Toongabbie Bridge and the local road networks adjacent to the bridge and Toongabbie Station.

This work was completed by Transport for NSW in 2023 and Transport for NSW handed over the Strategic Business Case to both City of Parramatta and Cumberland City councils on 3 November 2023, and advised Blacktown Council on 10 November 2023. This will enable councils to progress planning and seek funding for the implementation of the Strategic Business Case's recommended projects. Transport for NSW will continue to work with councils on the early planning of local road network enhancements to improve safety and ease congestion.

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- * 2471 PROPOSED WIND FARM IN OBERON—The Hon. Paul Toole to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

In relation to the proposed wind farm in Oberon:

- (1) How many wind turbine related fires have occurred in New South Wales since their creation?
- (2) What potential fire danger is there for surrounding state forest, farmers and residents if the proposed Oberon Wind Farm was to go ahead?
- (3) Who is responsible for the risk of economic and environmental damage if a wind turbine caused a bushfire in one of our State Forests?

Answer—

- (1) This question should be directed to the Minister for Emergency Services.
- (2) This question should be directed to the Minister for Planning.
- (3) There is no development proposal at this time and therefore it is not appropriate to offer a view on this hypothetical scenario, however, any issuance of permit to a wind farm developer will incorporate appropriate allocation and management of risks associated with the project.

- * 2472 PROPOSED WIND FARM IN OBERON—The Hon. Paul Toole to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

In relation to the proposed wind farm in Oberon:

- (1) How many wind turbine related fires have occurred in New South Wales since their creation?
- (2) What potential fire danger is there for surrounding state forest, farmers and residents if the proposed Oberon Wind Farm was to go ahead?
- (3) Who is responsible for the risk of economic and environmental damage if a wind turbine caused a bushfire in one of our State Forests?

Answer—

- (1) This question should be referred to the Minister for Emergency Services, the Hon Jihad Dib MP.
- (2) This question should be referred to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon Paul Scully MP.
- (3) This question should be referred to the Minister for Agriculture, Regional NSW and Western NSW, the Hon Tara Moriarty MLC.

- * 2473 YOUTH CRIME IN THE WESTERN REGION—The Hon. Paul Toole to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

In relation to youth crime in the Western region:

- (1) From March 2022 to March 2023; how many youths were arrested in the following Police Districts?
 - (a) Barrier Police District?
 - (b) Central North Police District?
 - (c) Chifley Police District?
 - (d) New England Police District?
 - (e) Orana-Mid Western Police District?

- (f) Oxley Police District ?
- (2) From March 2023 to March 2024; how many youths were arrested in the following Police Districts?
 - (a) Barrier Police District?
 - (b) Central North Police District?
 - (c) Chifley Police District?
 - (d) New England Police District?
 - (e) Orana-Mid Western Police District?
 - (f) Oxley Police District?
- (3) Can you provide a list for the top 10 towns in New South Wales listed in order with 1 being the most, where cars have been stolen in the past twelve months?
- (4) Can you provide a list for the top 10 towns in New South Wales listed in order with 1 being the most, where home invasions have occurred in the past twelve months?
- (5) Can you provide a list for the top 10 towns in New South Wales listed in order with 1 being the most, where youth have been arrested in the past twelve months?

Answer—

I am advised:

Information related to young people legally proceeded against, break and enter dwelling, and motor vehicle theft is publicly available on the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research website.

* 2474 HYDROTHERAPY POOLS—The Hon. Leslie Williams to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

- (1) How many hydrotherapy pools are operated by NSW Health throughout the state?
- (2) How many of these NSW Health run hydrotherapy pools have closed or ceased operation in the past 12 months?
- (3) Does the Government have plans to fund the upgrade to the hydrotherapy pool at Port Macquarie Base Hospital?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I'm advised:

There are 22 pools currently operated by NSW Health.

The pool at Port Macquarie, remains out of operation after closing in 2020.

* 2475 OVERPAID LAND TAX AND COUNCIL RATES—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) Is there any recourse available to land holders who have overpaid on land tax and council rates due to incorrect land value assessments, including multiple previous years?
 - (a) If not, does the Government have plans to provide recourse to these land holders?
 - (i) If so, what are these plans?
 - (ii) If not, why not?

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Answer—

I am advised:

These questions should be directed to the Minister for Local Government and the Minister for Finance.

- * 2476 STRIKE FORCE MEALING AND OPERATION SHELTER—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

Could you please provide an update on the activities, arrests and prosecutions related to Strike Force Mealing and Operation Shelter?

Answer—

I am advised:

As at 8 March 2024, three (3) persons have been charged with Common Assault as a result of Strike Force Mealing. Two (2) of the three (3) matters are currently before the court. In relation to the third matter, on 20 December 2023, the court sentenced an individual to a six (6) month conditional release order without conviction for one (1) count of Common Assault.

As at 8 March 2024, 85 individuals have been arrested and issued Court Attendance Notices for 184 offences under Operation Shelter.

- * 2477 INMATE ACCESS TO EDUCATION—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections—

- (1) Has your office taken any action since the March 2023 Election to ensure that all inmates are given access to educational services (including University education)?
- (2) Does access to educational services reduce recidivism rates?
 - (a) What research is NSW Corrections relying on regarding the above answer?
- (3) What percentage of inmates are being given adequate opportunity to undertake university education?
- (4) How many inmates in New South Wales prisons have attempted to enrol in university level education?
 - (a) How many of these applications have been approved?
 - (b) How many of these applications have been rejected?
- (5) How many inmates of New South Wales prisons have attempted to enrol in other tertiary level education (including trade or technical schools)?
 - (a) How many of these applications have been approved?
 - (b) How many of these applications have been rejected?
- (6) How many inmates of New South Wales prisons have attempted to enrol in secondary level education?
 - (a) How many of these applications have been approved?
 - (b) How many of these applications have been rejected?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1-2) Please refer to the answer to LA QoN 257.

(3) CSNSW does not routinely collect this information in a way that can be aggregated.

(4-6) Question has not been answered because a date range has not been specified.

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* 2478 EXPRESS TRAIN SERVICE BETWEEN LIVERPOOL AND BANKSTOWN IN 2025—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Can the Minister advise whether the Government is investigating the possibility of implementing an express train service between Liverpool and Bankstown in 2025?

Answer—

I am advised

In 2020, Transport for NSW consulted passengers and the community on three proposed rail service options that could be introduced following the introduction of Sydney Metro City and Southwest.

Shuttle services between Liverpool and Bankstown were included in two of the options. Community feedback highlighted a strong preference for the option to deliver direct Liverpool to City services via Regents Park.

The community showed a key preference for this option for three key reasons:

- Direct service to and from the Sydney CBD maintained for most passengers
- Better or more direct access to other locations such as the Inner West
- Less crowding on services and at stations due to more even spread of South West Sydney passengers across the network.

This option would maintain direct connection to the Sydney CBD whilst minimising the impact to services elsewhere on the network.

Information about community consultation report is publicly available on the Transport for NSW website.

<https://yoursay.transport.nsw.gov.au/west-of-Bankstown>

* 2479 PROPOSED UPGRADE TO HEATHCOTE ROAD BETWEEN THE M5 AND MOOREBANK—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Can the Minister provide an update on the proposed Heathcote Road upgrade between the M5 Motorway and Junction Road, Moorebank?

Answer—

I am advised

This is a matter for the Minister for Roads.

* 2480 BUS SERVICE CANCELLATIONS IN GSBC10—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Can the Minister advise how many bus service cancellations have occurred within GSBC10 since u-Go Mobility implemented the full timetable?

Answer—

I am advised

Since the implementation of the full timetable on 26 February 2024, U-Go Mobility has provided 45,625 bus services, up to and including 17 March 2024. During the same period of time, there have been 342 bus services cancelled. This equates to 0.75% against a 0.5% target.

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* 2481 REINVENTING PRELIMINARY TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NURSES—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

Regarding a \$12,000 subsidy that the Government recently introduced for healthcare students enrolled in nursing, paramedicine, psychology and pharmacy:

- (1) Can the Minister advise how many of these subsidies have been awarded to nurses?
 - (a) Of those, how many students have chosen to practice in regional New South Wales following the completion of their degree?
- (2) Will greater consideration for the subsidies be awarded to those wishing to practice in regional and rural areas of New South Wales?
- (3) What systems does the Government have in place to ensure graduates reside in regional and rural areas?
 - (a) Is there a specified time-period for which they must practice in regional and rural New South Wales?
- (4) Has consideration been given into re-inventing preliminary training school for nurses?
 - (a) If not, why?

Answer—

I'm advised:

- (1) 850 nursing and 150 midwifery students will be awarded a subsidy annually in each of the programs. Assessment is currently in progress.
- (2) Information on eligibility can be found at <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/careers/Pages/health-study-subsidies.aspx>
- (3) Students submit eligibility evidence as part of their application. This includes photo identification, tertiary institution enrolment confirmation, and NSW Health proof of employment for graduate students. NSW Health verifies the postcode or suburb as part of the screening process.

Students awarded a subsidy must commit to work for NSW Health for at least 5 years. Those who do not meet this commitment will be individually assessed to determine any repayment requirements.
- (4) Since 2002, two national reviews have recommended registered nurse education remain in the tertiary sector. The Australian Government and all states and territories support this position.

* 2482 RURAL ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY SPECIAL DISASTER FLOOD GRANTS—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

- (1) Can the Minister advise why applications for RAA Special Disaster Flood Grants available to primary producers who experienced floods occurring between August – September 2023 are taking over 7 months to process and approve?
- (2) Considering that primary producers who receive approval for the \$75,000 funding have until 8 May 2024 to submit invoice claims for subcontracted works with payment finalisation, what action is the Government taking to address the shortage of subcontractors available for agricultural works in regional New South Wales?
 - (a) Does the Government plan to investigate an option for an extension to the May 2024 deadline, taking into consideration the delay in the processing of applications and the shortage of subcontractors?

Answer—

- (1) As Minister, I want to see financial support get out the door to people who need it as soon as possible, with the right checks and balance.

I am advised that all applications for the Special Disaster Grant have now been assessed and applicants have been advised of the outcome of their application.

RAA is staffed to manage large numbers of applications, however significant volume spikes in applications received, such as those seen in June 2023, resulted in a period where there were longer than the average processing times.

Currently, the RAA has an average processing time of less than 15 working days.

- (2) When the program closes to claims on 8 May 2024, impacted producers will have had 18 months to undertake the approved activities that can be funded under this program.

The 18 month time frame is considerably longer than that provided for previous programs, which is typically 12 months and this is in recognition that producers may need more time to source contractors, complete works and submit claims to be reimbursed for eligible expenses in returning their primary production business to normal operations.

- (a) See (2).

- * 2483 MANDATORY EID TAGGING FOR SHEEP AND GOATS—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

Given that the NSW Rural Assistance Authority offers rebates/subsidy for primary producers to supplement the cost of purchasing and installing the eID tagging systems:

- (1) Can the Minister advise what investigation process was undertaken to establish the Government funding component offered to Primary producers for eID software and scanning equipment?
- (a) How many primary producers will effectively benefit from the funding/subsidy?
- (2) Does the eID system effectively aid the Government in improving traceability practices for more efficient management of disease outbreaks, food safety issues and market access?
- (3) Can the Minister advise what ongoing subsidies will be provided to primary producers to ensure the cost for implementing this system isn't detrimental to their business?
- (a) Will these subsidies be reviewed?

Answer—

- (1) Consultation regarding the NSW Sheep and Goat eID Infrastructure Primary Producer Rebate Scheme was undertaken with industry representatives of the NSW Sheep and Goat Traceability Reference group. The Reference group comprises representatives from all levels of the sheep and goat supply chain, and from a producer perspective, includes representatives from the NSW Farmers' Association along with a prominent sheep consultant.
- (a) Given the size of the NSW sheep and goat industry relative to other states, the NSW Government secured federal money and allocated its own resources to develop a \$38m package to aid the implementation of eID in the state. This represents the largest allocation towards the implementation of eID among all states and territories. Producers (as the component of the sheep and goat supply chain that wears the majority of upfront costs to implement eID) received the largest portion of the package. Given the anticipated popularity of the NSW Sheep and Goat eID Infrastructure Primary Producer Rebate Scheme, the NSW Government repeatedly encouraged producers to apply early or risk missing out due to the funds within the package being exhausted. In total, 2, 696 applications were received from NSW producers for the rebate.

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- (2) Improved biosecurity arrangements via the implementation of mandatory eID benefits both industry and Government. Specifically, using eID to more quickly and accurately trace livestock in the instance of a disease or residue incident, means that we can reduce the number of animals and producers impacted along with the time it takes to manage such incidents. By being able to more quickly manage and demonstrate disease or residue freedom to our trading partners means that we can more quickly re-enter these vital export markets. The increased risk of major disease incursions along with the recent detection of FMD in Indonesia has highlighted the urgent need to improve the traceability system for sheep and goats in NSW to an individual eID system similar to what is currently successfully used to identify and trace cattle.
- (3) The NSW Government continues to consider all options to help assist stakeholders in the sheep and goat supply chain to implement eID in the state. I have written several times to Minister Watt seeking additional funding along with support for national options to place as much downward pressure on eID device prices as possible.
- (a) See above response.

* 2484 ACTIVE KIDS PROVIDERS - COOTAMUNDRA—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

To the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government

With respect to Active Kids Voucher program:

- (1) Would the Minister please advise how providers and participants access this program if they:
 - (a) do not have internet access due to the location?
 - (b) do not have a smart phone?
- (2) Would the Minister please provide a list of all Active Kids providers across the Cootamundra electorate?
- (3) Would the Minister please provide a list of providers across the Cootamundra electorate who are still awaiting approval?
- (4) Would the Minister please advise what is the timeframe for these providers to be approved?
- (5) Would the Minister please advise since Active Kids program started, how many providers across the Cootamundra electorate are no longer approved providers?

Answer—

The Active Kids voucher program closed on 31 January 2024 and was replaced by the combined Active and Creative Kids voucher program, which launched on 1 February 2024.

With respect to the Active and Creative Kids program, I am advised that:

- (1) (a) Providers and participants (parents/carers) who do not have internet access can visit their local Service NSW centre to apply for the program. Providers and participants can also call Service NSW on 13 77 88.
- (1) (b) Providers and participants (parents/carers) without a smartphone can apply for the program via a desktop computer.
- (2) All Active and Creative Kids providers are listed on the Service NSW website and can be searched by suburb or postcode at <https://mybusiness.service.nsw.gov.au/business-finder/vouchers?voucherType=ActiveCreativeKids>.
- (3) As at 3 April 2024, Service NSW was processing one application from a provider in the Cootamundra electorate, the Boorowa Junior Rugby League Football Club, which was asked to provide supporting documents on 28 March 2024 to allow assessment of their application to be completed.

- (4) Service NSW aims to complete assessment of provider applications within 14 business days once all supporting documents have been submitted. These timeframes may vary based on the type of provider and the number of applications awaiting approval.
- (5) Questions relating to the Active Kids program, which was managed by the Office of Sport, should be directed to the Minister for Sport.

* 2485 BOOROWA CENTRAL SCHOOL—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

With respect to the 100 new public preschools being delivered by the Government over the next three years:

- (1) Would the Minister please advise the details of when this new preschool for the little learners in Boorowa will be operational?
- (2) Would the Minister please advise will this new facility offer before and after school care?
- (3) Will the Minister please advise how many places will this new preschool offer to the community?
- (4) Can the Minister please advise if the staff in this new preschool will be provided with the same wages as the community run preschool that is already in Boorowa?
- (5) Will the Minister please advise how many staff will be employed at this new preschool?
- (6) Will the Minister please advise as it is already difficult to find teaching staff, how will the Government find suitable teachers for this new preschool?

Answer—

The new public preschool will be built by 2027, alongside the other public preschools being delivered by the Minns Government. Local communities will be informed of the specification of their preschool once local planning work is undertaken.

The Teachers Award in NSW applies to Early Childhood Teachers working in public preschools. All public preschools operate under the National Quality Framework and within the legislated staffing requirements.

The NSW Government is exploring and implementing a range of initiatives to support the early childhood workforce including investment in scholarships and professional development to recruit and retain early learning professionals.

* 2486 FIREFIGHTER CANCER LAWS—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

With respect to current Firefighter Cancer Laws,

- (1) How many firefighters have developed cancer because of their exposure to toxins?
- (2) How is the Government providing support to our firefighters who are getting medical treatment for cancer, which they have developed because of their work?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Diagnosis under the Workers Compensation Act 1987 presumes the firefighter has contracted the disease in the course of firefighting employment, it does not confirm an exposure to toxins.
- (2) This question should be directed to the Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections.

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* 2487 COMMUNITY CABINET MEETINGS—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Premier—

With respect to Community Cabinet meetings, of which I understand the first will take place in Sydney's south-west in East Hills on Friday 15 March 2024:

- (1) Would the Premier please advise where else will you engage with the communities across New South Wales as part of these Community Cabinet meetings to ensure you hear firsthand the key local priorities and issues which concern our communities?
- (2) Premier, relating to the media release of 28 February 2024, could you please advise when and where you will meet face-to-face with the communities who are part of the Cootamundra electorate?

Answer—

The Minns Labor Government is committed to hearing from communities across the state and will announce further Community Cabinet events for 2024 soon.

* 2488 MUTTAMA CREEK - COOTAMUNDRA FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT STUDY—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

With respect to the Muttama Creek located at Cootamundra, within the local government area of Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council and the Cootamundra Floodplain Risk Management Study:

- (1) How will the Government provide support to Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council to ensure preparedness for future flood events?
- (2) What assistance is:
 - (a) being provided to Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council with respect to Muttama Creek?
 - (b) available to Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council with respect to Muttama Creek?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Government provides technical and financial support to local government, including Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council, through the Floodplain Management Program to understand and mitigate flood risk.
- (2) Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council:
 - (a) has been provided with \$91,820 to complete a floodplain risk management study and plan for the township of Cootamundra, which was completed in June 2023.
 - (b) can apply for further funding through the Floodplain Management Program, to implement flood mitigation options outlined in their floodplain risk management and plan, when the next funding round opens in April 2024.

* 2489 UPGRADES AT LITHGOW AND GOULBURN GREYHOUND TRACKS—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, and Minister for the Central Coast—

Have you approved allocation of Government funding for upgrades at Lithgow and Goulburn greyhound tracks?

Answer—

No. As at 5 April 2024, Greyhound Racing NSW is yet to submit the required documentation.

- * 2490 REHOMING NUMBERS OF GREYHOUNDS—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, and Minister for the Central Coast—

Regarding Greyhound Racing NSW's (GRNSW) 2023 Annual Report which boasts record rehoming numbers, I am advised GRNSW's Greyhound Adoption Program is propped up by many hundreds of desexed greyhounds which are still with breeders:

- (1) Are desexed greyhounds remaining with their breeders and being counted as being rehomed greyhounds in the GRNSW's Greyhound Adoption Program?
 - (a) If so, why is this the case and how is it affecting rehoming statistics?
- (2) Can you confirm whether GRNSW executives are incentivised for meeting Key Performance Indicators, i.e. rehoming of greyhounds?

Answer—

- (1) Greyhound Racing NSW's (GRNSW) reporting of rehoming outcomes is a matter for that organisation.

The Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission independently publishes greyhound retirement notification figures on a quarterly and annual basis, as part of its Greyhound Lifecycle Report and Annual Report.

These reports are published on the Commission's website and include a breakdown of retired greyhounds retained by industry participants, and those rehomed with non-participants.
<https://www.gwic.nsw.gov.au/>

- (2) Sections 19 and 20 of the Greyhound Racing Act 2017 provide that the Government Sector Employment Act 2013 does not apply to or in respect of the Chief Executive Officer or other staff, respectively, employed by GRNSW. As such, remuneration of GRNSW staff, including executives, is a matter entirely for GRNSW.

- * 2491 UPGRADE OF TAREE GREYHOUND TRACK—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, and Minister for the Central Coast—

- (1) Have you approved and/or allocated government funding for the upgrade of the Taree Greyhound track?
- (2) Has a Development Application been approved by Council for any new structures at the site?
 - (a) If not, can you provide details on how this would affect the project?
- (3) Can you provide an update on the upgrade of the Taree Greyhound Track?

Answer—

- (1) No.
- (2) This is a matter for Greyhound Racing NSW, which is responsible for the upgrade of the Taree Greyhound Track, and the MidCoast Council as the relevant planning authority.
- (3) This is a matter for Greyhound Racing NSW.

- * 2492 GOVERNANCE REVIEW AT GREYHOUND RACING NSW—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, and Minister for the Central Coast—

Regarding a 2023 review of governance at Greyhound Racing NSW undertaken by a third party:

- (1) Have serious claims of bullying, poor procurement procedures and governance been fielded leading to a new inquiry that is underway?

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- (a) If yes, can you please provide details of this inquiry?
- (2) Have you been briefed on any new reports of serious allegations?
- (a) If so, can you provide the status of the investigations?

Answer—

- (1) Where serious allegations have been raised with me and the Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade (DEIT) I have:
- where appropriate, referred serious allegations to the relevant authorities for consideration, including the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC)
 - sought advice from Greyhound Racing NSW on its consideration and handling of the matters
 - requested further advice from DEIT on options available to me to take action on the matters and next steps.
- If the member has any information relating to GRNSW he may wish to refer it to ICAC for assessment.
- (a) The details and status of any investigations are matters for the relevant authorities.

* 2493 TAREE GREYHOUND TRACK PROJECT ACID SULPHATE ISSUE—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, and Minister for the Central Coast—

I am advised a tender received by Greyhound Racing NSW for the Taree Greyhound Track project, which is being built on a former garbage disposal site, included warnings about contaminated soil:

Can you confirm if the Environment Protection Authority has oversight of the Acid Sulphate issue?

- (a) If so, has rectification of the site been undertaken?

Answer—

- (1) Greyhound Racing NSW (GRNSW) is responsible for the Taree Greyhound Track project, in conjunction with the local greyhound racing club. Any potential contamination issue is primarily a matter for GRNSW and the club, in consultation with the local council as may be appropriate.
- Questions relating to Environmental Protection Authority oversight are matters for that agency.

* 2494 BREAK AND ENTER RELATED OFFENCES IN THE OXLEY ELECTORATE—Mr Michael Kemp to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) Can the Minister provide information regarding the number of break and enter related crimes that have taken place in the Oxley electorate during the following years:
- (a) 2021?
- (b) 2022?
- (c) 2023?
- (2) Can the minister provide information regarding how many of those related crimes were committed by perpetrators under the age of 18 years?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) (a) 615
- (b) 597

- (c) 626
- (2) (a) 2021 - 41
- (b) 2022 - 35
- (c) 2023 - 37

Note:

Data provided in (1) and (2) aligns to the geographic boundary as defined by the NSW Electoral Commission. If any of these suburbs or postcodes cross over multiple electorates, this may result in an overcount for the Oxley electorate.

Data provided in (2) includes any charge linked to a break and enter incident where person charged was under 18 years of age. The charge may not necessarily be for a break and enter offence. For example, a break and enter incident may have a linked offence relating to assault, malicious damage, or fraud.

- * 2495 2024 SENIORS CARD DISCOUNT DIRECTORY—The Hon. Adam Marshall to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

In relation to the 2024 Seniors Card Discount Directory:

- (1) Why can this only be accessed online?
- (2) For seniors who do not have access to technology, how will they access this?
- (3) Does the Government have plans to provide the directory in hardcopy format as has been available previously?

Answer—

This question should be directed to the Minister for Seniors.

- * 2496 FIRST HOME BUYERS ASSISTANCE SCHEME—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources—

- (1) Under the First Home Buyers Assistance Scheme, how many first home buyers by postcode within the Tweed Electorate have:
 - (a) Purchased a property valued up to \$800,000 and paid no stamp duty?
 - (b) Purchases a property valued at less than \$1,000,000 and paid a reduced stamp duty rate?
 - (c) Purchased vacant land valued up to \$350,000 on which to build a home and paid no stamp duty?
 - (d) Purchased vacant land valued over \$350,000 and less than \$450,000 and paid a reduced stamp duty rate?

Answer—

Revenue NSW does not hold data by State Electorate.

- * 2497 TEACHER VACANCIES IN THE TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Regarding teacher vacancies at schools within the Tweed Electorate:
 - (a) How many vacancies were there at the start of Term 1 2024 compared to the same time last year?

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Answer—

The Minns Labor Government inherited a teacher shortage crisis from the former Liberal National Government, which left record teacher vacancies and 10,000 merged and cancelled classes every day.

It is why the Minns Labor Government made the decision to scrap the Liberal and Nationals' unfair cap on teachers wages and deliver NSW public school teachers the most significant uplift in salaries in a generation. This includes the approximately 767 teachers in Tweed.

I note the Member for Tweed has not publicly supported this fair increase in teachers' wages.

Vacant permanent teaching positions as at Term 1, 2024 within the Tweed Electorate, compared to 2023 is in the table below.

*

	2023	2024
Number of Vacancies	13	2

2498 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE SCHOLARSHIPS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Regarding the Early Childhood Education and Care Scholarships program, how many of the 2328 applicants were from the Tweed Electorate in both categories of early childhood educators looking to upskill, and those looking to enter the Early Childhood Education and Care sector?

Answer—

The 2,328 applications received under the 2023-24 early childhood education and care (ECEC) Scholarship Program include applicants from the Tweed region seeking financial support to either obtain vocational education and training qualifications, such as a Certificate III and Diploma in ECEC or, seeking financial support to obtain an early childhood teaching qualification.

* 2499 ANNANDALE FERRY—Ms Kobi Shetty to ask the Minister for Transport—

Noting the Minister's response to LA QONs 1284 and 1285:

- (1) What progress has been made on extending the F-10 ferry service to Rozelle Bay, Annandale?
- (2) When does the Government expect the service will be ready for expansion to Rozelle Bay, Annandale?

Answer—

I am advised

Transport for NSW is reviewing the vessel, infrastructure, and timetabling requirements necessary for the delivery of a ferry stop at Rozelle Bay.

* 2500 TOLL BURDEN—Ms Kobi Shetty to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

Noting the Interim Report of the Independent Toll Review which found that toll road users will pay \$195 billion in toll costs over 37 years until 2060:

- (1) What proportion of this \$195 billion in toll costs does the government expect will be covered by road users directly?
- (2) What proportion of this \$195 billion in toll costs does the government expect will be subsidised under the existing \$60 weekly toll cap scheme?

Answer—

I am advised

The estimated \$195 billion toll burden is the amount road users are expected to pay under the current toll contracts, before any toll relief.

The current funded toll relief schemes are:

- The \$60 Toll Cap - covering trips from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2025
- The Truck Multiplier Reduction - covering trips from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2025
- The M5 South-West Cashback scheme which has no end date
- The Large Towed Recreational Vehicle Toll Rebate which has no end date
- The Toll Relief Rebate Scheme - covering trips from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2024.

Claims for the \$60 toll cap will open in April 2024 and will provide better indication on take up rate of the scheme. The NSW Government will carefully consider the recommendations of the Independent Toll Review, which is public available on the Transport for NSW website;

<https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/industry/independent-reviews/toll-review>

https://www.treasury.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-03/20240311_Toll-Review-Interim-Report.pdf

* 2501 REGION 6 BUS CONTRACTS—Ms Kobi Shetty to ask the Minister for Transport—

Noting the Bus Industry Taskforce met with inner west residents at a forum on 29 February 2024:

- (1) What key themes are emerging from passenger feedback to the Bus Industry Taskforce regarding bus services in the inner west?
- (2) What plans does the Government have, if any, to end the privatisation of region 6 bus services on or before the conclusion of the relevant contracts in June 2026?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Feedback gathered during the forums will help the Taskforce develop its recommendations to Government on how bus services can be improved across NSW. Feedback from the bus passenger forums and from submissions to the Bus Industry Taskforce are being analysed for inclusion in a consultation outcomes report, which will be released in coming months.
- (2) The NSW Government has established the Bus Industry Taskforce to address the failures of the former Government in privatising the bus network. I will await the results of the final report.

* 2502 ARGYLL ESTATE PROJECT—Mr Gurmish Singh to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

- (1) For each instance, from March 2023 to the most recent date available, with regards to the Argyll Estate project, can you please provide details on:
 - (a) The date of community consultation?
 - (b) The type of stakeholder consulted (eg, council, resident etc)?

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Answer—

I am advised:

On 7 September 2023, the NSW Government announced it would commit to conducting extensive community consultation to create a collective social and affordable housing plan across the wider Coffs Harbour Local Government Area.

Homes NSW staff have engaged with a range of stakeholders including residents, community members, government and non-government organisations on 25 separate occasions between September 2023 and January 2024.

- * 2503 SCHOOL CAPACITY IN COFFS HARBOUR ELECTORATE—Mr Gurmesh Singh to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Separately for each School in the Coffs Harbour Electorate, what is the capacity of the school, and the current enrolments?

Answer—

The Department of Education has advised that information about enrolment numbers is available publicly.

- * 2504 TEACHER VACANCIES IN COFFS HARBOUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS—Mr Gurmesh Singh to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Separately for each public school in the Coffs Harbour Electorate, as at the date for which the most recent data is available (and specifying what that date is), how many teaching vacancies are there?

Answer—

The Minns Labor Government inherited a teacher shortage crisis from the former Liberal National Government, which left record teacher vacancies and 10,000 merged and cancelled classes every day.

It is why the Minns Labor Government made the decision to scrap the Liberal and Nationals' unfair cap on teachers wages and deliver NSW public school teachers the most significant uplift in salaries in a generation. This includes the approximately 1,060 teachers in Coffs Harbour.

I note the Member for Coffs Harbour has not publicly supported this fair increase in teachers wages and instead attacked the decision.

As at Term 1, 2024 there is a total of 14 FTE permanent teacher vacancies in schools in the Coffs Harbour electorate.

- * 2505 NEW PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE COFFS HARBOUR ELECTORATE—Mr Gurmesh Singh to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Are there any plans for any new public schools in the Coffs Harbour Electorate?

Answer—

The NSW Government is committed to providing infrastructure that supports high quality education for all students in NSW, including investing in new and upgraded facilities as well as the ongoing maintenance of public schools. NSW Public Schools provide a place for every local student seeking to enrol.

While the department has advised that the educational needs of primary and secondary school students remain on track to be met by the existing schools inclusive of 20 public schools, five high schools and one school for specific purposes, it will continue monitoring for educational need in the region.

- * 2506 TOUCH FOOTBALL NATIONAL YOUTH CUP—Mr Gurmeh Singh to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

Is the Government sponsoring the Touch Football National Youth Cup (NYC) for the next three years?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Government through Destination NSW has entered into a strategic investment agreement with Touch Football Australia and secured the Touch Football National Youth Championships for calendar year 2024, commencing in September at C.Ex Coffs International Stadium.

- * 2507 UPDATE ON RESPONSE - QON 220—The Hon. Mark Speakman to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

Can the Government provide any update to its answer to Question on Notice 220 (“Will the Government fund the establishment of a Marine Rescue NSW training facility at Hungry Point Cronulla?”)?

Answer—

I am advised that the NSW Government is currently considering options for the development of a multi-agency flood rescue training facility that will address the needs of flood rescue agencies.

- * 2508 UPDATE ON RESPONSE - QON 223—The Hon. Mark Speakman to ask the Minister for Transport—

Can the Government provide any update to its answer to Question on Notice 223 (regarding Gannons Road to Cronulla segment of the Sutherland to Cronulla Active Transport Link)?

Answer—

I am advised

Key stakeholders including Sutherland Shire Council, Bicycle NSW, Sutherland Environment Centre and local residents' associations were invited to participate in a Community Reference Forum in November 2023. The feedback Transport for NSW received in the Community Reference Forum is informing the alignment options being assessed, including within and adjacent to the rail corridor. Transport for NSW will also engage more broadly with the community and other stakeholders via community consultation once alignment investigations are complete, options assessed, and a preferred route determined. This will be followed by a public display of the Review of Environmental Factors and a further opportunity for the community and other stakeholders to submit their feedback and concerns.

Investigations will consider areas within and adjacent to the rail corridor, taking into consideration local pedestrian, cycling, and road networks, as well as local context and character.

Sutherland to Cronulla Active Transport Link Stage 3 is currently in development, and construction timelines can be confirmed once preferred options have been identified and consultation completed.

- * 2509 UPDATE ON RESPONSE - QON 224—The Hon. Mark Speakman to ask the Minister for Transport—

Can the Government provide any update to its answer to Question on Notice 224 (regarding Oak Road to Sylvania Road segment of the Sutherland to Cronulla Active Transport Link)?

Answer—

I am advised

Route option investigations are continuing from Oak Road, Kirrawee to Jackson Avenue, Miranda which is referred to as the Sutherland to Cronulla Active Transport Link – Stage 2 West. The route option investigations are part of the project planning which will also include community consultation and environmental assessment.

In February 2023, key stakeholder groups participated in a Community Reference Forum for the Sutherland to Cronulla Active Transport Link – Stage 2 West. Further consultation with the Community Reference

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Forum is proposed when the route options assessment has been prepared, as well as consultation with the local community via “Have your Say”. As discussed with the Community Reference forum, options being considered include using part of the rail corridor.

Following consultation on a preferred route option, project environmental assessment will be undertaken to obtain planning approval. Detailed design will then be prepared, and delivery of the works will be tendered. Construction is expected to commence in early 2026.

* 2510 UPDATE ON RESPONSE - QON 225—The Hon. Mark Speakman to ask the Minister for Transport—

Can the Government provide any update to its answer to Question on Notice 225 (regarding Sylvania Road to Jackson Avenue segment of the Sutherland to Cronulla Active Transport Link)?

Answer—

I am advised

As the Sylvania Road to Jackson Avenue segment of the Sutherland to Cronulla Active Transport Link forms part of Stage 2 West, I refer to my prior response to LA 2509.

* 2511 UPDATE ON RESPONSE - QON 229—The Hon. Mark Speakman to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

Can the Government provide any update to its answer to Question on Notice 229 (“Will the Government consent to the establishment of a Marine Rescue NSW training facility at Hungry Point Cronulla?”)?

Answer—

This is a matter for the Minister for Emergency Services.

* 2512 UPDATE ON RESPONSE - QON 230—The Hon. Mark Speakman to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

Can the Government provide any update to its answer to Question on Notice 230 (regarding new ambulance station in Sutherland)?

Answer—

I'm advised:

Health Infrastructure is working with NSW Ambulance and other Government stakeholders to identify potential sites for a new ambulance station in or around Sutherland.

The exact location of the site of the new station will be confirmed once the land search and acquisition process are finalised.

After land acquisition, construction timeframes will be confirmed as planning progresses.

* 2513 CLINICAL SERVICES PLAN - BATHURST HEALTH SERVICE—The Hon. Paul Toole to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

(1) In relation to the clinical services plan for Bathurst Health Service:

(a) When was the plan developed?

(b) Who was involved in developing the plan?

(i) Can you please list all organisations or committee members?

(c) Who was consulted as part of this plan's development?

(d) When will the plan be reviewed?

Answer—

I'm advised:

Bathurst Community and Region Integrated Clinical Services Plan 2020 -2030 was developed during 2019 and 2020. It was reviewed and updated in 2022.

The Western NSW Local Health District planning team developed the plan with Bathurst Health Service clinicians and staff, and a Bathurst Clinician Planning Advisory Group -senior clinical leads across a range of Bathurst Health Service services.

Governance oversight was provided by a dedicated steering committee with members from the District, Bathurst Health Service, and the community:

- District Executive Director, Operations
- General Manager, Bathurst Health Service
- Director of Nursing, Bathurst Health Service
- Director of Medical Services, Bathurst Health Service
- Primary, Community and Allied Health Manager, Bathurst Health Service
- Business Manager, Bathurst Health Service
- District Planning Manager and Senior Planner
- Bathurst Health Council members/community representatives
- Downer - maintenance contractor
- Aboriginal Health representative
- Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Hub Manager
- District Manager, Integrated Chronic Care Strategies
- Nepean Blue Mountains planning representative.

Consultation for the plan was broad and included clinician and staff consultation sessions, public consultation sessions, individual consultation workshops and meetings with key service partners including Bathurst Regional Council, Western NSW Primary Health Network, GPs, Aboriginal organisations, Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network, Bathurst Private Hospital, Marathon Health, St Vincent's Health and Community Services, and Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District. A total of 162 responses were also received through a submission process open to consumers, carers, staff, service partners and stakeholders.

In line with regular NSW Health Planning processes, the Bathurst Community and Region Integrated Clinical Services Plan covers the period to 2030. It supports delivery of the \$200 million capital investment for the Bathurst Health Service.

* 2514 BATHURST BULLET PATRONS—The Hon. Paul Toole to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

In relation to the Bathurst Bullet Service:

- (1) For the following calendar years, how many people used the Bathurst Bullet service:
- (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?

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- (2) For the following calendar years, how many people used the second Bathurst Bullet service:
- (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?
- (3) How many seats are there currently on each of these services?
- (4) How many accessible or wheelchair spaces are there on each of these services?
- (5) How many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff members are employed to run this particular service as drivers and where are they based?
- (6) How many FTE staff members are employed to run this particular service for maintenance purposes and where are they based?
- (7) How many FTE staff members are employed to run this particular service for cleaning purposes and where are they based?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1-2) There are four Bathurst Bullet Services that operate daily (two each in each direction).

NSW Train Link can report the following patronage based on reservations made through NSW Trainlink. The below data excludes passengers who use their Opal cards to tap on and off without a reservation:

		Journeys per Year			
Service Name	Service Description	2020	2021	2022	2023
WN12	Bathurst To Sydney (Day)	1,080	1,051	1,695	2,472
WN14	Bathurst To Sydney (Day)	1,434	1,051	1,941	2,833
WN15	Sydney to Bathurst (Day)	1,359	1,043	1,902	2,709
WN17	Sydney to Bathurst (Day)	940	813	1,372	2,003

The below data includes passengers who use their Opal cards to tap on and off without a reservation:

Average daily Opal trips (includes weekday, weekend & public holidays)			
Service ID	Service Description	2022	2023

WN12	Bathurst To Sydney (Day)	41	63
WN14	Bathurst To Sydney (Day)	50	73
WN15	Sydney to Bathurst (Day)	51	68
WN17	Sydney to Bathurst (Day)	37	42

Note- *Opal data is modelled to allocate passenger to Bathurst Bullet services. Extrapolation of average weekly trips data to derive yearly data is not advised. Opal data is available only for 2022 and 2023 as Transport for NSW is currently transitioning its legacy methodology to Near Real Time Opal allocation models to cater for the service complexity of new rail and metro services. The legacy methodology used to calculate boarding and alighting cannot be combined with the current methodology.

- (3) There are 64 economy seats available to passengers on each of these services.
- (4) There is a designated area for wheelchair access on each Bathurst Bullet service that accommodates one mobile scooter or two wheelchairs.
- (5) The staff headcount servicing the Bathurst Bullet is 59 crew members, 26 guards and 33 drivers.
- (6) Most of the maintenance activity occurs at Eveleigh Maintenance Centre, with a small amount at Broadmeadow Maintenance Centre. Five FTE staff members undertake this maintenance work.
- (7) The staff headcount undertaking cleaning of the Bathurst Bullet trains is four. The staff are located at Lithgow. Some cleaning is undertaken at Broadmeadow with an allocation of one FTE for this work.

* 2515 ULMURRA FERRY OPERATION—Mr Richie Williamson to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) Could the Minister please confirm if the Government has plans to discontinue or close the Ulmarra Ferry service on the Clarence River, which services the districts of Ulmarra and Southgate?

Answer—

I am advised

The future of the service is under review as the current ferry has reached the end of its operational life, and only has a certificate to operate until 10 June 2024.

Since the opening of the new Grafton Bridge and the Pacific Motorway there has been a significant decline in patronage with an average of only 18 per cent of the available places used on any day.

The river in this location is tidal, and increasing siltation and changes to the river bank over time have also meant that the ferry service has poor reliability, with more than 250 instances of the ferry not operating due to river conditions. Dredging of the river has not been very successful due to the tidal environment and on some occasions, dredging has only been effective for a few weeks.

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- * 2516 PALLIATIVE CARE BUDGET ALLOCATIONS—Mrs Tanya Davies to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

Does the Government have plans to re-commit to the 2022-23 Budget allocation of an additional \$743.4 million over the five years to 2026-27 to enhance palliative care for people across New South Wales in the 2024-25 Budget?

Answer—

I'm advised:

More than \$1.7 billion over 4 years is provided for palliative care in the 2023-24 Budget.

Funding for palliative care is 6.8% higher this year (2023-24) compared to 2022-23 and is set to increase again by 8% next year (2024-25).

- * 2517 MAMRE ROAD UPGRADE—Mrs Tanya Davies to ask the Minister for Transport—

When will construction start on Stage 1 of the Mamre Road Upgrade?

Answer—

I am advised

This is a matter for the Minister for Roads.

- * 2518 STAGE 2 UPGRADES TO HASTINGS SECONDARY COLLEGE - PORT MACQUARIE CAMPUS—
The Hon. Leslie Williams to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) When will the Tender open for Stage 2 of the upgrade of Hastings Secondary College-Port Macquarie Campus?
- (2) When will the Tender be awarded for Stage 2 of the upgrade of Hastings Secondary College-Port Macquarie Campus?
- (3) When will work commence on Stage 2 of the upgrade of Hastings Secondary College-Port Macquarie Campus?
- (4) When is work expected to be completed on Stage 2 of the upgrade of Hastings Secondary College-Port Macquarie Campus?
- (5) When will teachers and students be able to start using facilities in the Stage 2 upgrade of Hastings Secondary College-Port Macquarie Campus?

Answer—

This project is progressing well after the former NSW Liberal Government repeatedly delayed the project. Despite the former government's failure to manage this project, the upgrade of Hastings Secondary College is continuing, with new facilities having opened earlier this year, and is currently forecast for completion later this year.

* 2519 TRAFFIC SAFETY AND CONGESTION ISSUES NEW LINE ROAD CHERRYBROOK/DURAL—Mr Mark Hodges to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

(1) Has the Government made a decision whether there will be any work to upgrade New Line Road Cherrybrook between Hastings Road and Purchase Road from a single lane to dual lane carriageway?

(a) If the answer to the above question is in the affirmative, please advise when the decision was made and what is the estimated time frame for the commencement of the work?

Answer—

I am advised

(1) In light of the 2023-24 NSW State Budget handed down on 18 September 2023, this project has been deferred by the NSW Government for two years.

Further development of feasible options is subject to further community consultation, environmental approvals, a business case approval process, and funding availability and prioritisation.

A community consultation report documenting feedback received during a 'Have your Say' consultation period in mid-2021, was published in December 2022. This report will be used in planning for the future of the New Line Road corridor.

* 2520 TRAFFIC SAFETY AND CONGESTION ISSUES BAULKHAM HILLS—Mr Mark Hodges to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

(1) Regarding the answer given to LA QON 179, can the Minister provide an update as to whether the strategic investigation into the Old Northern Road corridor has been completed?

(2) In the event the strategic investigation into the Old Northern Road Corridor has been completed can the Minister advise what options (if any) were identified to improve traffic flow and safety upon Old Northern Road, Baulkham Hills?

Answer—

I am advised

Transport for NSW is still undertaking strategic investigations of Castle Hill corridor, including the intersection of Windsor Road, Seven Hills Road, and Old Northern Road, as well as the intersection of Old Northern Road and Cross Street Baulkham Hills, for potential options to improve safety, traffic flow and access along the corridor.

Transport for NSW is also still undertaking strategic investigations of Windsor Road corridor, including the intersection of Windsor Road and Chelsea Avenue, Baulkham Hills for potential options to improve safety, traffic flow and access along the corridor.

The strategic investigations are due to be completed by mid-2024. Following completion of the strategic investigations, detailed development of the recommended options would be undertaken subject to a business case assessment and state-wide funding prioritisation process.

* 2521 CASTLE HILL SHOWGROUND PRECINCT - ARENA PROJECT—Mr Mark Hodges to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces representing the Treasurer—

(1) With respect to the funding for the Local Government Showground Arena Project which was funded pursuant to the Westinvest Program, can the Minister provide an update as to the finalisation of the Funding Deed with The Hills Shire Council?

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Answer—

The Funding Deed for the Castle Hill Showground Arena Project was executed on 21 March 2024.

* 2522 SCHOOL DRIVE SUBSIDY—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

With respect to the School Drive Subsidy:

- (1) Would the Minister please advise why this Subsidy only provide a ‘one-way’ daily school journey, considering parents would have to travel from home to school, then have to travel again from home to school to collect their child after school, meaning two return trips often very long distances?
- (2) Would the Minister please advise why the School Drive Subsidy is only paid twice a year (in February and August) considering the current cost of living pressures?
- (3) Would the Minister please advise if the Government will look at increasing these payments to be more frequent to support families?

Answer—

I am advised

The School Drive Subsidy is designed to cover part of the cost of travel to school for students in NSW who do not have access to public transport. This means that only specific aspects of journeys undertaken by parents and guardians in private vehicles are covered by the Subsidy. The following criteria is used for calculating Subsidy payments:

- One return journey is paid for each attendance day as the Subsidy only applies when the student is travelling in the vehicle.
- A daily per kilometre rate that is based upon a return journey
- The number of school days attended within a semester.

School Drive Subsidy payments are made at the conclusion of each semester to allow for the attendance rate of students to be verified consistently by each educational institution.

The rates used in the calculation of School Drive Subsidy payments are adjusted every year using the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Information about the School Drive Subsidy is available the Transport for NSW website.

<https://transportnsw.info/tickets-opal/ticket-eligibility-concessions/school-student-travel/guide-to-school-drive-subsidy>

* 2523 GRADUATE NURSES AND MIDWIVES—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

With respect to the 3,400 graduate nurses and midwives to start work in New South Wales:

- (1) Would the Minister please advise of these 3,400 graduate nurses and midwives how many will be placed throughout regional New South Wales?
- (2) Would the Minister please advise when will placement of these graduate’s commence across regional New South Wales?
- (3) Would the Minister please advise how many of the 3,400 graduate nurses and midwives will be placed in the following Local Government Areas (LGA):
 - (a) Bland Shire?
 - (b) Coolamon Shire?
 - (c) Cowra Shire?

- (d) Cootamundra-Gundagai Region?
 - (e) Hilltops Region?
 - (f) Junee Shire?
 - (g) Narrandera Shire?
 - (h) Temora Shire?
 - (i) Weddin Shire?
- (4) Would the Minister please advise when will placement of these graduate's commence across these LGA's?

Answer—

I'm advised:

More than 3,400 graduate nurses and midwives will start work in NSW public hospitals in 2024, providing a significant boost to health services across the state.

Around 40% of these positions are in rural and regional NSW.

Graduates start from February through to August 2024.

NSW Health does not collect workforce data by local government area.

- * 2524 SOCIAL HOUSING IN YOUNG—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

With respect to your response received on 22 December 2023 around building more social housing in regional New South Wales, you advised the Land and Housing Corporation (LHAC) were constructing four new social homes in Young within the Hilltops local government area:

- (1) Would the Minister please advise the progress of this construction?
- (2) Would the Minister please advise when will these homes be available for those on a wait list?

Answer—

I'm advised:

In March 2024, Homes NSW completed the construction of the four-unit multi-dwelling social housing project in Young.

The properties will be managed by Argyle Community Housing who is allocating these to applicants on the NSW Housing Register.

- * 2525 NSW HEALTH PRIMARY SCHOOL MOBILE DENTAL PROGRAM CONTINUATION—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

With respect to the response provided on 22 December 2023 regarding free dental care in schools.

- (1) Would the Minister please provide a list of the seven New South Wales public schools in the Cootamundra electorate who have participated in the free NSW Health Primary School Mobile Dental program in 2023?
- (2) Would the Minister please advise if this free program will be made available again to all schools again in 2024?

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Answer—

NSW Primary School Mobile Dental program is led by NSW Health. Further questions relating to this program should be directed to the Minister for Health and Minister for Regional Health.

- * 2526 UNSOLICITED CONSUMER APPROACHES AND AGREEMENTS—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections—

In relation to unsolicited consumer approaches and agreements:

- (1) How many complaints have been received by Fair Trading in relation to property developers in:
- (a) 2019-2020?
 - (b) 2020-2021?
 - (c) 2021-2022?
 - (d) 2022-2023?
 - (e) 2023-2024?

Answer—

I am advised:

NSW Fair Trading's complaint database does not have a code category for recording complaints and enquiries about unsolicited consumer approaches and agreements specifically relating to property developers.

- * 2527 SYDNEY WATER INFRASTRUCTURE—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

In relation to Sydney Water infrastructure:

- (1) What investment has been spent on infrastructure in the Ku-ring-gai Local Government Area for:
- (a) 2019-2020?
 - (b) 2020-2021?
 - (c) 2021-2022?
 - (d) 2022-2023?
 - (e) 2023-2024?

Answer—

I am advised:

Sydney Water's Annual Report contains financial statements including the total capital investment. The reports for the period being enquired about are publicly available on its website (<https://www.sydneywater.com.au/>).

- * 2528 TRANSPORT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT STATE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING POLICY—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

In relation to the proposed Transport Oriented Development State Environmental Planning Policy, and the low-and mid-rise housing State Environmental Planning Policy:

- (1) What impact will this have in the Ku-ring-gai Local Government Area on the:

- (a) Tree canopy?
- (b) Ecological communities:
 - (i) 7 endangered ecological communities?
 - (ii) 2 critically endangered ecological communities?

Answer—

I am advised:

All future development applications lodged within Ku-Ring-Gai Council area under the TOD SEPP or low and mid-rise reforms will need to be assessed under prevailing provisions in the Housing SEPP. Where a proposed development is lodged in a TOD location or low and mid-rise reform areas within the Ku-ring-gai Local Government Area, impacts on threatened species, populations and ecological communities and their habitats or the impacts on biodiversity values will continue to be a matter for consideration under the development assessment process.

* 2529 RESPONSE TO QON 2273—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

In relation to the response to LA QON 2273:

- (1) Will you make the planning, infrastructure and spatial data, along with expert advice and feasibility analysis, publicly available?
 - (a) If yes, will this include privileged documents that were produced to the Legislative Council?
 - (b) If no, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The assessment criteria methodology for sites selected for inclusion in the TOD Program is publicly available on the Department's website. Some information is Cabinet in Confidence. Cabinet information will be respected and is in line with the observing of Cabinet Convention by all previous governments.

* 2530 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN EDUCATION—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) As outlined on the Department of Education's website, "Artificial intelligence in education", what tools and guidance for schools is currently available to promote the safe and effective use of AI?
 - (a) Are these available online?
 - (i) If yes, what is the URL?
- (2) How is the Department monitoring the use of AI in current Higher School Certificate (HSC) and International Baccalaureate (IB) assessments?
- (3) How many complaints have been received about students using AI?

Answer—

The Department of Education has published guidelines regarding the use of generative AI. This information is available on the department's website at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/technology/artificial-intelligence-in-education/artificial-intelligence-in-education>. In addition, the department is implementing professional learning to upskill staff in using generative AI effectively and ethically in education. The department provides guidance to schools and teachers on how to navigate teaching, learning and assessment practices within the context of generative AI. The monitoring of the use of AI in assessments falls under the practices and procedures used in schools around academic dishonesty and malpractice.

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Schools regularly review assessment procedures to ensure the coverage of malpractice that aligns with the principles and intent of NESA's All My Own Work and NESA's Honesty in HSC Assessment – the Standard.

Parents, carers, students and members of the community may raise a complaint about the department by email, phone, in person or through the department's online feedback and complaint form. Any concerns about student behaviour in public schools are managed with reference to the Student Behaviour Policy.

- * 2531 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH ROUNDTABLE—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

In relation to the stakeholder roundtable to discuss Youth Mental Health in the Northern Beaches:

- (1) How can I help contribute to the roundtable, to make sure the voices of the Davidson electorate are heard and considered?

Answer—

I'm advised:

The stakeholder invite list is being developed.

Members of Parliament that represent Northern Beaches electorates will be invited.

I'd be more than happy to discuss this issue with the Member and talk about what we can do to fix the problems that we were left with from the former Government.

- * 2532 DENILQUIN HIGH SCHOOL INCENTIVE POINTS—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Given the high vacancy rate at Denilquin High School, will the Minister consider changing Denilquin High School incentive status from 4 points to 6?
- (2) What timeframes does the government have on reviewing the incentive status of Murray regional schools?

Answer—

As a current 4-point rural and remote NSW incentive school, teachers at Denilquin High School may be eligible for a 50% rental subsidy, a rural and remote relocation support payment of up to \$8,000 and a rural and remote stamp duty relief payment of up to \$10,000.

As part of the 2024 Regional, Rural and Remote Education Strategy Implementation Plan, the Department of Education is reviewing financial incentives to ensure the aims of attraction and retention are holistic and fit for purpose. This will include considering the financial incentives offered in rural and remote schools. This Plan is due to be completed by the end of 2024.

- * 2533 CYPRINID HERPESVIRUS-3 IN THE MURRAY-DARLING BASIN—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

- (1) Can the Minister advise whether the Government supports the use of herpesvirus (Cyprinid herpesvirus- 3 or CyHV-3) in the Rivers of the Murray Darling Basin?
- (a) If so, what is the timeframe for the release?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Government is supportive of any control measure, that has been thoroughly assessed and met all required regulatory approvals and relevant intra- and inter-government agreements, to reduce the impacts of carp.

- (a) There is further work to be done in researching and assessing the potential deployment of a carp virus biocontrol in Australia, as per the guidance on the Australian Government website: <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/pests-diseases-weeds/pest-animals-and-weeds/national-carp-control-plan>. The timeframe for the completion of the additional research is a matter for the Commonwealth agencies undertaking the work.

- * 2534 PROJECTED POPULATION GROWTH - MOAMA—Mrs Helen Dalton to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

Can the Minister please provide statistics as to the projected population growth of Moama over the next 10 years?

Answer—

The Member should direct her question to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces.

- * 2535 NSW QUEENSLAND BORDER INSPECTIONS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

Regarding 300 heavy vehicles being stopped and inspected at the New South Wales/Queensland border to check compliance with the Biosecurity (Fire Ants) Emergency Order:

- (1) During what timeframe were these 300 vehicles stopped and inspected?
- (2) What was the frequency of the stoppages e.g. how many vehicles were stopped per day/weekend/month?
- (3) Have imported red fire ants been found during any of these inspections?
- (4) Have any breaches of the emergency order been detected and a penalty issued?

Answer—

- (1) 8-9 September 2023, 8-9 December 2023 & 2-3 February 2024.
- (2) 99 vehicles stopped 8-9 September, 75 vehicles stopped 8-9 December, 100 vehicles stopped 2-3 February.
- (3) No
- (4) Over the three operations, seven Penalty Notices were issued, amounting to \$14,000. Three warning letters were also issued.

- * 2536 SUMMIT TRACK WOLLUMBIN NATIONAL PARK—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

Since the closure of the Summit Track in Wollumbin National Park, what has been the total spend by the Government on security guards hired to implement the closure?

Answer—

- (1) The cost to implement closures in Wollumbin National Park and the summit track, from 31 December 2021 to 26 January 2024, was \$200,323 (ex. GST).

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- * 2537 RESPONSE TO QON 921—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

I refer to your answer to QON #921 regarding the renewal of the Queensland and New South Wales Memorandum of Understanding for Cross-Border Collaboration:

- (1) Can you provide an update on the renewed agreement and if it has been approved?
- (2) When do you expect to publicly release the renewed agreement?

Answer—

- (1) The Queensland and New South Wales Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Cross-Border Collaboration was signed by the NSW Premier on 15 December 2023. The MOU has now been sent for co-signing to the Hon. Steven Miles MP, Queensland Premier.
- (2) The NSW Government expects to publicly release the renewed agreement when the Queensland Premier has signed the document.

- * 2538 RELOCATING REGIONAL AMBULANCE DEPLOYMENT MANAGERS—Mrs Wendy Tuckerman to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

- (1) Why is the Government relocating regional NSW Ambulance Deployment Managers into metropolitan Sydney?
- (2) What is the justification that these roles cannot remain in regional areas?
- (3) How does the Government justify the loss of regional career progression and local knowledge for the deployment structure?
- (4) Will these roles be replaced as paramedics in their regional locations?
- (5) Using the example of Goulburn, where one deployment manager position was relocated, but five new paramedics were announced - does this mean that Goulburn will have six new paramedics, or that they are only gaining four?
- (6) The transfer of deployment staff onto the Health Manager Award means that these positions have lost their critical entitlements and salary, why?

Answer—

I'm advised:

The Statewide Rostering Improvement Project involves the realignment of the deployment structure and the implementation of standardised statewide rostering and deployment processes and procedures. The project aims to achieve a rostering model that delivers quantitative and qualitative benefits across the roster-to-payroll journey. A key benefit is building a highly trained rostering workforce with defined career progression and dedicated real-time roster quality assurance.

The Statewide Rostering Improvement Project's work included the restructure of the deployment model into a single, state-wide team. This included the deletion of Deployment Officer positions, the creation of the new Roster Coordinator positions, and the establishment of an additional 14 new positions to support the structure.

Staff are centrally located to ensure ongoing consistency in training, decision-making and Award interpretation. This also includes knowledge sharing, development of business processes and working collectively rather than in isolation. This means less repeating of fundamental processes across rostering and payroll functions.

The restructure impacts 5 substantive deployment officers in regional locations who -with extensive consultation -have been provided with transition pathways into new roles. This includes options to remain

in their local area, including 4 regional based Operational Support Officer positions, which have been created at the same award level.

* 2539 CROWN LAND RENT INCREASES—Mrs Wendy Tuckerman to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) Has Crown Land Rent been increased?
- (2) If the answer to (1) is yes:
 - (a) How many organisations and clubs in the Goulburn Electorate will be affected by the increase to Crown Land Rent?
 - (b) Can the Minister provide details of the organisations and clubs that will be directly affected by the increase in rent?
 - (c) Can the Minister provide the details of the amount of rent each affected organisation and club will be paying from January 2024?
- (3) Can the Minister provide the number of approved grant or funding programs in relation to Crown Land within the Goulburn electorate?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Crown Land Management Act 2016 and individual tenure agreements contain requirements for periodic market rent redeterminations. Rent redeterminations usually occur every 3 to 5 years.

In 2022/23, 19 grants worth \$765,952 were provided within the Goulburn electorate from the Crown Reserves Improvement Fund. The details are publicly available online: <https://reservemanager.crownland.nsw.gov.au/funding/crif>

* 2540 WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE TAXIS IN GOULBURN—Mrs Wendy Tuckerman to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) How many wheelchair-accessible taxis are available in Goulburn?
- (2) Is this amount sufficient to service the Goulburn population?
- (3) What options are available to wheelchair users who require transport, especially for those who do not live near accessible bus stops or qualify for community transport?
- (4) Is there any state government support to increase Goulburn's wheelchair-accessible taxi service?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) There is one licensed and registered wheelchair accessible taxi in Goulburn.
- (2) Identifying and addressing unmet demand would be part of any future transport planning activities conducted in the Goulburn area.

Demand for wheelchair accessible transport can be met through a number of transport options, including wheelchair accessible taxis. Some users may also have access to accessible services through community transport or National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) transport options.
- (3) In addition to accessible public transport, the Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme and Community Transport Schemes offered by the NSW government, wheelchair users may have access to other federal government assistance through the NDIS. This can include access to NDIS transport and will vary based on individual eligibility for NDIS programs and supports.

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- (4) Regional Roundtables on the availability of wheelchair accessible transport were held in Wagga Wagga on 2 April and Ballina on 11 April 2024. These Regional Roundtables are in addition to the Sydney Roundtable held last year.

Invitations for these additional Roundtables were sent to representatives from the taxi industry, the bus industry, the disability sector, state and federal government agencies and Wheelchair Accessible Taxi passengers. Insights gathered from these roundtables will be used to further investigate short, medium and long-term initiatives to address the supply of Wheelchair Accessible Taxis.

- (5) We are looking to host an additional roundtable in the western region in the coming months. Each roundtable has provided regionally specific feedback that can be extrapolated to statewide learnings.

Transport for NSW offers interest free loans to purchase and modify a vehicle as a wheelchair accessible taxi. Loans of up to \$100,000 can be granted from a pool of \$5 million. The Wheelchair Accessible Taxi Loan Scheme is a self-funding scheme; when a loan is granted, the money leaves the pool of funds and gradually returns for future use when repayments are received from successful applicants.

- * 2541 YOUNG ADULT OFFENDERS PROGRAM—The Hon. Paul Toole to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections—

In relation to the Young Adult Offenders Program (YAOP):

- (1) For the following calendar years how many inmates were at Oberon Correctional Centre completing the YAOP:
- (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
- (2) When the Centre closed for renovation, where did these inmates get relocated to?
- (a) Can you please list the locations and number of inmates?
- (3) How many full time equivalent staff were employed at Oberon Corrections Centre?
- (4) Where have these staff been relocated?
- (a) Can you please list locations and number of staff?
- (5) For the following calendar years how many inmates in NSW were completing the YAOP:
- (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?
 - (e) 2024 (so far)?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)
- (a) 123
 - (b) 69
 - (c) 45 (Oberon Correctional Centre was temporarily closed on 14 December 2022)

- (2) Inmates were relocated to other correctional centres in accordance with their classification.
- (3) Please refer to LA QoN 883.
- (4) Staff were redeployed to other correctional centres.
- (5)
 - (a) 123
 - (b) 69
 - (c) 45 (Oberon Correctional Centre was temporarily closed on 14 December 2022)
 - (d) Nil
 - (e) Nil

* 2542 POLICE LED YOUTH ACTION MEETINGS—The Hon. Paul Toole to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

In relation to the Police-led Youth Action Meetings in New South Wales:

- (1) Can the Minister please provide an update on the Police-led Youth Action Meetings (YAMs)?
- (2) How many young people have been involved in these meetings?
- (3) How many police officers have been involved in these meetings?
- (4) What other government agencies are involved in these meetings?
- (5) What community groups are involved in these meetings?
- (6) How many meetings have taken place?
- (7) Can the Minister please list the locations (town/city) of these meetings?
- (8) What have been the outcomes of these meetings?
- (9) When is the next meeting due to be held?
- (10) Can the Minister differentiate which of these groups / meetings were previously taking place and which are new groups formed as of March 2023?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) YAMs have been funded for four years from July 2023. Funding created 11 YAM Coordinator positions and a YAM State Manager, all of whom commenced their roles by August 2023. A consistent YAMs model commenced across the funded locations in November 2023.
- (2) 318 young people since November 2023.
- (3) 74.
- (4) NSW Department of Education, Department of Communities and Justice (Child Protection), Youth Justice NSW, Homes NSW and NSW Health are represented at YAMs.
- (5) Non-government organisations make up 49% of members attending YAMs. Attendance by community groups is place-based, differs across locations and is dependent on the organisations and services available in each location.
- (6) Between November 2023 to 18 March 2024, 43 YAMs have taken place.
- (7) Bankstown, Blacktown, Bourke, Campbelltown, Coffs Harbour, Lismore, Maroubra, Moree, Nowra, Penrith, Wagga Wagga and Walgett.

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- (8) YAMs aim to minimise a young person's contact with the criminal justice system, increase community belonging and establish collaborative partnerships for change. Anecdotal evidence is indicating positive gains towards these aims. Funding for a robust evaluation has been provided in the four-year funding arrangement.
- (9) All YAMs have meetings scheduled to take place in April and May.
- (10) YAMs were taking place in Bourke, Coffs Harbour, Campbelltown, Moree, Penrith and Wagga Wagga prior to March 2023. YAMs commenced in Walgett in March 2023. A consistent YAMs model commenced in all 12 funded locations in November 2023.

On 12 March 2024, the NSW Government announced a \$12.9 million investment in a range of state-wide regional crime prevention initiatives including the expansion of YAMs to an additional nine (9) Police Districts.

* 2543 IMPACT OF HOUSING SUPPLY ON RENTS—Ms Kobi Shetty to ask the Premier—

Noting the Premier's remarks in Parliament on 13 March 2024 regarding housing supply in Auckland:

- (1) Over what time period did Auckland increase its housing stock by 26,000 dwellings?
- (2) What other economic factors contributed to the lower-than-ordinary increase in Auckland's rents throughout this period?
- (3) What proportion of the 26,000 new dwellings in Auckland were targeted affordable housing?
- (4) What percentage of the total number of dwellings in Auckland are currently affordable to people on the lowest 20% of incomes in New Zealand, insofar as they are paying less than a third of their income to meet their housing costs?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) A 2022 study found that between 2016-2021 "26,903 additional dwellings were consented over the five years following upzoning, corresponding to approximately 5.07% of the dwelling stock of the Auckland region". Source: Greenaway-McGrevy, Rand Phillips, P.C.B, The Impact of Upzoning on Housing Construction in Auckland, Cowles Foundation for Research in Economics, Yale University, May 2022.
- (2) A 2021 paper on the effect of upzoning on house prices in Auckland published in the Urban Studies Journal, suggested that there were no long-run economic factors that substantially contributed to slowing rental increases in Auckland in the years immediately following the adoption of the AUP. Later, broader macroeconomic factors stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic and government responses, correlate to faster growth rates in rents and less affordable housing. Source: Greenaway-McGrevy, R., Pacheco, G., & Sorensen, K. (2021). The effect of upzoning on house prices and redevelopment premiums in Auckland, New Zealand. Urban Studies, 58(5), 959-976.
- (3) The AUP required that all new greenfield and brownfield housing developments of 15 or more lots/units, included at least 10% of dwellings at prices affordable to households on 80% to 120% of the median regional household income.
- (4) No public data sources are readily available to calculate this.

* 2544 SCHOOL ENROLMENTS—Ms Kobi Shetty to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Noting the Minister's previous responses to LA QON 2315:

What plans, if any, does the Government have to include projected school enrolments in the information about school enrolment numbers that is available publicly on the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation website?

Answer—

The Department of Education has advised that Local Government Area level school age projections are available publicly on the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure website.

* 2545 PUBLIC LIABILITY CLAIM WAIT TIMES—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

- (1) Can the Minister advise what time frame should be expected by claimants when they lodge a public liability claim form through Transport for NSW (TfNSW)?
- (2) Given that claimants who receive a Liabilities Claims TfNSW acknowledgment letter are waiting up to 6 months without any further communication from the department, would the minister consider ways to improve on that time frame?
 - (a) If not, what process should claimants undergo to ensure their claims are processed more readily?

Answer—

This question should be directed to the Minister for Transport.

* 2546 GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT INTO TAFE - ALLOCATION BY CAMPUS—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education—

- (1) Can the Minister advise how the \$300 million Government investment into TAFE NSW was allocated to individual TAFE campuses?
- (2) Can the Minister advise how many TAFE campuses in my electorate have been allocated a portion of this funding to assist in improving the quality of the WI-FI connectivity?
- (3) Can the Minister advise what processes TAFE campuses who were overlooked for this funding should take to improve their internet capability?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) Assets across campuses are appraised for condition and projected useful life . Where the useful life has been reached, and if the asset cannot reasonably be continued to be used or achieve the intended outcome, these - along with assets that have failed, or are unable to achieve their intended purpose - are annually reviewed and added to the potential scope for the forthcoming year.

This list is further refined based upon service delivery need and prioritised accordingly.

- (2) 11 - Bourke; Brewarrina; Broken Hill; Condobolin; Coonamble; Gilgandra; Lake Cargelligo; Lightning Ridge; Menindee; Walgett; Wilcannia
- (3) TAFE NSW recognises the increasing ICT demands of its learners and teaching staff with respect to campus Wi-Fi network capability and has prioritised the Wi-Fi network rollout to treat facilities with identified greatest need including age and supportability of Wi-Fi equipment.

During the project rollout, TAFE NSW will continue to operate its internal processes to manage campus network capability including access to Internet services within technology constraints. Where required, the TAFE NSW Field Support team are activated to attend campus and replace faulty equipment.

* 2547 UPDATE ON QON 1159—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Can the Minister provide an update on QON 1159 -Menai Primary School Playground?

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Answer—

I am advised that projects are being assessed by the Local Small Commitments Allocation Program Office and information pertaining to approved projects is publicly available.

- * 2548 UPDATE ON QON - 1514—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

(1) Can the Minister provide an update on QON 1514 - Widening Alfords Point Road?

Answer—

I am advised

Funding has not been provided for further proposed upgrades or widening to Alfords Point Road. Transport for NSW has however, progressed a design for a central barrier along Alfords Point Road between Brushwood Drive Bridge and Old Illawarra Road. This project is as a result of a safety review carried out to target head on crashes. Construction of this project is expected to start late 2024.

Details of the project are available on the Transport for NSW website

<https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/alfords-point-road-illawongalfords-point>

- * 2549 POLICE CALLOUTS TO SCHOOLS—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

(1) Could the Minister please advise the exact number of police callouts to each of the following schools:

- (a) Lurnea High School?
- (b) AI-Amanah College?
- (c) Casula High School?
- (d) Moorebank High School?
- (e) Holsworthy High School?
- (f) Lucas Heights Community School?
- (g) Shire Christian School?
- (h) Aquinas Catholic College?

(2) For the following periods or the calendar year, whichever records are maintained, can the Minister provide the number of callouts by school:

- (a) 1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019?
- (b) 1 July 2019 - 30 June 2020?
- (c) 1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021?
- (d) 1 July 2021 - 30 June 2022?
- (e) 1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023
- (f) 1 July 2023 - present (or the date the latest data is available)?

(3) In providing the number of callouts above, could you please provide the nature of the call-outs?

Answer—

I am advised:

The tables below show the number and nature of police callouts by financial year to each of the schools provided. Data is current as at 24 March 2024.

*Please see Attachment A on the Parliament's website at Questions and Answers Tracking.

* 2550 PATIENT TRANSPORT VEHICLES - GLEN INNES HOSPITAL—The Hon. Adam Marshall to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

In relation to NSW Health Patient Transport Vehicles at Glen Innes Hospital:

- (1) How many vehicles are associated with this Hospital?
- (2) Have patients been denied transport to other hospitals?
 - (a) If so, why?
 - (b) If so, has this occurred while patient transport vehicles have been available on site?
 - (i) What would lead to patients being denied transport while vehicles have been idle on site?
 - (c) What practices are in place to prevent patients being unfairly denied transport between hospitals?
- (1) Have drivers returned to general duties within the Hospital, with no plans to reinstate this patient transport?

Answer—

I'm advised:

HealthShare NSW Patient Transport Service has a dedicated crew based at Glen Innes Hospital. Crews are rostered from 8:00am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday. Glen Innes is also supported by other Hunter New England Local Health District hubs, including Armidale and Inverell.

Each day, Patient Transport Service and Hunter New England Local Health District staff meet to discuss transport demand to support appropriate resource allocation.

The Patient Transport Service provides non-emergency transport only. The service may not be able to transport a patient when a patient's clinical condition is out of scope and NSW Ambulance transport is required, or when transport services are already engaged.

If Patient Transport Service is clinically appropriate, the service is generally re-booked for the following day.

A parked on-site vehicle may mean crew are mid-transfer collecting or delivering a patient or waiting to undertake a scheduled booking.

* 2551 ENERGY SECURITY SAFEGUARD - REFRIGERATION SCHEME—The Hon. Adam Marshall to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

- (1) What courses of action are available to businesses that have noticed a significant increase in their energy bills after installing a new freezer under the program?
 - (a) Can you please advise why increases in energy costs could be arising if the business have made no other changes to their energy consumption?

Answer—

- (1) Businesses can contact the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART). IPART is responsible for the accreditation, auditing and compliance of approved suppliers under the Scheme

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known as Accredited Certificate Providers (ACPs). IPART has the regulatory powers to act if an ACP is in breach of their requirements under the scheme.

Businesses can also contact NSW Fair Trading and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) about breaches of Australian Consumer Law including misrepresentations about product suitability.

- (2) A number of factors such as the location, size, components and product settings can affect the energy use of freezers. If energy use increases after an upgrade, it is possible that either the settings are incorrect on the product, or the new product may not be fit for purpose or was not designed to meet their business needs.

* 2552 FIRE BRIGADE CANCER COVERAGE—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

- (1) Do New South Wales firefighters experience cancer at three to five times the rates of other employees and is this linked to their work?
- (2) Do firefighters with oesophageal, lung, skin, cervical, ovarian, penile, pancreatic, thyroid, and uterine cancer, and malignant mesothelioma have to prove these conditions are directly related to their work in order to be covered under workplace compensation?
- (3) What plans does the Government have to provide better workplace injury cover for firefighters?

Answer—

These questions should be directed to the Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections.

* 2553 STRATA HUB—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections—

- (1) How has the strata hub been used to communicate with strata communities?
- (2) How has the strata hub been used to educate strata communities?
- (3) What other ways has the strata hub been used to support strata living?
- (4) What plans are there to expand how the strata hub is used to support communities?
- (5) Will there be a review of the strata hub to ensure that it delivers benefits for strata communities given it is funded by strata communities?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Strata Hub has been used to provide information to strata scheme representatives about a range of strata matters including changes to the Strata Schemes Management Act 2016, with strata schemes that have not completed annual reporting and may not have held an Annual General Meeting (AGM), and was used to administer the 2023 Strata Defects Survey.
- (2) The Strata Hub contains a range of information pages on strata living topics and has been used to distribute education on the need to hold AGMs, how to hold them and the requirements of annual strata scheme reporting.
- (3) The Strata Hub provides a central source for strata living including for information, education, reporting, provide the ability for Ambulance NSW and NSW Fire and Rescue to have access to strata scheme emergency contact details, integration with strata managing agent software, and administration of the Strata Building Bond and Inspections Scheme. These functions contribute to

increased information on strata living, building safety, regulatory compliance, and emergency response capability.

- (4) The NSW Government is considering the best use of the Strata Hub.
- (5) Please refer to the answer to question (4).

* 2554 SHARE BIKES—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

- (1) What complaints has the Government received about problems with share bikes blocking public access and littering footpaths and other public space?
- (2) What assessment has the Government made of the need for regulation of share bike schemes?
- (3) What consideration has the Government given to options for regulation?
- (4) What plans does the Government have to better regulate share bike schemes?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) This is a question for the Minister for Local Government
- (2) This is a question for the Minister for Transport
- (3) This is a question for the Minister for Transport
- (4) This is a question for the Minister for Transport

* 2555 ST JAMES PRECINCT PROPOSAL—Mr Alex Greenwich to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) What consideration has the Government given to the 2018 Sydney Trains proposal to use the St James Station tunnels as a dining and entertainment precinct?
- (2) What assessment has the Government made of the viability of rejuvenating and opening the St James station tunnels as a dining and entertainment precinct?
- (3) What plans does the Government have to utilise the unused St James tunnel system?

Answer—

I am advised

The Transport Asset Holding Entity is managing a project to enable public access to the St James (South) Tunnels.

A new multimedia Visitor Experience will tell the story of the tunnels. Regular guided tours will enable urban adventurers to safely explore the tunnels which have lain disused since the 1920s.

Public guided tours of the South Tunnels are expected to commence in the second half of 2024.

* 2556 STAGED STATE ROAD MAINTENANCE - TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLANS—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Given that staged state road maintenance implies that once a stage is finished all traffic awareness/safety measures should be removed and relocated to the next phase, what measures are there to ensure that speed signs are not left up well after the road works have been completed?
- (2) Can the Minister advise who is responsible for ensuring ‘Traffic Management Plans’ for stage road maintenance/upgrades is being accurately followed?
- (3) Is there a reporting procedure that sub - contractors need to complete and provide to the Government outlining the progression of the road maintenance/upgrade?
 - (a) If so, is the public able to access this information?

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Answer—

I am advised

This is a matter for the Minister for Roads.

* 2557 COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRE FUNDING—Mr Mark Coure to ask the Attorney General—

- (1) In regards to Community Legal Centre funding provided by the Government:
 - (a) Will the Government conduct a review into the funding allocations of Community Legal Centres?
 - (b) If a review is underway or if one is proposed to be conducted, can the Attorney General advise when the outcome of this review will be known?
 - (c) Will the review aim to ensure that allocation of state funding to Community Legal Centres is proportional to the size of the population of which each centre is responsible for?
- (2) Considering that Marrickville Legal Centre serves roughly the same number of people as all other New South Wales Community Legal Centres combined and yet it received the least amount of state funding:
 - (a) Will the Attorney General consider investigating increases of funding to Marrickville Legal Centre?
 - (b) Will the Attorney General consider future funding allocations to Marrickville Legal Centre be proportionate to their position as the largest Community Legal Centre in New South Wales?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)
 - (a) The Commonwealth Government has commissioned an Independent Review of the National Legal Assistance Partnership, including funding to Community Legal Centres in NSW. The NSW Government made a submission to the review.
 - (b) The report arising from the Independent Review of the National Legal Assistance Partnership is due to be published by early June 2024.
 - (c) The Terms of Reference of the Independent Review of the National Legal Assistance Partnership include assessment of legal need and are publicly available on the Attorney-General's Department website and include assessment of legal need at: <https://www.ag.gov.au/legal-system/publications/terms-reference-independent-review-national-legal-assistance>

Marrickville Legal Centre does not receive the least amount of state funding in the Community Legal Centres Program. Allocations of Community Legal Centre Program funding are publicly available in the Legal Aid NSW Annual Report at: <https://www.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/about-us/annual-reports/annual-report-2022-2023>.

In 2022-23, NSW Government funding to individual Community Legal Centres ranged from \$106,892 to \$810,460 per centre and Marrickville Legal Centre received \$316,389.
- (2) Marrickville Legal Centre does not serve the same number of people as all other NSW Community Legal Centres combined. Generalist Community Legal Centres range in size, for example Western Sydney Community Legal Centre has a larger geographic catchment area, population size and services a greater number of clients.
 - (a) In 2018, the former NSW Government commissioned the 'Cameron Review' of Community Legal Centre funding and administration and implemented a number of recommendations, including adopting a three-year state funding cycle and introducing an application-based

model to allocate funding according to legal need and based on recommendations of an independent panel. Funding allocations for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2025, were made through application processes and a series of decisions between 2018/19 and 2022/23. There are no plans to redistribute funding during the current cycle or to vary existing service agreements.

- (b) Future funding allocations will be informed by the outcomes of the Independent Review of the National Legal Assistance Partnership, including eligibility criteria, national and state priorities, and funding methodology.

* 2558 GLENLEE INTERIM HERITAGE ORDER AND HERITAGE ASSESSMENTS—Mr Mark Coure to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

Regarding the property at 80 Boronia Parade, Lugarno New South Wales 2210 also known as ‘Glenlee’:

- (1) Can the Minister advise if before the 2023 New South Wales State Election she and Labor candidate for Oatley, Ashvini Ambihapahar made the following commitments in regards to the property:
 - (a) That the Minister, if elected, would issue a new Interim Heritage Order for ‘Glenlee’?
 - (b) That NSW Labor, if elected, would ensure that proper site heritage assessments would be conducted?
- (2) Can the Minister advise if she has placed a second Interim Heritage Order over the property as promised by her before the 2023 New South Wales State Election?
 - (a) If not why not?
- (3) Can the Minister advise if she has given an order to allow Heritage NSW assessors to access the property to conduct proper site heritage assessments as promised by her before the 2023 New South Wales State Election?
 - (a) If not why not?
- (4) If the Minister has been provided legal advice as to why she is unable to deliver on these election commitments for ‘Glenlee’, can she please share this advice?

Answer—

- (1)
 - (a) An election commitment was made to work for Glenlee's protection, given the Interim Heritage Order had lapsed under the previous government without a full heritage assessment being undertaken. will consider an additional IHO if the site is under threat.
 - (b) In September 2022, the local heritage significance of Glenlee was recognised by local heritage listing following appropriate assessments by Georges River Council. This listing provides statutory heritage protection for Glenlee.
- (2)
 - (a) An Interim Heritage Order is not currently needed as the site has a local heritage listing which provides statutory protection. The site is not currently under threat.
 - (b) See 2a.
- (3) No.
 - (a) There is no legislative power to use section 148 of the Heritage Act 1977 to access a site for heritage assessments. This section facilitates access for the compliance and enforcement purposes.

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(4) Legal advice is privileged and confidential.

* 2559 ACTIVE AND CREATIVE KIDS VOUCHERS—Mr Mark Coure to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) How many Active Kids Vouchers were accessed by families living in the Oatley Electorate in:
 - (a) 2022
 - (b) 2023
- (2) Since 1 February 2024, how many Active and Creative Kids vouchers have been accessed by families living in the Oatley Electorate?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) The following number of Active Kids Vouchers were redeemed by families living in the Oatley Electorate:
 - (a) 13,046 in 2022.
 - (b) 12,929 in 2023.
- (2) Questions relating to the new Active and Creative Kids program, which is being managed by the Department of Customer Service, should be directed to the Hon. Jihad Dib MP in his capacity as Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government.

* 2560 BEVERLY HILLS COMMUTER CAR PARK—Mr Mark Coure to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) What consultation, if any, has been undertaken with the local community and business owners over the last six months regarding the parking model of the Beverly Hills Commuter Car Park?
- (2) Has Transport for NSW investigated the feasibility of a parking structure model like Revesby Commuter Car Park, to ensure that customers for local businesses have somewhere to park Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm?
 - (a) If so, what was the outcome of this investigation?

Answer—

I am advised

Transport for NSW continues to engage with Georges River Council, local businesses, and the community on the Beverly Hills Commuter Car Park. Over the last six months, regular project updates have been sent to the local community and stakeholders on the progress of the car park. As there has been no significant change to the design or operating model of the car park, no targeted consultation on the parking model has been completed in the past six months.

Further information about the Beverly Hills Commuter Car Park, including community notifications, is publicly available on the Transport for NSW website.

<https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/beverly-hills-commuter-car-park>

* 2561 FIRST LAP VOUCHERS—Mr Mark Coure to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) How many businesses in the Oatley electorate, as of 1 March 2024 are registered to be a provider for the First Lap program?
- (2) How many First Lap Vouchers have been accessed by families living in the Oatley Electorate:
 - (a) Between the commencement of the program and 30 June 2023?

- (b) Since 1 July 2023?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) 9 businesses in the Oatley electorate, as of 1 March 2024, are registered to be a provider for the First Lap program.
- (2) The following number of First Lap Vouchers have been redeemed by families living in the Oatley Electorate:
 - (a) 3,436 between the commencement of the program and 30 June 2023.
 - (b) 448 since 1 July 2023.

* 2562 PLATFORM GAP FILLERS—Mr Mark Coure to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Which train stations currently have platform gap fillers installed?
- (2) Which train stations are platform gap fillers proposed to be installed at over the next 12 months?
- (3) Will the Government investigate installing this technology at the following stations:
 - (a) Oatley?
 - (b) Mortdale?
 - (c) Penshurst?
 - (d) Riverwood?
 - (e) Narwee?
 - (f) Beverly Hills?

Answer—

I am advised

Platform gap filler has been installed on selected platforms at the following stations: Circular Quay, Town Hall, Wynyard, Chatswood, Bondi Junction, Redfern, Wolli Creek, Martin Place and Central. Over the next 12 months it is proposed to install platform gap filler on selected platforms at Central, Redfern and Wolli Creek.

All of the approximately 500 platforms on the Sydney Trains network have different designs and conditions. Each platform, track, train type and operating conditions must be assessed for the suitability for fitment of gap fillers. Sydney Trains will examine these areas and review in the next round of priorities for the Platform Gap Filler program.

Information about the Platform Gap Filler technology and installation is publicly available on the Transport for NSW website; <https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/news-and-events/media-releases/closing-more-platform-gaps-across-sydney-trains-network>

* 2563 DEMOUNTABLE CLASSROOMS—Mr Mark Coure to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) How many demountable classrooms are onsite at the following schools:
 - (a) Beverly Hills Public School?
 - (b) Beverly Hills North Public Schools?
 - (c) Beverly Hills Girls High School?
 - (d) Riverwood Public School?

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- (e) Hannans Road Public School?
- (f) Narwee Public School?

Answer—

Information about demountables is publicly available on the School Infrastructure NSW website.

* 2564 STRAY AND FERAL CAT MANAGEMENT—Mr Mark Coure to ask the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) What programs is the Government funding to assist councils in the management of stray and feral cats?
 - (a) How much funding has been allocated to each program?
 - (b) How long will these programs be operating for?
- (2) Can you advise when the NSW Parliament's Cat Management Inquiry will begin?
- (3) Will the Office of Local Government issue regular circulars to councils to keep them up-to-date on the progress of this Inquiry?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) There has been direct and indirect funding to assist councils in the management of stray and feral cats.

Direct funding includes:

- A \$1.5 million grant to the Cat Protection Society of NSW to desex 2,750 cats in targeted local government areas.
- The NSW Government's Environmental Trust has granted \$2.5 million for the RSPCA NSW 'Keeping Cats Safe at Home' program. The program works across 11 local government areas to encourage cat owners to keep their cats safely at home to enhance feline welfare and reduce the impacts that cats have on wildlife.

Indirect funding includes:

- A companion animal welfare grants package to deliver improved companion animal welfare outcomes in NSW. \$5 million of the package was made available to support companion animal care and rehoming services delivered by Office of Local Government (OLG) - approved rehoming organisations. The funding was allocated to 62 eligible organisations who could apply for up to \$100,000 to address the costs associated with caring for and rehoming companion animals and improving companion animal welfare across the State. A number of the organisations who received funding stated it would be used specifically on desexing programs for cats.
 - OLG administers the Companion Animal Fund which collects all dog and cat registration and annual permit fees. 80% of these fees (estimated \$8 million in 2023-2024) are allocated back to NSW councils based on where the animals reside. Councils can utilise these funds for any animal welfare programs they choose. Subsidised desexing is a popular use of funds.
- (2) On 10 October 2023, the Hon. Emma Hurst MLC reported to the Legislative Council that in accordance with paragraph (7) of the resolution establishing the Animal Welfare Committee, on 21 September 2023 the committee resolved to adopt the following:
- "That, following the conclusion of the inquiry into the "Proposed aerial shooting of brumbies in Kosciuszko National Park", the Animal Welfare Committee inquire into and report on the management of cat populations in New South Wales."

- (3) OLG and Local Government NSW have various communication channels to keep the sector informed of relevant developments.

* 2565 MORTDALE FIRE STATION—Mr Mark Coure to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

- (1) How many times was the Mortdale Fire Station temporarily offline in:

- (a) June 2023?
- (b) July 2023?
- (c) August 2023?
- (d) September 2023?
- (e) November 2023?
- (f) December 2023?
- (g) January 2024?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) 39.
- (b) 32.
- (c) 55.
- (d) 63.
- (e) 60.
- (f) 49.
- (g) 57.

The duration can vary greatly with the shortest being 2 minutes.

* 2566 LAND TAX—Ms Stephanie Di Pasqua to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces representing the Treasurer—

- (1) Does the Government plan on providing land tax relief for self-funded retirees?

Answer—

The land tax thresholds for each land tax year are determined by the NSW Valuer General under the Land Tax Management Act 1956.

Land tax is not applied to exempt properties, such as principal places of residence. Specific information can be found at: [Home - Valuer General of New South Wales \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/valuer-general)

* 2567 LAND TAX EFFECT ON RENTERS—Ms Stephanie Di Pasqua to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces representing the Treasurer—

- (1) Is there evidence that rises in land tax bills are being passed onto renters?
- (a) If so, is there a plan to ensure rising land tax bills are not passed onto renters?

Answer—

Rents are determined by the interaction between demand and supply. Under Section 40 of the Residential Tenancy Act 2010, landlords must pay taxes for applicable residential premises.

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- * 2568 SPECIAL ETHICS TEACHER RECRUITMENT—Ms Stephanie Di Pasqua to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

(1) Does the Government have plans to increase recruitment for special ethics volunteers?

Answer—

It is the responsibility of an approved provider to recruit, train and authorise sufficient Special Religious Education/Special Education in Ethics teachers.

If a parent/carer's preferred option is not available at their child's school, or they would like to volunteer, they should contact the approved provider. The approved provider for Special Education in Ethics is Primary Ethics.

- * 2569 SPECIAL ETHICS LEARNING—Ms Stephanie Di Pasqua to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

(1) Across the state what proportion of students enrolled in Special Education in Ethics (SEE) are receiving guided learning from a qualified professional?

(2) What shortages exist in the Drummoyne electorate for qualified SEE teachers?

Answer—

It is the responsibility of an approved provider to recruit, train and authorise Special Religious Education/Special Education in Ethics teachers.

If a parent/carer's preferred option is not available at their child's school, or they would like to volunteer, they can contact an approved provider. The approved provider for Special Education in Ethics in NSW is Primary Ethics.

- * 2570 NOISE CAMERAS IN RHODES—Ms Stephanie Di Pasqua to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

(1) Could the Minister advise if it is possible to include the suburb of Rhodes in the trial of noise cameras?

(2) Could the Minister please advise how the proposed locations for the noise camera trials were chosen?

Answer—

I am advised

This is a matter for the Minister for Environment.

- * 2571 VAPE DETECTORS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS—Ms Stephanie Di Pasqua to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

(1) Could the Minister please provide an update on the supply of vape detectors in public schools.

(2) Will vape detectors be installed at schools in the Drummoyne electorate and if so, which schools?

Answer—

Market testing regarding vape detectors was conducted by the Department of Education in 2023. It found that installing detectors would not be cost-effective.

- * 2572 RATES OF 'TAPPING ON' AT LOCAL TRAIN STATIONS—Ms Stephanie Di Pasqua to ask the Minister for Transport—

(1) How many individuals "tapped on" at Concord West train station in:

- (a) 2020?
(b) 2021?
(c) 2022?
(d) 2023?
- (2) How many individuals "tapped on" at North Strathfield train station in:
(a) 2020?
(b) 2021?
(c) 2022?
(d) 2023?
- (3) How many individuals "tapped on" at Rhodes train station in:
(a) 2020?
(b) 2021?
(c) 2022?
(d) 2023?

Answer—

I am advised

Opal card and Contactless Travel Payment tapped on data for the stations is below:

Calendar Year	Concord West Station	North Strathfield Station	Rhodes Station
2020	367,020	455,995,	1,718,457
2021	298,726	374,906	1,301,969
2022	364,506	479,292	1,731,055
2023	515,197	666,027	2,532,015

* 2573 RATES OF 'TAPPING ON' AT LOCAL FERRY WHARVES—Ms Stephanie Di Pasqua to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) How many individuals "tapped on" at Cabarita Wharf in:
(a) 2020?
(b) 2021?
(c) 2022?
(d) 2023?
- (2) How many individuals "tapped on" at Drummoyne Wharf in:
(a) 2020?
(b) 2021?
(c) 2022?
(d) 2023?
- (3) How many individuals "tapped on" at Abbotsford Wharf in:

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- (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?
- (4) How many individuals "tapped on" at Chiswick Wharf in:
- (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) (a) 86,512
 - (b) 72,504
 - (c) 107,165
 - (d) 141,043
- (2) (a) 51,212
 - (b) 42,901
 - (c) 61,202
 - (d) 80,219
- (3) (a) 65,602
 - (b) 57,570
 - (c) 86,912
 - (d) 118,869
- (4) (a) 29,985
 - (b) 24,466
 - (c) 35,771
 - (d) 45,893

* 2574 FISHING COMPLIANCE ON WHARVES—Ms Stephanie Di Pasqua to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) How many times have enforcement teams visited Cabarita Wharf from November 2023-March 2024 to enforce the banned fishing rules?
- (2) How many fines have been issued during the same period?
- (3) Will Transport for NSW update the signage at all wharves including Cabarita, Abbotsford, Chiswick and Drummoyne to report illegal fishing?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Between the period of November 2023 – February 2024, the NSW Police (Marine Area Command) conducted a total of 67 wharf inspections under the User Charges Agreement with Transport for NSW (Maritime), and the Cabarita Wharf visited on each occasion.

It is understood the NSW Police (Marine Area Command) undertake their own daily patrols (day and night shifts) which consists of visiting Cabarita Wharf on each occasion.

- (2) The role of Transport for NSW is to provide cleaning and security at all Transport for NSW Commuter Ferry Wharves as per the 2010 agreement with key stakeholders including local Councils, Transdev Sydney Ferries, NSW Police, and the public who contributed towards the development of the Clean Safe Wharf Initiative.

As per the initiative, Transport for NSW engages the NSW Marine Police under the User Charges Agreement to patrol commuter ferry wharves to monitor for anti-social behaviour and fishing related issues.

Transport for NSW is not authorised to issue fines. Between the period of November 2023 and February 2024, the NSW Police issued 15 infringements. From the total amount of infringements issued, five infringements were issued at Cabarita wharf for fishing at a prohibited wharf.

- (3) Transport for NSW has installed several signs advising of fishing rules including Cabarita, Abbotsford, Chiswick, and Drummoyne Wharves. There is no signage for reporting illegal fishing, this signage will be arranged and installed within 6-8 weeks.

- * 2575 TARGETED CAR THEFTS AND BREAK-INS - MOSMAN—Ms Felicity Wilson to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

In relation to the data released by the NSW Police Force regarding the Sydney suburbs with the highest targeted car thefts and break-ins:

- (1) With Mosman having the highest number of 46 car thefts and break-ins across 2022-2023, what is the Minister doing to tackle the issue of car thefts and break-ins?
- (a) What is the Minister doing to tackle the scourge of crime in our local community?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Police Force's North Shore Police Area Command conducts proactive, high-visibility policing operations during key times to prevent and disrupt criminal activity in the Mosman area. The Command also actively engages with the community to promote crime prevention strategies, particularly against break-ins and car theft.

Strike Force Sweetenham was established to target ongoing occurrences of aggravated break, enter and steal offences involving the theft of luxury/high performance vehicles across the Sydney metropolitan area, including Mosman.

All incidents are reviewed to ensure the police response is thorough and comprehensive. The North Shore Police Area Command, supporting specialist commands, and Strike Force Sweetenham will continue to target offenders to keep the Mosman community safe.

- * 2576 SMOKING BANS IN RESIDENTIAL APARTMENTS—Ms Felicity Wilson to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections—

Can the Minister advise whether the Government has any plans to ban smoking within residential apartment buildings?

Answer—

I am advised:

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The Strata Schemes Management Act 2015 (the Act) and accompanying regulation provide a remedy for residents of strata schemes to address smoke penetration.

* 2577 RESTORING TREE CANOPY - WARRINGAH FREEWAY UPGRADE—Ms Felicity Wilson to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

- (1) Can the Minister provide an update on the progress of restoring the tree canopy along sections of the Warringah Freeway Upgrade?
 - (a) If this process has not started can the Minister advise why?
 - (b) Can the Minister provide a timeline of when the works to replace the tree canopy in sections along the Warringah Freeway Upgrade will be completed?

Answer—

I am advised

I understand the importance of tree replanting to the community and would like to assure them this is also a top priority for Transport for NSW.

The Warringah Freeway Upgrade is still under construction, with all construction sites in full use. The tree replacement planning process is well under way. A tree replacement strategy was developed and consulted on with the community and key stakeholders in late 2022. This laid the foundation for the more detailed planning that is currently in progress.

In August 2023, the Warringah Freeway Upgrade team, together with the Western Harbour Tunnel team, began regular working group meetings with representatives from North Sydney Council to co-develop a tree replacement program.

The Warringah Freeway Upgrade Draft Place, Design and Landscape Plan was put on public exhibition for public consultation in June 2023. Following this, the Plan was updated and is currently with the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, with final approval expected mid-2024.

The Plan outlines the landscaping plans, including species selection, for land within the Warringah Freeway Upgrade project boundary, and prioritises replanting within the freeway corridor where trees have been directly impacted by the project.

The Western Harbour Tunnel Draft Place, Design and Landscape Plan is expected to be released later in 2024 for public consultation. The two Place, Design and Landscape Plans contribute to the overall tree replacement program required for the two projects.

To ensure reliable establishment and long-term survival of all replanted vegetation, careful planning and detailed stakeholder consultation is required, with consideration for appropriate and quality species selection for specific locations.

The Tree Replacement Strategy will include options for replacing trees in the North Sydney area in line with the planning conditions. These conditions mean that at the end of the project, there will be more trees in North Sydney and other areas than there were before.

Transport for NSW will progressively begin to replant trees and vegetation as areas under construction are completed. This will continue over the life of both Warringah Freeway Upgrade project (expected completion 2026) and Western Harbour Tunnel project (expected completion 2028). Overall tree replacement for the combined projects is expected to be completed within six months following completion of the Western Harbour Tunnel project.

To date, tree replanting has already been carried out within the reconfigured Cammeray golf course, and alongside the completed Massey to Amherst noise wall.

- * 2578 INTERNAL REVIEW OF KEY TRAFFIC CORRIDORS—Ms Felicity Wilson to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

Can the Minister advise when Transport for NSW's internal review of key traffic corridors across the state will be made publicly available?

Answer—

I am advised

Transport for NSW is carrying out an internal network review of several key road corridors. This includes road corridors within the Lower North Shore and Northern Beaches.

The purpose of the key traffic corridor reviews is to ensure this road network aligns with the NSW Government's strategy to cater for forecast growth within the surrounding communities. The focus is on improving network performance at critical locations, facilitate better movement of people and goods and improve access to public and active transport. Key stakeholders such as councils are consulted as part of the review.

Following the completion of the review, Transport for NSW will determine options to progress and seek advice from the Government.

- * 2579 RENEWABLE ENERGY RETROFITS IN SCHOOLS AND EARLY LEARNING CENTRES—Ms Felicity Wilson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

(1) Can the Minister advise whether the Government supports solar, batteries and energy efficiency retrofits for every school and Early Childhood Education and Care centre in New South Wales?

(a) If not, why?

Answer—

The NSW Government is committed to sustainable energy solutions that put downward pressure on energy bills and help reach net zero by 2050.

The Department of Education has developed a net zero baseline and pathway to support the government's Net Zero Plan.

Among other initiatives, this will be supported by upgrades to support energy efficiency and rolling out more solar panels on school roofs.

- * 2580 AMBULANCE SERVICES IN THE NORTH SHORE—Ms Felicity Wilson to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

In relation to ambulance services within in the North Shore electorate:

(1) Can the Minister advise the following:

(a) The number of ambulance call outs for the following post codes: 2060, 2061, 2065, 2088, 2089, 2090:

(i) 2022/23?

(ii) 2021/22?

(iii) 2020/21?

(iv) 2019/20?

(b) The average wait time for ambulance call outs for the following post codes: 2060, 2061, 2065, 2088, 2089, 2090:

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- (i) 2022/23?
- (ii) 2021/22?
- (iii) 2020/21?
- (iv) 2019/20?

Answer—

I'm advised:

Health services are not provided by electorate.

Information about NSW Ambulance performance is publicly available on the Bureau of Health Information website at www.bhi.nsw.gov.au.

- * 2581 MIDDLE HEAD ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION CENTRE—Ms Felicity Wilson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Can the Minister provide an update on whether discussions have progressed between the Department of Education and the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust regarding the incorporation of the Middle Head Environment Education Centre in the 10 Terminal Precinct?

Answer—

In addition to community consultation, the Department of Education has advised that it worked closely with ecological and bushfire experts, Heritage NSW and National Parks NSW to determine an appropriate location for the centre.

After an analysis of alternative locations, the department has advised that the proposed location on NSW National Park land remains the preferred option.

To remain sympathetic to the environmental and historical significance of the area, no physical works have been proposed to the former Soldier's Institute building aside from minor internal refurbishment works.

The department is reviewing submissions, will develop a submissions report and consider all submission comments before the design is finalised.

- * 2582 PAYROLL TAX PAID BY SMALL BUSINESSES—Ms Eleni Petinos to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources—

- (1) Can you please advise the exact payroll tax revenue paid by businesses in the following postcodes: 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2232, 2234 for each of the following years:
 - (a) 2018/19?
 - (b) 2019/20?
 - (c) 2020/21?
 - (d) 2021/22?
 - (e) 2022/23?
- (2) How many businesses registered in the following postcodes: 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2232, 2234 paid payroll tax in each of the following years:
 - (a) 2018/19?
 - (b) 2019/20?
 - (c) 2020/21?
 - (d) 2021/22?

(e) 2022/23?

- (3) How many businesses registered in the following postcodes: 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2232, 2234 currently have a payroll tax liability?

Answer—

I am advised

Some of the data has been aggregated to mitigate the risk of inadvertently identifying taxpayers.

Of note, Division 3 Taxation Administration Act 1996 prohibits the disclosure of information obtained under the administration of a taxation law (section 81), except in certain circumstances such as where a taxpayer consents to the disclosure, the disclosure is in accordance with another Act, or the information would not, or would not be likely, to identify a taxpayer.

Data as at 18th March 2024.

- (1) (a) \$44,893,636
(b) \$37,613,951
(c) \$36,149,352
(d) \$34,487,076
(e) \$55,673,388

- (2) (a) 673
(b) 669
(c) 608
(d) 628
(e) 642

- (3) (a) As at 18th March 2024, 66 businesses in the listed postcodes currently have a payroll tax liability.

* 2583 EMERGENCY SERVICES STAFFING NUMBERS—Ms Eleni Petinos to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

Can you please provide the following information as at present regarding emergency services staffing numbers in my electorate:

- (1) What is the number of permanent and on-call firefighters at the following fire stations:
(a) Fire and Rescue Menai Fire Station?
(b) Fire and Rescue Miranda Fire Station?
- (2) What is the net change by calendar month since 1 April 2023 in the number of permanent and on-call staff at the following fire stations:
(a) Fire and Rescue Menai Fire Station?
(b) Fire and Rescue Miranda Fire Station?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) (a) Permanent Firefighters: 21

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On-Call Firefighters: 9

(b) Permanent Firefighters: 27

There are no On-Call Firefighters at this station.

(2)

(a)

	01/04/2023	07/03/2024
Permanent Firefighters	20	21
On-Call Firefighters	10	9

(b)

	01/04/2023	07/03/2024
Permanent Firefighters	27	25

* 2584 LOCAL SPORT DEFIBRILATOR GRANT PROGRAM—Ms Eleni Petinos to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

(1) In relation to the Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program 2023/24

- (a) How many applications were received from eligible sporting organisations in total and by postcode?
- (b) Of those eligible sporting organisations, how many were successful in receiving funding in total and by postcode?
- (c) Of those eligible sporting organisations, how many were unsuccessful in receiving funding in total and by postcode?

Answer—

I am advised that:

For the 2023/24 grant program, 197 applications were received from eligible sporting organisations, of which 166 were successful and 31 were unsuccessful.

Unsuccessful applicants were either:

- eligible sporting organisations that submitted an application but could not be funded as the overall funding allocation for the round had been exhausted, or;
- eligible sporting organisations who had received funding in a previous round of the program. As per the Program Guidelines, these applicants were eligible to apply but would only be considered for funding if there was unallocated funding.

The number of successful and unsuccessful applications from eligible sporting organisations and their postcode are included in the below table:

* Please see table in Attachment A at Questions and Answers Tracking on the Parliament's website.

- * 2585 AIR CONDITIONING IN CLASSROOMS - MIRANDA—Ms Eleni Petinos to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

As at the date for which the most recent data is available (and specifying what that date is), can you please provide the following information:

- (1) By school, how many classrooms or learning spaces in the Miranda electorate currently do not have air-conditioning?
 - (a) Has funding been allocated to provide air-conditioning to these classrooms?
 - (i) If yes, what is the timeline for delivery of the new air-conditioning?

Answer—

The Department of Education continues to work with public schools on a case-by-case basis to address their heating and cooling needs. The department's maintenance program and other works, including air conditioning upgrades, are assessed in consultation with schools. School principals will continue to be able to nominate projects for additional air conditioning.

- * 2586 COUNCIL RATES AND CONCESSIONS FOR PENSIONERS—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Local Government—

In relation to council rates and concessions for pensioners as legislated by the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW):

- (1) Could the Minister for Local Government explain the rationale behind maintaining the original concession levels?
- (2) Is the Ministry considering any reforms to address this issue, potentially in line with the recommendations or concerns expressed by advocacy groups such as the Combined Pensioners and Superannuants Association, to ensure that the concessions reflect the current cost of living and economic challenges faced by pensioners across New South Wales?
- (3) Has the Minister met with stakeholders about the current concessions offered to pensioners?
- (4) Has the Minister raised this matter with the Treasurer?
 - (a) If yes, when?
 - (b) If not, why not?
- (5) Has the Minister met with representatives of self-funded retirees on expanding concessions for older Australians?
- (6) Does the Minister have plans to meet with Members, including myself, and residents who are concerned about this issue?
- (7) Can the Minister provide details of those councils who offer the highest pensioner concession rebates in New South Wales?

Answer—

Pensioner concessions are jointly funded by the NSW Government and local councils as part of a long-standing approach to easing cost-of-living pressures on pensioners.

All NSW councils are required, under the Local Government Act 1993, to provide a minimum of \$250 in concessions on their ordinary rates and domestic waste management services charge, and concessions of up to \$87.50 each on water and sewerage rates and charges where councils provide the services. Councils may, at their discretion, provide additional concessions beyond the mandatory pensioner concessions.

The NSW Government must consider the budgetary implications of any change to current funding arrangements on State and council budgets and consult the sector before making any changes.

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Upon coming to office, the NSW Government were left over \$187 billion dollars of State debt. The Government has had to make a series of tough decisions to begin the challenging task of repairing the state's finances and have reduced debt by \$13 billion despite inheriting the largest debt ever passed from one government to another. This was all while delivering the biggest infrastructure pipeline in NSW history to build roads, rail, schools and hospitals.

- * 2587 EMERGENCY RESPONSE BEACONS ALONG THE NSW COAST—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

In light of recent initiatives to enhance beach safety through the installation of Emergency Response Beacons (ERBs) and the concerns raised about their distribution and effectiveness, particularly on the South Coast:

- (1) Can the Minister provide a detailed list of the locations for the 32 already installed ERBs, as well as the planned locations for the additional 35 ERBs, emphasising how these locations were chosen in terms of risk assessment and incident data?
- (2) Given the notable absence of ERBs in the South Coast region in the initial rollout, can the Minister explain the rationale behind this decision and whether there are immediate plans to address this gap in collaboration with Surf Life Saving NSW (SLSNSW)?
- (3) Has there been a formal review or meeting with SLSNSW regarding the distribution of ERBs, especially focusing on the South Coast, to ensure comprehensive coverage and support for beach safety?
- (4) Could the Minister disclose the annual drowning statistics for the past five years along the South Coast, with specific data for the Kiama and South Coast electorates?
- (5) What is the timeline for the complete installation of the additional 35 ERBs, and how does this schedule align with peak beach usage periods to maximize their impact on safety?
- (6) Regarding the budget allocation of the \$1 million dedicated to this project, can the Minister break down how much is earmarked for the installation versus maintenance of the ERBs, ensuring their long-term efficacy?
- (7) Has there been consideration or action taken towards extending the ERB program to include inland waterways, where drowning risks might also be significantly reduced through such interventions?
- (8) Does the Minister have plans to meet with Members, including myself, to discuss this matter?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government works closely with Surf Life Saving NSW to oversee the installation of Emergency Response Beacons to help protect our communities. The location of the 32 installed Emergency Response Beacons (ERBs) can be found at <https://www.surflifesaving.com.au/emergency-response-beacons/>.

The rollout of the additional ERBs will be targeted towards drowning blackspots across the New South Wales coast, and are scheduled to be installed prior to 30 June 2027.

Coastal drowning statistics for New South Wales may be found online at:

<https://www.surflifesaving.com.au/about-us/reports-publications/>.

My office and I regularly engage with members of Parliament to discuss issues related to my portfolio.

- * 2588 SUPPORT FOR PTSD AND PSYCHOLOGICAL INJURY - NSW POLICE FORCE—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

Regarding mental health support for the NSW Police Force particularly concerning the challenges of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and other psychological injuries within the workforce:

-
- (1) Could the Minister detail the comprehensive range of supports and programs currently available to NSW Police Officers and staff experiencing PTSD and psychological injuries, emphasizing any recent enhancements or initiatives?
 - (2) With respect to workforce health and operational readiness:
 - (a) How many officers and staff are presently on leave due to PTSD, and separately, due to other psychological injuries?
 - (b) What are the annual statistics for the past five years on the number of members discharged from the force due to being deemed 'not fit for duty,' specifically relating to mental health concerns?
 - (3) In consideration of the ongoing and evolving needs of our police force:
 - (a) Does the Government have plans to establish a dedicated service aimed at supporting current, discharged, and retired officers dealing with PTSD and psychological injuries, ensuring they receive the specialised care and support necessary?
 - (b) Are there hesitations or obstacles to the above service and if so can the Minister elaborate on the reasons or alternative strategies being considered?
 - (4) Has the \$5.3 billion investment initially earmarked for the NSW Police Portfolio in the 2023-24 Half-Yearly Budget Review been adjusted?
 - (a) If so, by what amount and what implications might this have for mental health support services?
 - (b) Following the change in government, what funds have been allocated to uphold the previous government's commitment of \$105.1 million towards the Recruitment and Retention Fund and the PULSE program, as outlined in the 2022-23 Half-Yearly Review (p 39), and how will these funds be utilised to enhance the well-being of the NSW Police workforce?
 - (5) What proportion of the NSW Police Force has participated in the PULSE program annually over the last five years, and how is this participation influencing policy and program development moving forward?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) All Police employees and staff experiencing PTSD and psychological injuries have access to a range of supports, including support services, treatment and training.

PULSE Program initiatives include more support for mental health, physical health and fitness, as well as providing more support for injured and ill officers. These support services are available to police officers at each stage of their employment, irrespective of duties or location, and after separation. Initiatives include access to free and confidential psychological counselling through the Early Access to Treatment Initiative; Wellcheck/eWellcheck wellbeing assessment, Employee Assistance Program, Family Support Services, Peer Support Officers, Fitness Passport, Chaplaincy, and Incident Support. Further, mental health clinicians have been embedded in the field, covering 35 Police Area Commands/Police Districts and Region teams across the state.

A new NSW Police Force Treatment and Recovery Unit is currently recruiting psychologists, with roles anticipated to be filled by 30 June 2024. The Unit will support employees with treatment and recovery. The Unit will also participate in research projects focused on improving the management of PTSD/psychological injury for police officers.

There is also a focus on psycho-education and training for NSW Police Force employees to improve wellbeing awareness, personal insight and action. This includes the mandatory 'Psychological First Aid' training for all staff and specific tools, programs and leadership courses with an element of psychological awareness and supporting employees with a psychological injury.

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(2)

(a) As of 29 February 2024:

- 1,261 NSW Police Force employees are on long term sick with reportable psychological workers compensation claims.
- This includes 536 employees who have PTSD as the nature of injury for their workers compensation claim.

(b) Annual statistics for medical discharge with psychological workers compensation claims are:

- 2019: 220 officers
- 2020: 315 officers
- 2021: 443 officers
- 2022: 468 officers
- 2023: 611 officers
- 2024: 103 officers

(3)

(a)-(b) In addition to the support services outlined in Question 1, a newly established Career Transition team has been established to ensure the best support and outcomes for injured workers who are permanently unable to return to their pre-injury role or an alternative suitable role within the NSW Police Force.

The team provides resources to support injured workers with a dignified exit and transition to civilian life.

The PULSE Program is the single most significant investment in the health, safety, and wellbeing of the NSW Police Force. There is no current plan to establish another service for medically discharged or retired police.

(4)

(a)-(b) Any Budget adjustment will not impact mental health support services for NSW Police Force employees. The full \$105.1 million has been allocated towards the Recruitment and Retention Fund and the PULSE Program to enhance the current suite of health and wellbeing programs available to NSW Police Force employees.

(5) PULSE funding commenced on 1 July 2023.

As at 15 March 2024:

- 335 employees have accessed the Early Access Treatment Initiative;
- 68 employees have completed an eWellCheck; and
- Mental Health Clinicians have had 3,617 interactions with employees.

Since January 2024, 87 referrals have been made for support from the Family Support Coordinator. More than 354 employees have accessed psychologists under the RE CON program between 2019 and November 2023; and 1,123 injured workers have engaged the services of the Career Transition Team between October 2023 and February 2024.

An evaluation over five years of the program will inform policy and program development moving forward.

* 2589 MARITIME PROJECTS - KIAMA ELECTORATE—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Transport—

With respect to the Maritime Projects managed by Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW):

- (1) Following my Question on Notice 2057 and the response received on 22 December 2023, could the Minister clarify whether the Boating Now program is still under review, or if TfNSW has finalised and communicated the outcomes?
- (2) Has the Boating Now program been discontinued and if yes, what has happened to the funding?
- (3) With the project webpage last updated on 5 October 2023, can the Minister advise where the most current and comprehensive information about the Boating Now program and its future is accessible as of today's date, 8 March 2024?
- (4) In light of Question on Notice 448 and the response on 5 July 2023, can the Minister provide a detailed list of the grant applications submitted during the unfunded Round 4 of Boating Now, specifying which, if any, projects received funding eventually?
- (5) Regarding the transparency and accessibility of information, will projects that are successfully funded through any revised or future rounds of the Boating Now program be included on the Maritime Infrastructure Delivery Office (MIDO) Projects Map?
- (6) How is the NSW Government addressing the ongoing and emerging needs of the state's recreational and commercial boating communities, especially in light of the recent funding adjustments, to continue delivering broad economic and social benefits?
- (7) With the NSW Maritime Infrastructure Plan set to conclude in 2024, can the Minister confirm whether all outlined objectives and commitments, particularly those affecting boating infrastructure, will be fully met by year-end?
- (8) Regarding the 14 strategically significant locations identified within the NSW Maritime Infrastructure Plan, could the Minister provide an update on the current status and progress of developments at these sites?
- (9) Specifically addressing the Shoalhaven / Crookhaven River project as detailed on page 38 of the South Coast Boating Network Plan, can the Minister list the specific locations of:
 - (a) The seven public wharfs;
 - (b) One commercial wharf;
 - (c) Two regional boat ramps with limited car and trailer parking;
 - (d) Nine formal boat ramps with limited parking; and
 - (e) One informal boat ramp?
- (10) Has the Minister or your office met with TfNSW to discuss the South Coast Boating Network Plan, particularly in relation to funding and implementation strategies for the Shoalhaven/Crookhaven River project?
 - (a) If so, could the Minister provide the date(s) of such meetings?
 - (b) If not, what has precluded such discussions from taking place?
 - (c) Does the Minister have plans to meet with Members, including myself, to discuss this?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) The Boating Now program is currently under review, and Transport for NSW will communicate the outcomes as soon as they are finalised.
- (2) The Boating Now program has not been discontinued; the program is still under review, with no changes to its current funding status.

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- (3) As of 8 March 2024, the most current and comprehensive information about the Boating Now program and its future can be accessed on the Boating Now program's webpage.
- (4) The detailed list of grant applications submitted during the unfunded Round 4 of Boating Now cannot be provided. This is to ensure probity and compliance with Transport for NSW's relevant policies and Boating Now guidelines. As no applications have been progressed, no projects have received funding.
- (5) Yes, projects successfully funded through any revised or future rounds of the Boating Now program will be included on the Maritime Infrastructure Delivery Office (MIDO) Projects Map. It is important to note that the webpage is periodically updated to reflect the most accurate information available.
- (6) Transport for NSW will continue to address the ongoing and emerging needs of recreational and commercial boating communities by investing in boating infrastructure, services, and education with the available funding.
- (7) An internal review of the NSW Maritime Infrastructure Plan is currently underway, and the outcomes of the review will be used to inform development of a new Plan.
- (8) The progress of the NSW Maritime Infrastructure Plan's Key Locations includes the investment in NSW Maritime Infrastructure Plan key locations via Boating Now Round 3 amounts to \$13 million, distributed among 37 projects. Notably, 31 projects have been successfully completed. Currently, six projects are ongoing, reflecting the continued efforts to enhance maritime infrastructure in these strategic locations.

Additionally, \$875,000 has been allocated for four successful dredging projects under the Boating Access Dredging Program.
- (9) The South Coast Boating Network Plan, which was released by the former Government on 1 March 2023, identified the following infrastructure in the Shoalhaven / Crookhaven River region:
 - (a) Seven public wharfs which includes two wharves at Shoalhaven Heads, two wharves at Greenwell Point, one wharf at Orient Point, Crookhaven Heads, and Nowra.
 - (b) One commercial wharf at Greenwell Point.
 - (c) Two regional boat ramps at Crookhaven Heads and Nowra.
 - (d) Nine formal boat ramps with limited parking at Shoalhaven Heads (Wharf Road, River Road and Hay Ave), Greenwell Point (Bowling Club, West Street and Adelaide Street), Nowra, Orient Point and Bomaderry Creek.
 - (e) One informal boat ramp at Broughton Creek.
- (10) Discussions about the South Coast Boating Network are subject to the outcomes of the Boating Now Review, which is currently under review.

* 2590 ONGOING TRAFFIC CONTROL EXPENDITURE—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

In light of traffic control expenditure previously reported on 27 December 2023 and the response to LA QON 1152:

- (1) Following the reported expenditure of \$16.45 million by TfNSW for state-wide traffic control in the 2023 financial year, could the Minister provide a comprehensive breakdown of subsequent expenditures to date?
- (2) Could the Minister please include detailed accounts of all costs incurred beyond the initial report, highlighting any additional allocations or revisions in budgetary commitments?

- (3) Can the Minister provide itemised expenditure report for the Kiama, Shoalhaven, and Shellharbour LGAs for traffic control associated with works caused by natural disasters, each year for the last four years?
- (4) Can the Minister provide a total cost of traffic management and control specifically for Moss Vale Road from 2020 to date?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) and (2) The current Year to Date February 2024 expenditure against the Traffic Control Panel contract for Traffic Control for Natural Disaster in Regional NSW is \$8.77 million. There are 16 contractors listed against the Traffic Control panel contract for the Financial Year 2023-2024. Budgets are not allocated at the lower level of detail, therefore, data regarding what may be above budget or be an additional commitment is not available.
- (3) Due to the way in which claims are presented to Transport for NSW by councils, it is not possible to isolate the financial information regarding traffic control associated with works caused by natural disasters.
- (4) To date, Transport for NSW has spent approximately \$5.64 million on traffic control required to ensure safety along the whole length of Moss Vale Road, following the major Natural Disaster that affected it in February 2022 (AGRN 1012).

* 2591 TAFE NSW NURSING AND COMMUNITY AND YOUTH SERVICES ENROLMENTS AND GRADUATES—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education—

With respect to enrolments and graduates:

- (1) How many people and in what courses did nursing graduates emanate each year for the last four years?
- (2) In relation to (1), can you provide a breakdown by campus and or location, by TAFE NSW and Registered Training Organisations?
- (3) How many students and in what qualifications have students enrolled at TAFE NSW for nursing courses in Semester 1, 2024?
- (4) How many of the 2600 reported nursing graduates in 2023 can be attributed to TAFE NSW, how many to other Registered Training Organisations, and how many to Universities?
- (5) How many people and in what courses did community and youth services graduates emanate each year for the last four years?
- (6) In relation to (5), can you provide a breakdown by campus and or location, by TAFE NSW and Registered Training Organisations?

Answer—

- (1) TAFE NSW completion data is publicly available at <https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/vocstats>.

Completions for nursing qualifications for Smart and Skilled private training providers for 2020 to 2024 year to date (YTD) as at 27 March 2024 are below:

Year of completion	Qualification name	Total Smart and Skilled private provider completions (Nursing)
2020	Diploma of Nursing	49

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2021	Diploma of Nursing	62
2022	Diploma of Nursing	74
2023	Diploma of Nursing	46
2024	Diploma of Nursing	26
Total		257

- (2) TAFE NSW operates in a competitive environment. Data is not provided by campus or location. TAFE NSW provides enrolment data as part of its annual reporting, which can be found at: <https://www.tafensw.edu.au/about-tafensw/annual-report>.

Diploma of Nursing completions and location data for private Smart and Skilled providers as provided in (1) is by Smart and Skilled regions.

There are 15 Smart and Skilled regions in NSW as follows:

- Sydney
- Central Coast
- Newcastle and Lake Macquarie
- Illawarra
- Richmond-Tweed
- Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven
- Hunter Valley and Newcastle
- Mid North Coast
- Coffs Harbour Grafton
- Capital Region
- Central West
- Riverina
- New England and North West
- Murray
- Far West and Orana.

Further advice on Smart and Skilled regions can be found at:

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/resources/smart-and-skilled-regions>

* See table in Attachment A available at Questions and Answers Tracking on the Parliament's website.

- (3) TAFE NSW operates in a competitive environment. Data is not provided by in-year enrolment numbers. TAFE NSW provides enrolment data as part of its annual reporting, which can be found at: <https://www.tafensw.edu.au/about-tafensw/annual-report>.

- (4) For Smart and Skilled private registered training organisations see (1) above.

(5 - 6)

TAFE NSW completion data is publicly available at <https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/vocstats>.

TAFE NSW operates in a competitive environment. Data is not provided by campus or location. TAFE NSW provides enrolment data as part of its annual reporting, which can be found at: <https://www.tafensw.edu.au/about-tafensw/annual-report>.

Completion data for Smart and Skilled private training providers for Community Service and Youth Work by qualification type and location for the period 2020 -2024 YTD (as at 27 March 2024 is:

Year of completion	Total Smart and Skilled private provider completions (Community Service and Youth Work)
2020	725
2021	2,532
2022	2,729
2023	1,039
2024	81
Total	7,106

*See table in Attachment A available at Questions and Answers Tracking on the Parliament's website.

Notes:

Smart and Skilled completions data is for contracted private providers only. Source of data: NSW IVETS as at 27 March 2024.

* 2592 NSW HEALTH NURSE AND MIDWIFERY STAFF—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

With respect to NSW Health Nurse and Midwifery Staff:

- (1) How many enrolled nurses, registered nurses and midwives have left NSW Health each year for the last five years?
- (2) In relation to (1) can you provide a breakdown by each Local Health District?
- (3) Can the Minister provide the numbers of new nurses, by category (AIN, EN, RN), commencing work in the Illawarra-Shoalhaven Health District each year for the last five years?
- (4) What plans does the Minister have to re-engage people who have left the nursing profession?
- (5) Will the Minister consider reviewing current policies and possible barriers to nurses who have left the profession, but want to return to practice?
- (6) How many applications for readmission to nursing practice have been refused by the regulator in New South Wales each year for the last five years?

Answer—

I'm advised:

Over the past 5 years, the NSW Health nursing workforce has grown by over 4,400 FTE.

There were more than 54,500 FTE nurses in 2023. Since 2022-23, the retention rate for nurses in NSW Health has been steadily rising and is now more than 93%. Workforce exits have predominantly been from retirements or where employees ended a casual or temporary engagement.

Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District has employed an average of nearly 260 new nurses across all categories each year over the past 5 years.

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NSW Health offers Re-entry to Nursing Scholarships of up to \$10,000 to support nurses re-entering the professional practice. These scholarships are linked to subsequent employment with NSW Health.

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia undertakes functions set by the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law to regulate nursing and midwifery practice in Australia.

Nurses and midwives are required to maintain recency of practice in line with the Board's Registration Standard: Recency of practice. Where an applicant does not meet this standard, the Board considers an application for re-entry in line with its Policy for Re-entry to Practice for nurses and midwives.

The Board sets these standards independent of state and federal governments and health systems. The Board is responsible for the management of applications for readmission to nursing practice. NSW Health does not have oversight of this information.

* 2593 NEW TRAINS FOR THE SOUTH COAST LINE—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Transport—
With respect to the new Mariyung Fleet for the South Coast line:

- (1) Could the Minister provide a precise timeline for when the Mariyung trains will commence operations between Sydney and Kiama, including any phased introduction stages?
- (2) With the transition to the Mariyung fleet, what is the expected completion date for its full implementation on the South Coast line?
- (3) Given the project's complexity, can the Minister outline the primary factors contributing to the observed delays in the fleet's delivery and what measures are being taken to mitigate further postponements?
- (4) Is it true that the South Coast line will be the last line to receive trains as part of the New Intercity Fleet?
- (5) Following the Auditor-General's report indicating a revised budget of \$3.2 billion for this initiative, does this figure still stand as the current estimate, or have there been further adjustments?
- (6) What is the allocated capital expenditure for the South Coast line in this fiscal year and the forward estimates, particularly in light of the Budget's half-yearly review?
- (7) When were the last updates to the maintenance and commuter timetables for the South Coast line made, and what were the key changes?
- (8) When will the Government reconsider timetables for the South Coast line and what consultation with commuters will occur?
- (9) When will the Endeavour Class fleet be retired and what will replace them?
- (10) Does the Minister have plans to meet with Members, including myself, to discuss these matters?

Answer—

I am advised

(1, 2 and 4)

The Mariyung fleet will gradually begin to enter passenger service in 2024, subject to safety accreditation by the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator. The fleet is planned to enter service on the Central Coast and Newcastle Line, followed by the Blue Mountains Line and the South Coast Line.

- (3) The delivery schedule for the Mariyung fleet has been affected by several factors including the order of an additional 42 carriages in February 2019, travel and production constraints imposed by COVID-19 restrictions, and Enterprise Agreement Bargaining throughout 2021 and 2022.
- (5) The Mariyung Fleet remains within the revised funding envelope that was set in 2022.

- (6) The modifications to the trackside infrastructure to support the changes to the Mariyung operating model is in procurement phase, starting with the Central Coast and Newcastle Line. Details of the capital expenditure and forward estimates for the South Coast Line will be available once the associated contracts are awarded and a delivery program established.
- (7-8) Transport for NSW is committed to providing the best possible services for customers and will continue to monitor customer numbers when the new fleet is introduced. Transport for NSW regularly reviews the performance of the network and adjusts timetables to help respond to customer needs and ensure services run on time.
- (9) Transport for NSW is working to replace the ageing NSW regional rail fleet of XPT, XPLOER and Endeavour trains. Unfortunately, the former Liberal government's overseas procurement policies mean the replacement is running late and is over budget compared to the original program.
- (10) I regularly meet with members of parliament on matters related to public transport.

* 2594 SUPPORTING HIGH-POTENTIAL AND INTELLECTUALLY GIFTED STUDENTS IN THE KIAMA ELECTORATE—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Regarding the accessibility and availability of Opportunity Classes in the Shoalhaven region:

- (1) Could the Minister provide detailed enrolment figures for OCs within the Shoalhaven region over the past ten years, broken down by:
 - (a) The number of Year 5 students; and
 - (b) The number of Year 6 students?
- (2) Of the 1840 places available in Year 5 for OCs across NSW in 2024, how many places are filled and how many remain vacant?
- (3) Specific to the Shoalhaven, what is the reasoning behind the reported reduction in OC places, particularly with reference to adjustments like those at Illaroo Road Public School?
- (4) What consultation with the school was undertaken in reducing the number of OC places at Illaroo Road Public School?
- (5) How many students are currently enrolled in Years 5 and 6 across public schools in the Shoalhaven region and at what schools?
- (6) What specific measures are being taken to ensure that academically gifted students in the Shoalhaven region continue to have access to the advanced learning opportunities necessary for reaching their full potential?
- (7) How does the Department of Education intend to address community concerns regarding OC availability and ensure equitable access to high-quality educational opportunities for all students across NSW, irrespective of their geographic location?
- (8) How many teaching positions will be removed as a result of the publicly announced reduction in OC places at Illaroo Road Public School?

Answer—

Opportunity Classes are just one of the ways NSW public schools support high potential and gifted students. The High Potential and Gifted Education (HPGE) policy (<https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/pd-2004-0051>) supports all schools to optimise talent development for students across 4 domains of potential: intellectual, creative, physical and social-emotional.

The department is committed to ensuring that the educational needs of all high potential and gifted students can be met in their local public school.

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Illaroo Road Public School has been unable to fill its opportunity classes (OCs) in recent years due to a reduction in demand.

Opportunity Class places will continue to be offered at Illaroo Road Public School.

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- * 2595 AIR CONDITIONING IN CLASSROOMS - HOLSWORTHY—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

As at the date for which the most recent data is available (and specifying what that date is), can you please provide the following information:

- (1) By school, how many classrooms or learning spaces in the Holsworthy electorate currently do not have air-conditioning?
 - (a) Has funding been allocated to provide air-conditioning to these classrooms?
 - (i) If yes, what is the timeline for delivery of the new air-conditioning?

Answer—

While the former NSW Liberal Government repeatedly announced and never funded airconditioning upgrades for schools across the state, the Department of Education is now working with schools on a case-by-case basis to address their heating and cooling needs.

The department's maintenance program and other works, including air conditioning upgrades, are assessed in consultation with schools. School principals will continue to be able to nominate projects for additional air conditioning.

- * 2596 MERGER OF LIVERPOOL BOYS HIGH SCHOOL AND LIVERPOOL GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What community consultation was conducted with respect to the announced merger of Liverpool Boys High School and Liverpool Girls High School?

Answer—

Community consultation was conducted in late 2022 under the former NSW Government. This included students and staff at both high schools, and parents and carers of students and of students attending four partner primary schools.

Both staff and parent surveys were conducted. Student feedback from both Liverpool Boys and Girls High Schools was also obtained through focus groups.

- * 2597 NEW GOVERNMENT PRESCHOOLS IN HOLSWORTHY—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) How many, if any of the 100 new proposed Government preschools are located in the Holsworthy electorate?
 - (a) If none, why is there no proposed Government preschools allocated to serve the community in the Holsworthy electorate?
- (2) How many, if any, of the proposed 70 Government preschool renovation are located in the Holsworthy electorate?
- (3) How many Government preschools are currently located in the Holsworthy electorate?

Answer—

The former Liberal National Government did not build a single new public preschool anywhere in NSW during its 12 years in office.

The locations for the 100 public preschools were selected through a rigorous assessment process with independent oversight. The process considered the areas of greatest need. It considered areas where there is currently a shortage of early childhood education places, child development data, socioeconomic data, projected preschool demand and infrastructure feasibility.

Further information on the site selection process, including the site selection probity report and the independent expert reviewers' report, can be found at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/early-childhood-education/operating-an-early-childhood-education-service/current-service-providers/universal-preschool/100-new-public-preschools>

A list of the 100 sites can also be found at the above website.

* 2598 RESIDENTIAL (LAND LEASE) COMMUNITIES ACT 2013 STATUTORY REVIEW—Mr Adam Crouch to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections—

- (1) Can the Minister provide an update on the status of the Residential (Land Lease) Communities Act 2013 Statutory Review
- (2) Can the Minister advise if the Government will implement the 48 recommendations from the statutory review?
 - (a) Can the Minister advise when the recommendations will be introduced for the Act?
 - (b) If not all recommendations are accepted by the Government which specific recommendations will be introduced for the Act?

Answer—

The Government is working to implement the recommendations of the statutory review of the Residential (Land Lease) Communities Act 2013.

* 2599 CENTRAL COAST HIGHWAY AND TUMBI UMBI INTERSECTION UPGRADE—Mr Adam Crouch to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) Can the Minister provide a timeframe on the Review of Environmental Factors for the upgrade of Tumby Umbi and Central Coast Highway intersection?
- (2) With early works now complete at the intersection, can the Minister advise when the next stage of works are due to commence on the upgrade?
- (3) Can the Minister advise if the wider upgrade of the Central Coast Highway is subject to the State Infrastructure Review?
 - (a) If subject to the review, when is the due scheduled to conclude?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) The Review of Environmental Factors for the upgrade of Tumby Umbi and Central Coast Highway intersection was displayed during October and November 2021 and, the submissions report was published in June 2022. These documents are available on the project website.
- (2) Transport for NSW advises that the project is subject to approval and release of Federal funding via the Federal project and funding approval process. The project has finished early work on site and is preparing to go to tender for the main work in 2024.

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- (3) In April 2023, the NSW Government commissioned an independent expert, Ken Kanofski, to undertake a review of the States infrastructure program - the Strategic Infrastructure Review. The Review was commissioned in response to significant challenges facing the NSW infrastructure program, driven by substantial cost escalation, the ongoing impacts of Covid-19 and the need for fairer distribution of investment.

The Reviews findings informed the 2023-24 NSW State Budget.

* 2600 GREYHOUND TRACK UPGRADE TENDER PROCESS—Mr Philip Donato to ask the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, and Minister for the Central Coast—

- (1) Has Greyhound Racing NSW spent Government money upgrading tracks in New South Wales?
- (2) Is further spending planned?
- (3) Regarding the awarding of contracts to the firm Heavy Industry Solutions in Lithgow, Nowra and Taree:
 - (a) What was the winning tender amount for each site and how did they compare (in financial outgoings) to unsuccessful tenders?

Answer—

- (1) A list of projects funded through the NSW Government's Greyhound Capital Grants Program is available at www.nsw.gov.au/office-of-racing/funding-programs
- (2) Greyhound Capital Grants Program funding remains available for allocation to projects. Project applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis in accordance with conditions set out in the Greyhound Racing NSW Operating Licence.
- (3) The awarding of contracts for the Lithgow, Nowra and Taree projects is a matter for Greyhound Racing NSW. No funding from the Greyhound Capital Grants Program has been allocated to these projects.

* 2601 LOCAL SMALL COMMITMENTS ALLOCATION (LSCA)—Mr Mark Hodges to ask the Premier—

- (1) With respect to the Response given as to Question 1263 could the Premier please provide an update as to the following matters:
 - (a) Can you please provide an update as to when each application was submitted pursuant to the Local Small Commitments Allocation (LSCA) Program, in respect to projects within the Castle Hill Electorate?
 - (b) Can you please provide an update as to the progress of the assessment for each project within the Castle Hill Electorate?

Answer—

This question is a matter for the Special Minister of State.

* 2602 CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW HIGH SCHOOL IN CASTLE HILL ELECTORATE—Mr Mark Hodges to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Can the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education provide an update as to whether any land has been identified as suitable for the construction of a new High School within the Castle Hill Electorate?
 - (a) If so, what is the location of the land?

Answer—

After years of neglect under the previous Liberal and Nationals Government, the NSW Government is planning for the future needs of growing areas. The Department of Education is doing planning work to meet projected secondary school enrolment demand across NSW.

* 2603 SALE OF LAND WITHIN THE CASTLE HILL ELECTORATE AND THE KELLYVILLE ELECTORATE—Mr Mark Hodges to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

(1) Can the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education advise whether the Government has made a decision during this term of Government to sell or dispose of any land located within the Castle Hill or Kellyville electorates which is under the control of the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education?

(a) If so, what is the location of the land?

Answer—

The Department of Education has advised that information relating to disposals of land will continue to be included in its annual reports.

* 2604 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LIASON OFFICERS—Mr Mark Hodges to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

(1) With respect to each Police Station situated within the North-West Metropolitan Region can you please advise:

(a) The authorised strength for Domestic Violence Liaison Officers current on 19 March 2024?

(b) The actual strength for Domestic Violence Liaison Officers current on 19 March 2024?

(2) Does the Government have any plans to increase the number of Domestic Violence Liaison Officers?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) (a)-(b) Police Officers are generally allocated to Police Area Commands (PACs), Police Districts (PDs) or Specialist Commands, not to individual police stations. All police positions attached to PACs and PDs are flexible resources available to respond to incidents across the district/area.

All local resources are supplemented by specialist police (highway patrol, major crime squads, covert resources, etc) who are managed centrally and can be deployed across boundaries to meet changing community needs and respond to changing crime patterns and emerging issues.

Domestic Violence Officer numbers for North West Metropolitan Region PACs effective 19 March 2024 are:

- Blacktown PAC:
Authorised Police Positions: 1
Police Officer Headcount: 2
- Blue Mountains PAC:
Authorised Police Positions: 1
Police Officer Headcount: 1
- Hawkesbury PAC:
Authorised Police Positions: 2

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Police Officer Headcount: 2

- Kuring-Gai PAC:
Authorised Police Positions: 1
Police Officer Headcount: 1
- Mt Druitt PAC:
Authorised Police Positions: 2
Police Officer Headcount: 2
- Nepean PAC:
Authorised Police Positions: 2
Police Officer Headcount: 2
- North Shore PAC:
Authorised Police Positions: 2
Police Officer Headcount: 1
- Northern Beaches PAC:
Authorised Police Positions: 2
Police Officer Headcount: 2
- Parramatta PAC:
Authorised Police Positions: 2
Police Officer Headcount: 2
- Riverstone PAC:
Authorised Police Positions: 1
Police Officer Headcount: 1
- Ryde PAC:
Authorised Police Positions: 1
Police Officer Headcount: 1
- The Hills PAC:
Authorised Police Positions: 1
Police Officer Headcount: 1

Note: Domestic Violence Operatives, Domestic Violence Team Leaders and other Domestic Violence related supporting roles in specialist commands are not included in the above numbers. All Domestic and Family Violence Coordinators are Authorised Administrative positions. The Domestic Violence Registry also provides significant domestic and family violence support to commands across New South Wales.

- (2) Authorised Domestic Violence Officer positions are supplemented by additional police available to respond to domestic and family violence incidents across the NSW Police Force. Numbers of police deployed to enhance the specialist response to domestic and family violence can fluctuate daily in response to crime trends based on operational intelligence and where they are needed most to keep NSW safe.

* 2605 HIGHWAY PATROL OFFICERS—Mr Mark Hodges to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

(1) With respect to each Police Station situated within the North-West Metropolitan Region can you please advise:

(a) The authorised strength for Highway Patrol Officers current on 19 March 2024?

(b) The actual strength for Highway Patrol Officers current on 19 March 2024?

(2) Does the Government have any plans to increase the number of Highway Patrol Officers?

Answer—

I am advised:

Police numbers for Traffic and Highway Patrol Command in North West Metropolitan Region effective 24 March 2024 are:

- Authorised Police Positions: 124

- Police Officer Headcount: 114

All police positions are flexible resources available to respond to incidents across the district. They can be deployed across boundaries to meet changing community needs and respond to crime patterns and emerging issues.

The NSW Government is committed to ensuring the NSW Police Force has the resources needed to keep the community safe.

* 2606 PARKING AT METRO STATIONS—Mr Mark Hodges to ask the Minister for Transport—

(1) What action, if any, if being taken by the Government to increase parking for commuters at the following Metro Stations:

(a) Castle Hill?

(b) Castle Hill Showground?

(c) Cherrybrook?

Answer—

I am advised

I refer to LA 1815.

* 2607 NATIVE LOGGING IN NEW SOUTH WALES—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

What plans does the Government currently have in relation to native logging in New South Wales?

Answer—

(1) The NSW Government will work with industry, workers and environmental stakeholders to develop a roadmap for the future of sustainable forestry and forest-based industries across the state. More detail on the scope, timing and process for the Forestry Industry Action Plan will be released by the NSW Government imminently.

* 2608 BUS ROUTE CANCELLATIONS - RYDE—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Transport—

(1) How many times have bus routes in the Ryde electorate experienced double cancellations (two in row) in the past 12 months?

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- (2) On which route(s) is this occurrence most prevalent?
- (3) Is the Government planning on introducing incentive/disincentive measures to ameliorate the number of double cancellations that occur in the network?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) In the period between February 2023 to January 2024, from the 923,398 bus trips that were scheduled to operate in the Ryde electorate, there were 943 trips cancelled consecutively. This equates to 0.10% of scheduled trips.
- (2) The top 5 bus routes impacted are the 575, 500x, 550, 292 and 288. These are high frequency routes that carry passengers to and from transport hubs located across Sydney. Bus operators monitor operations in real time to ensure trips operate as scheduled, prioritising school and low frequency routes.
- (3) Bus operators are measured on trip cancellation performance as part of their contract key performance indicators. When this tolerance level has not been met, there are financial abatements in place. Transport for NSW and contracted bus operators are working to reduce the occurrence of trip cancellation with consecutive trip cancellation only being acceptable as a last resort.

- * 2609 LANE INCREASES ALONG T9 NORTHERN LINE—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Transport—

Does the Government have any plans to increase the number of late-night train services from the Sydney CBD along the T9 Northern Line?

Answer—

I am advised

Services on the T9 Northern Line currently operate every 15 minutes during the late-night period which is consistent with most other lines on the heavy rail network. There are currently no plans to increase late-night service levels on the T9 Northern Line.

- * 2610 WEST RYDE SYDNEY WATER OPERATIONAL FACILITY—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

- (1) What are the details of the operational upgrades being completed at the West Ryde Sydney Water operational facility?
- (2) What do the Government's plans for a new laboratory facility at the West Ryde Sydney Water operational facility entail?

Answer—

I am advised that Sydney Water is currently considering its options relating to a longer-term strategy for the aging laboratory facility at West Ryde. This is currently in the detailed Business Case stage with a number of options being reviewed.

- * 2611 SOCIAL HOUSING ACCELERATOR FUND—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

When will details of the specific project(s) to be funded in the Social Housing Accelerator Fund in the Ryde electorate be determined and announced?

Answer—

I am advised:

Homes NSW, through the Social Housing Accelerator Fund, are developing a range of projects and social and affordable housing across NSW.

Our first priority is getting vulnerable people in homes. The former Government had a record of leaving so many homes vacant, and it's something that Homes NSW is working to fix every day.

Considering the NSW Government's first priority, these projects will be announced in due course.

- * 2612 RYDE HOSPITAL BIRTHING UNIT RUNNING COSTS—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

What were the year on year running costs of the Ryde Hospital birthing unit for each year it was in operation?

Answer—

I'm advised:

In 2019, under the previous government, birthing services were transferred from Ryde Hospital to Royal North Shore Hospital due to staffing shortages.

A review of data at that time showed a decline in the number of women in the local area who were choosing to birth under the midwifery group practice model of care at Ryde Hospital, and who were meeting the criteria for a low-risk pregnancy and birth.

Women can receive antenatal care from the North Shore Ryde Midwifery Group Practice at Ryde Hospital from a midwife, and post-natal care in their home with their midwife. Birthing care takes place at Royal North Shore Hospital with the North Shore Ryde Midwifery Group Practice midwife.

This model of care provides women with midwifery continuity of care and during birth enables access to obstetricians, Anaesthetists, or transfer of their baby into the Royal North Shore Hospital nursery if required.

- * 2613 EXTENDING BUS LANES—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Transport—

(1) What plans does the Government have to improve and extend bus lanes between West Ryde and both the Eastern Harbour City and Central River city?

(a) What is the estimated cost of these works?

(b) When are they likely to commence and conclude?

(c) What consultation has or will take place as this plan is progressed?

Answer—

I am advised

In March 2023, Transport for NSW announced a proposal for potential short, medium, and long-term options to enhance public transport, to support growth on Victoria Road and the corridor's urban transformation.

Transport for NSW has committed to rebalancing road space for people to change the way they travel, providing better access to, and increasing public transport services along the Victoria Road corridor. Offset lanes improve bus reliability and efficiency by easing interference caused by buses stopping at bus zones and vehicles turning left along the route. Bus priority measures are consistent with the future vision for the Victoria Road corridor.

Transport for NSW has recently installed the following:

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- converted the existing T3 lane on Victoria Road across the Gladesville Bridge from Huntleys Point Road to Seymour Street, Drummoyne in October 2022.
- a citybound offset bus lane (second lane from the kerb) on Victoria Road between Terry Street and Robert Street in Rozelle in November 2023. The new bus lane replaces the existing kerbside bus lane along this route and will be operational 24 hours.
- an outbound bus lane on Victoria Road, Rozelle between Quirk Street and Club Street, in November 2023, which operates from 6am-10am and 3pm to 7pm Monday to Friday.
- extension of a bus lane on Victoria Road, Ermington (westbound) between Maling Avenue and 90 metres west of Spurway Street, which operates from 3pm-7pm, was installed in December 2023.
- extension of a bus lane on Victoria Road, Melrose Park (westbound) between Cobham Avenue and Hughes Avenue in December 2023.
- extension of a bus lane on Lyons Road, Drummoyne (citybound) between Bayswater Street and Marlborough Street, which operates from 6am-10am and 3pm to 7pm Monday to Friday, in December 2023.

Transport for NSW has also undertaken early investigation works for bus priority improvement initiatives in both the West Ryde and Gladesville Town Centres.

Transport for NSW recognises every community is different and partnering with local government, representatives of Country, industry, and community ensure the revitalisation aligns with local needs and aspirations.

- * 2614 VICTORIA ROAD WIDENING—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

When does the Minister anticipate having a preferred project option from the suggestions offered by the Victoria Road widening strategic assessment?

Answer—

I am advised

There was not a preferred option identified to progress after the strategic assessment.

- * 2615 REFERRAL OF PREGNANT WOMEN TO ALTERNATIVE EMERGENCY CARE FACILITIES—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

In the last 12 months, how many pregnant women have been referred from public hospitals to alternative emergency care facilities to give birth?

Answer—

I'm advised:

This information is not held centrally.

The NSW Government is committed to ensuring pregnant women receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time, as close to home as possible.

Maternity care in NSW is delivered through a tiered perinatal network structure which provides access to higher level care when needed. The tiered perinatal networks also support non-birthing services and private maternity facilities in their designated network.

For women living in rural or remote communities who need urgent or emergency care, these networks provide a pathway to a higher level of maternity and neonatal care as required.

- * 2616 PUBLIC SPACES (UNATTENDED PROPERTY) ACT 2021—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Local Government—

Regarding the Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021 and the accompanying Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Regulation 2022:

- (1) How many penalty infringement notices have been issued to retailers who have not moved abandoned shopping trolley/s as instructed?
- (2) Did any of these penalties compound for additional trolleys?
- (3) Were any of these penalties issued to retailers located within the Tweed Electorate?

Answer—

Under the Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021, local Councils are the authority responsible for issuing fines.

I am advised that as at 4 April 2024, Revenue NSW data indicates the following penalty infringement notices have been issued for Class 2 items -shopping trolleys, shared bikes and shared scooters -since the introduction of the Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021.

Total number of penalty infringement notices issued for Class 2 items 1 Nov 2022 – 4 April 2024	230
Penalty infringement notices issued for additional (compounding) Class 2 items 1 Nov 2022 – 4 April 2024	67
Penalty infringement notices issued for Class 2 items – Tweed Shire Council 1 Nov 2022 – 4 April 2024	0

- * 2617 NCAT RULING ON LANDLORDS OUTSIDE OF NSW—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections—

Regarding the ruling by the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) that it cannot make an order in cases where a landlord resides outside New South Wales:

- (1) What action are you taking to resolve this issue given the impact on Tweed tenants who rent from landlords who reside over the border in Queensland?

Answer—

I am advised:

This question should be referred to the Attorney General.

- * 2618 GRAFFITI CONTROL ACT 2008—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Attorney General—

Regarding the Graffiti Control Act 2008 (NSW) and graffiti-related offences committed within the Tweed Electorate (by postcode if information is not held by Electorate):

- (1) How many convictions have resulted in a fine (specifying the nature of the offence) in the following timeframes:
 - (a) 2023?
 - (b) 2022?
 - (c) 2021?
- (2) How many convictions have resulted in a community service order, instead of a fine in the following timeframes:

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- (a) 2023?
- (b) 2022?
- (c) 2021?
- (3) How many convictions have resulted in a driver licence order or demerit points in the following timeframes:
 - (a) 2023?
 - (b) 2022?
 - (c) 2021?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The number of proven charges under the Graffiti Control Act 2008 with a fine as the principal penalty are:
 - (a) 2023: two proven charges for the following offences –
 - s 4 (2) Intentionally mark premises etc without consent - 1 proven charge.
 - s 4 (1) Intentionally mark premises etc without prescribed consent - 1 proven charge.
 - (b) 2022: five proven charges for the following offences -
 - s 4(1) Intentionally mark premises etc without prescribed consent - 2 proven charges.
 - S 4(2) Intentionally mark premises etc without consent - 1 proven charge.
 - s 5(1) Possess graffiti implement with intent to contravene – 2 proven charges.
 - (c) 2021: one proven charge for the following offence -
 - s 4(1) Intentionally mark premises etc without prescribed consent - 1 proven charge.
- (2) Community Service Orders were repealed in September 2018. Data on Community Clean-up Orders as a principal penalty is also not available as they are always secondary penalties.
- (3) BOCSAR does not have data on demerit points. Data on driver licence orders are also not available in BOCSAR's public data as they are not the principal penalty for an offence.

* 2619 HALL AT LANE COVE PUBLIC SCHOOL—The Hon. Anthony Roberts to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Minister, it has now been close to a year since the construction of the Hall at Lane Cove Public School has been halted, can you please explain why work has not resumed and why you have allowed for this delay to occur?

Answer—

As has been advised publicly by the Department of Education, this project is set to recommence this month, after the original contractor, appointed by the former Liberal Government, went into voluntary administration.

The Minns Government is committed to delivering the new school hall as soon as possible.

* 2620 CONNECTING SENIORS GRANT PROGRAM—The Hon. Leslie Williams to ask the Minister for Women, Minister for Seniors, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault—

- (1) Is the Government funding the Connecting Seniors Grant Program in 2024/25?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

The outcomes of the 2024/25 budget will be announced in June.

- * 2621 REGIONAL RAIL FLEET—The Hon. Leslie Williams to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

What is the timeline for the delivery of the new Regional Rail fleet of trains to replace the current XPT, Endeavour and Xplorer services?

Answer—

I am advised

Production of the new Regional Rail fleet is underway. The Regional Rail fleet consists of 29 new trains, including 117 carriages, forming 10 regional intercity, nine short regional and 10 long regional trains. The first train arrived at Mindyarra Maintenance Centre in February 2024.

Major work to build the Mindyarra Maintenance Centre in Dubbo has been completed, with some work continuing, including installation of key equipment, building fit-out and landscaping.

Some rail infrastructure will need to be upgraded to accommodate the new fleet and to improve customer experience. Planning and investigations are underway to determine the final scope of work for the Rail Infrastructure Upgrades project.

A timeline for train entry into service will be confirmed once they have progressed through testing and the relevant verifications on the NSW and Australian rail networks.

- * 2622 ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH PATIENTS AT PORT MACQUARIE BASE HOSPITAL—The Hon. Leslie Williams to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

(1) How many adolescent patients presented at Port Macquarie Base Hospital in the past 12 months seeking treatment for mental health issues?

(a) Of those presentations, how many adolescent patients were admitted to the hospital's mental health unit?

Answer—

I'm advised:

As this matter falls under the portfolio of the Minister for Mental Health, this question should be referred to Minister Jackson.

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- * 2623 BIOTOXIN-RELATED ILLNESSES—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

(1) What recommendations made in the Parliament of Australia Standing Committee on Health and Aged Care's Report on the Inquiry into Biotoxin-related Illnesses in Australia, October 2018, have been implemented by the Government?

(2) Could you please provide an update in respect of the implementation of each of the Recommendations relevant to the Government / States?

(3) What action is the Government taking to protect the community from fungal pathogens and infections and address the growing issues of invasive fungal disease and antifungal resistance?

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- (4) How does the Government monitor and enforce mould remediation and mould clean-up of known mould contaminated indoor environments?
- (5) What policies does the Government have in place to meet the World Health Organisations guidelines for indoor air quality in relation to dampness and mould?
- (6) Does the Government have any plans to implement policies in response to the World health Organisation's 'WHO's fungal priority pathogens list to guide research, development and public health action' -which was published in October 2023?
- (7) What agency (or agencies) of NSW Health is responsible for research, prevention and remediation efforts regarding mould and mycotoxin health risks?
- (8) What funding is provided or invested so that NSW Health workers can become leaders in mycotoxin research and clinical treatment developments in our public health system?

Answer—

I'm advised:

The Australian Government is responsible for recommendations from the Commonwealth Inquiry.

NSW Health provides advice to the community about health impacts of poor indoor and outdoor air quality. NSW Health has no regulatory responsibility for indoor air quality, mould remediation and clean up. NSW Health manages fungal pathogens in patients on a case-by-case basis.

Public Health Units provide community advice to help prevention and remediation of mould. NSW Health has leading researchers who study infectious pathogens and high-quality research infrastructure.

Several competitive research grant programs are available to which biotoxin researchers may be eligible to apply, subject to applicable criteria.

* 2624 CONNECT SYDNEY - MONA VALE ROAD MAINTENANCE—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

- (1) What is the exact number of times staff of the relevant asset management contractor, Connect Sydney, attended Mona Vale Road between Pittwater Road and Forest Way to conduct maintenance works between 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023.
- (2) What policies are in place to keep contractors accountable for conducting routine maintenance and asset management works?
- (3) On how many days between 11 March 2024 and 31 December 2024 (or the latest date for which a timetable has been made) is maintenance work scheduled to occur on Mona Vale Road between Pittwater Road and Forest Way?
- (4) What is the exact number of times staff of the relevant asset management contractor, Connect Sydney, attended the Wakehurst Parkway to conduct maintenance works between 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023.
- (5) On how many days between 11 March 2024 and 31 December 2024 (or the latest date for which a timetable has been made) is maintenance work scheduled to occur on the Wakehurst Parkway?
- (6) What is the exact number of times staff of the relevant asset management contractor, Connect Sydney, attended Pittwater Road to conduct maintenance works between 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023.
- (7) On how many days between 11 March 2024 and 31 December 2024 (or the latest date for which a schedule has been made) is maintenance work scheduled to occur on Pittwater Road?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Between 01 January 2023 and 31 December 2023, ConnectSydney, on behalf of Transport for NSW, completed 77 maintenance activities on Mona Vale Road between Pittwater Road and Forest Way.
- (2) Transport for NSW undertakes assurance activities to ensure our maintenance contractors are meeting the maintenance requirements. This includes regular asset inspections and review of works undertaken both desktop and onsite. ConnectSydney, on behalf of Transport for NSW, inspects the abovementioned roads monthly, to identify defects and schedule required repairs. Ad hoc inspections and maintenance are also undertaken in response to customer feedback.
- (3) Since 11 March 2024, ConnectSydney, on behalf of Transport for NSW, completed 3 maintenance activities on Mona Vale Road between Pittwater Road and Forest Way. ConnectSydney does not maintain Mona Vale Road, Wakehurst Parkway or Pittwater Road on a schedule. Maintenance is conducted reactively in response to defects identified by customer reports and defects identified by asset inspectors who drive the network monthly.
- (4) Between 01 January 2023 and 31 December 2023, ConnectSydney, on behalf of Transport for NSW, completed 117 maintenance activities on Wakehurst Parkway.
- (5) Since 11 March 2024, ConnectSydney, on behalf of Transport for NSW, completed 1 maintenance activity on Wakehurst Parkway. ConnectSydney does not maintain Mona Vale Road, Wakehurst Parkway or Pittwater Road on a schedule. Maintenance is conducted reactively in response to defects identified by customer reports and defects identified by asset inspectors who drive the network monthly.
- (6) Between 01 January 2023 and 31 December 2023, ConnectSydney, on behalf of Transport for NSW, completed 251 maintenance activities on Pittwater Road.
- (7) Since 11 March 2024, ConnectSydney, on behalf of Transport for NSW, completed 2 maintenance activities on Pittwater Road. ConnectSydney does not maintain Mona Vale Road, Wakehurst Parkway or Pittwater Road on a schedule. Maintenance is conducted reactively in response to defects identified by customer reports and defects identified by asset inspectors who drive the network monthly.

* 2625 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INQUIRY INTO THE LAND VALUATION SYSTEM—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections—

Could the Minister please provide an update in respect of each of the 29 recommendations made by the Joint Standing Committee on the Office of the Valuer General's Inquiry into the land valuation system report tabled on 2 May 2013?

Answer—

I am advised:

This question should be referred to the Minister for Lands and Property.

* 2626 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE REPAIR INDUSTRY REPORT—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections—

Could the Minister please provide an update on the status of implementing each of the 21 recommendations of the Select Committee on Motor Vehicle Repair Industry Report tabled on 2 July 2014?

Answer—

I am advised:

The former Government's response to this inquiry can be found on the NSW Parliament website.

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The NSW Government passed the Motor Dealers and Repairers Amendment Bill in October 2023, implementing the recommendations of the 2020 statutory review of the Motor Dealers and Repairers Act 2013 that were not implemented by the former government.

- * 2627 HOMELESSNESS STATISTICS—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

Could the Minister please advise:

- (1) The exact number of homeless people recorded in each of the following postcodes 2084, 2097, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108 for the following years:
 - (a) 2011-2012?
 - (b) 2012-2013?
 - (c) 2013-2014?
 - (d) 2014-2015?
 - (e) 2015-2016?
 - (f) 2016-2017?
 - (g) 2017-2018?
 - (h) 2018-2019?
 - (i) 2019-2020?
 - (j) 2020-2021?
 - (k) 2021-2022?
 - (l) 2022-2023?
- (2) What programs and funding has the Government provided to postcodes 2084, 2097, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108 to support those experiencing homelessness?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) data is provided at a Local Government Area (LGA) level. The postcodes provided all fall within the Northern Beaches LGA. Homelessness data is available via: [Specialist Homelessness Services Collection data cubes 2011–12 to 2022–23, Specialist Homelessness Services Collection \(SHSC\) data cubes - Australian Institute of Health and Welfare \(aihw.gov.au\)](https://www.aihw.gov.au/data/collections/specialist-homelessness-services-collection)

During the 2014/15 reporting period, changes were made to the Client Management Systems (CMS) to prompt data providers to report mandatory data items. This included the introduction of collecting data on the location of the client in the week before presenting to a SHS agency. Therefore, data at the LGA level before 2014/15 is not available.

- (2) In 2023/24, the NSW Government allocated \$444.4 million to deliver a range of homelessness services across NSW, including Specialist Homelessness Services and NSW Homelessness Strategy initiatives.

Details about the programs delivered by SHSs is publicly available via:

<https://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/housing/help/ways/services>

* 2628 POWERS OF ICAC—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Premier—

- (1) Could the Premier please advise the Government's response to the United Nations Human Rights Commission ruling on *Kazal v Australia*, in relation to the powers of the ICAC tribunal to report when individuals 'could' have broken the law?
- (2) Could the Premier please advise what legislative and procedural changes it currently plans to adopt to ensure that ICAC and New South Wales comply with Australia's obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government is considering the views of the United Nations Human Rights Committee and will work closely with the Commonwealth Government on Australia's response.

The Government continues to support the important work of the Independent Commission Against Corruption to expose and fight corrupt conduct.

* 2629 GOVERNMENT SPEND BY AIRLINE—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources—

- (1) Could the Minister please advise the total dollar amount paid by all Government agencies or entities to each of the following airlines for flights (in respect of travel by all employees, including Members of Parliament) in each of the following financial years:
 - (a) Qantas:
 - (i) 2017/18?
 - (ii) 2018/19?
 - (iii) 2019/20?
 - (iv) 2020/21?
 - (v) 2021/22?
 - (vi) 2022/23?
 - (vii) 1 July 2023 to the most recent date for which records are available?
 - (b) Virgin:
 - (i) 2017/18?
 - (ii) 2018/19?
 - (iii) 2019/20?
 - (iv) 2020/21?
 - (v) 2021/22?
 - (vi) 2022/23?
 - (vii) 1 July 2023 to the most recent date for which records are available?
 - (c) Jetstar?
 - (i) 2017/18?
 - (ii) 2018/19?
 - (iii) 2019/20?

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- (iv) 2020/21?
- (v) 2021/22?
- (vi) 2022/23?
- (vii) 1 July 2023 to the most recent date for which records are available?

Answer—

I am advised that travel related expenses can be found in NSW Government Department annual reports.

Contracts over \$150,000 are published on the NSW Government e-Tendering website.

* 2630 APPARENT FAILURE TO VOTE NOTICES—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

- (1) Could you please provide the exact number of ‘apparent failure to vote notices’ were issued to individuals in the following postcodes and could you please provide exact figures by postcode: 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2084 for the 2023 New South Wales State Election?

- (a) How many of these notices were resolved without payment of any fine?

Answer—

The NSW Electoral Commission has provided the following advice in response to the questions:

Postcode	Number of apparent failure to vote notices	Resolved without payment of a fine (excused or otherwise not pursued)	Resolved by payment of a fine	Referred to Revenue NSW (outcome not advised)
2084	194	91	47	56
2101	1,019	407	170	442
2102	328	151	54	123
2103	489	247	68	174
2104	160	89	23	48
2105	128	73	17	38
2106	523	235	79	209
2107	858	421	118	319
2108	102	44	19	39

* 2631 ESTABLISHING A DIALYSIS UNIT AT MONA VALE HOSPITAL—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

- (1) Does the Government have any current plans to establish a dialysis unit to treat chronic renal failure at Mona Vale Hospital?
 - (a) If yes, what is the expected timeline on delivery of the unit?
 - (b) If no, please advise the Government’s reasoning for not funding this unit?
- (2) What references are made to expanding renal dialysis treatment availability in the Northern Sydney Local Health District strategic plans?

Answer—

I'm advised:

The Renal Dialysis Service meets demand for residents by providing 12 chairs for public and private patients at Northern Beaches Hospital. If patients are unable to access dialysis services at Northern Beaches, they are directed to Royal North Shore Hospital for treatment. There are no current plans to implement renal dialysis services at Mona Vale Hospital.

* 2632 STANDARDISED FLOOD STUDY METHODOLOGY—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

- (1) Does the Government have a standardised methodology for flood studies carried out by councils throughout the state?
- (2) Does the Government provide councils with data that is used in the flood study models?
- (3) What support is available to people who have had the planning certificates notations on their properties amended following the results of a flood study?
- (4) How many properties have had their certificate notations amended due to the overland flood study in:
 - (a) New South Wales?
 - (b) Sutherland Shire Local Government Area?
 - (c) Liverpool Local Government Area?
- (5) Does the Government have plans to standardise the frequency and regularity of flood studies to be undertaken by local councils?
- (6) Does the Government have plans to advertise for consultation periods on flood studies?
- (7) Why was a 0.5m freeboard selected in the Sutherland Shire Overland Flood Study and not a 0.3m freeboard?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1)-(2) This is a question for the Minister for the Environment.

(3)-(4) This is a question for individual local councils.

(5)-(7) This is a question for the Minister for the Environment.

* 2633 PAYROLL TAX THRESHOLDS—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources—

With regards to payroll tax thresholds:

- (1) Can the Minister advise how many businesses became exempt of payroll tax after the threshold increased from \$900 000 to \$1 200 000 starting in the 2020/21 financial year in:
 - (a) Sutherland Shire Local Government Area?
 - (b) Liverpool Local Government Area?

Answer—

Revenue NSW does not hold data by Local Government Area.

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* 2634 RESIGNATIONS OF TEACHERS - LIVERPOOL BOYS AND GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL MERGER—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Since the announcement that Liverpool Girls High School and Liverpool Boys High School will be merged, can the Minister advise how many staff resignations have occurred in each school?

Answer—

There have been no staff resignations at either school since the announcement was made.

I can also advise that there are fewer permanent teacher vacancies across both schools at the start of the 2024 school year compared to the same time in 2023, when the former Liberal National Government was in the office.

I can also advise that all teachers at Liverpool Girls High School and Liverpool Boys High School have been provided the biggest pay rise in a generation, which the Member for Holsworthy has not publicly supported.

* 2635 AUTHORITY OF ENERGY PROVIDERS—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

- (1) Can the Minister advise whether energy providers have the authority to turn off entire townships, including petrol stations, hospitals, and supermarkets, for maintenance purposes?

(a) If so, is there a capped number of hours?

Answer—

- (1) The National Energy Retail Rules (NERR) outline an energy distributor's right to interrupt supply for planned and unplanned interruptions, including maintenance. The NERR does not limit types of energy users to which interruptions may apply.

Additionally, section 52 of the Electricity Supply Act 1995 (NSW) outlines the obligations for "Interruption to electricity supply for maintenance" by network operators or retailers in NSW.

(a) Under the NERR there is no cap on the number of hours for supply interruptions. However, distributors must use their best endeavours to restore a customer's supply as soon as possible.

* 2636 LOCAL LAND SERVICES RATES—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

- (1) As a percentage, what was the increase in Local Land Services Rates for Regional and Rural New South Wales in 2024?

(a) Can the Minister please advise why there has been such an increase?

- (2) Can the Minister advise whether properties will benefit from the rate rise through increased services, including pest and weed control programs?

(a) If so, can the Minister advise how these services will be increased, relevant to the Local Government Areas in the Barwon electorate?

Answer—

- (1) The Local Land Services Board is responsible for setting Local Land Services rates. Rates are accounted for on a financial year basis; the CPI at the start of the current financial year was 6.6%, and rates increased by an average of \$26 or 6.5%.

- (2) LLS rates help to fund our biosecurity, animal health and emergency work, which includes:

- coordinating and supporting landholders to control pests and legal obligations
- LLS vets' animal health programs
- supporting agriculture and animals during emergencies
- supporting stock identification systems.

These are crucial services to land holders right across the Barwon electorate.

* 2637 SERVICE NSW - BPAY—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

- (1) Can the Minister advise why the details for BPAY are no longer printed on customer bills issued by Service NSW?
- (2) Can the Minister advise how customers wishing to pay using BPAY should contact Service NSW if there is not a centre located in their area?
 - (a) Will details of BPAY codes and customer reference numbers be provided to customers over the phone?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Service NSW does not issue customer bills. These are issued by partner agencies, some of which may include BPAY details on the bills. Details included on customer bills and notices such as payment options are determined by the partner agency responsible for the individual transaction.
- (2) Some bills and notices which do not include BPAY details may include instructions on how to obtain BPAY details. Customers can also obtain information about BPAY options by calling Service NSW on 13 77 88.
 - (a) In some circumstances BPAY codes and customer reference numbers can be accessed by customers over the phone from Service NSW. For example, motor vehicle registration renewal BPAY details may be available over the phone, dependent upon CTP Green Slip and Pink Slip requirements being met and Proof of Identity being validated via an automated system.

* 2638 LOCAL SPORT DEFIBRILLATOR GRANT PROGRAM—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

Regarding the Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program which is aimed at providing Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) and associated equipment to NSW sport and recreation facilities and clubs:

- (1) Are some regional areas being excluded from this program?
 - (a) If so, can you please list these areas?
- (2) Are the following areas being excluded from the program?:
 - (a) 2727 Adjungbilly, Bongongo, Coolac?
 - (b) 2588 Wallendbeen?
 - (c) 2726 Jugiong?
 - (d) 2652 Old Junee?
 - (i) If so, why are these areas being excluded from the program?

Answer—

I am advised that:

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- (1) No regions were excluded from this program. Across all regions of the state, eligibility varied according to each postcode's decile ranking in the SEIFA data.

Eligibility criteria for the Program included a requirement that the Automated External Defibrillator must be located in one of the lowest five deciles of the postcode areas as ranked in the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA).

- (a) The Guidelines for the Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program list the eligible postcodes. Any postcode not listed in the Guidelines was ineligible for a grant.

The web link for the Guidelines is

<https://www.sport.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-12/Local-Sport-Defibrillator-Grant-Program-2023-24-guidelines.pdf>

- (2) The specific postcode areas listed in the question (a-d) are not included within the lowest five SEIFA deciles.

* 2639 DOCTORS IN THE COOTAMUNDRA ELECTORATE—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

With respect to Doctors in the Cootamundra Electorate:

- (1) Would the Minister please advise how many Doctors are available across the following Local Government Areas (LGA) and the population of each LGA:

- (a) Bland Shire?
- (b) Coolamon Shire?
- (c) Cowra Shire?
- (d) Cootamundra-Gundagai Region?
- (e) Hilltops Region?
- (f) Junee Shire?
- (g) Narrandera Shire?
- (h) Temora Shire?
- (i) Weddin Shire?

- (2) Of these Doctors:

- (a) How many are located at medical practices?
- (b) How many are located at hospitals / multipurpose service facilities?

Answer—

I'm advised:

Refer to the response to LA 2362.

Local Government Area population data is available on the Australian Government's Centre for Population website at <https://population.gov.au/data-and-forecasts/dashboards/population-local-government-areas>

Information about numbers of doctors employed in private and primary care settings are a matter for the Australian Government.

- * 2640 POPULATION INCREASES IN REGIONAL NEW SOUTH WALES—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

With respect to the increase in population across regional New South Wales:

- (1) Will the Minister advise how many people have moved or relocated to Regional New South Wales since 2016?
- (2) Will the Minister advise what is the plan by the Government to address the lack of housing available across the Cootamundra electorate?
- (3) What is the timeframe for the Government to act on this very important issue?

Answer—

I am advised:

This is a matter for the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces.

In relation to my Housing portfolio, Homes NSW, through the Social Housing Accelerator Fund and the Housing Australia Future Fund, are also developing a range of projects and social and affordable housing across NSW.

- * 2641 METROPOLITAN GREENSPACE PROGRAM—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

With respect to the Metropolitan Greenspace Program (MGP), of which the Government is providing \$3.25 million in grant funding for selected councils for projects such as playgrounds, walking tracks, pedestrian and cycleways, bushland restoration and recreation facilities:

- (1) Would the Minister please advise why this opportunity has not been provided to all councils across New South Wales?
- (2) Would the Minister please explain what support is the Government providing to councils not included in this funding program?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Metropolitan Greenspace Program has been in operation since 1983 under successive governments and the council eligibility criteria for the Program remains the same.

- * 2642 NEW SOUTH WALES HOMELESSNESS—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

With respect to the New South Wales homelessness crisis:

- (1) Will the Minister advise the numbers of homeless people in crisis across the following local government areas 2022-23:
 - (a) Bland Shire?
 - (b) Coolamon Shire?
 - (c) Cowra Shire?
 - (d) Cootamundra -Gundagai Region?
 - (e) Hilltops Region?

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- (f) Junee Shire?
- (g) Narrandera Shire?
- (h) Temora Shire?
- (i) Weddin Shire?
- (2) Will the Minister advise how the Government is committed to driving down homelessness numbers across the Cootamundra electorate?
- (3) Will the Minister advise how and when the Government is going to deliver more and better social housing and increase access to comprehensive support services across all nine local government areas of the Cootamundra electorate?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) data is provided at a Local Government Area (LGA) level and is available via:
<https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/homelessness-services/shsc-data-cubes/contents/data-cubes>
- (2) The NSW Government is committed to addressing the housing and homelessness crisis across all areas of the state, including the Cootamundra electorate. Homelessness should be rare, brief, and not repeated because people have access to safe and secure housing and are provided the support to keep it.

The NSW Government recognises there has been an increase in homelessness over the last 10 years, which was resulted from the former Government's failure to address the housing crisis.

The NSW government is developing a new 10-year Homelessness Strategy that will set out our plans to prevent and respond to homelessness.
- (3) The NSW Government has invested \$224 million as part of the Essential Housing package. Details about this package are available in the NSW Budget. We are also well on track with delivering the \$610m Social Housing Accelerator and recently submitted our bids for the Housing Australia Future Fund Round 1. We are engaged in dialogue with local government about potential sites for social and affordable housing as well as conducting our own NSW Government Land Audit to identify suitable surplus land.

- * 2643 EFFECT OF POWER OUTAGES ON SMALL BUSINESS—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

With respect to power outages, including natural disasters which can have a major effect on regional small business's operational capacity, especially the collection of payments:

- (1) Can the minister outline mitigation strategies in place to counter these occurrences and what support is being offered to regional small business?

Answer—

This question should be directed to the Minister for Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Heritage.

- * 2644 AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

With respect to the response received on 21 November 2023, regarding the Government's commitment to invest \$5.5 million to appoint and support an Agriculture Commissioner:

- (1) Can the minister please advise what support is currently available for farmers to provide more protection for farmland, ensure food security and make for a stronger agricultural industry?

Answer—

The NSW Government is undertaking multiple pieces of work to implement the recommendations of the former Agriculture Commissioner's report "Improving the Prospects for Agriculture and Regional Australia in the NSW Planning System".

- * 2645 TRANSPORT ACROSS THE COOTAMUNDRA ELECTORATE—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

With respect to transport across the Cootamundra electorate:

- (1) What regular public transport is available for residents across the Cootamundra electorate?
- (2) How does the Government plan to increase public transport for residents across the Cootamundra electorate?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) NSW Trainlink provides booked-seat Regional train and coach services across the Cootamundra electorate. Six coach routes serve 28 towns and villages, including Temora, Gundagai, Young, Cowra, Grenfell and West Wyalong. Two train routes serve five towns - Cootamundra, Harden, Junee, Coolamon and Narrandera. The coach routes generally connect with trains at Cootamundra, linking the region with Sydney, Melbourne, Griffith and Canberra. Further information and online bookings can be made at <https://transportnsw.info/regional>

The timetabled bus services available for residents in the Cootamundra electorate from Monday to Friday (except public holidays) are:

- 921 - Junee to Wagga Wagga via Harefield & Wallacetown
- 922 - Junee to Wagga Wagga via Yathella & Wallacetown
- 923 - Junee to Wagga Wagga via Byrnes Road
- 924 - Junee to Wagga Wagga via Wallacetown & Hampden Ave
- 541 - Cowra to West Cowra (Loop Service)
- 543 - Cowra to East Cowra (Loop Service)
- 544 - Cowra to Taragala Street
- 545 - Cowra to Mulyan & North Cowra (Loop Service)

Further information on bus services can be found on www.transportnsw.info

- (2) The Bus Industry Taskforce has recently provided a series of recommendations to deliver better bus services across all of NSW, thereby improving reliability, accessibility and service equity across the state. A program of service adjustment and corridor improvements is proposed to be developed in the Medium Term Bus Plan to guide bus improvements in the next 10 years.

The new Regional train fleet will soon replace the existing XPT and XPLOER fleet that operates services in the electorate. Regional passengers will benefit from improved amenity, accessibility and reliability when travelling by rail.

Transport for NSW is also developing Strategic Regional Integrated Transport Plans for the nine planning regions across NSW. These plans will be developed in collaboration with key stakeholders including relevant councils and aim to guide investment in transport infrastructure and services to support communities.

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- * 2646 WEED ACTION PROGRAM—Ms Steph Cooke to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

With respect to New South Wales Weed Action Program:

- (1) How much will each council in the Cootamundra Electorate be allocated through this program?
- (2) When will councils see their allocation of funding through this program?

Answer—

These questions should be referred to the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales and Minister for Western New South Wales, the Hon Tara Moriarty MLC.

- * 2647 CANCELLATIONS IN BUS REGION 14—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Transport—

In relation to the buses in Region 14, how many services were cancelled during the period:

- (1) 15 February to 29 February 2024?
- (2) 1 March to 14 March 2024?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) During the period of 15 February 2024 to 29 February 2024 (inclusive), there were 753 trips cancelled in Region 14. This equates to 3.2% of the 23,201 scheduled trips.
- (2) During the period of 1 March 2024 to 14 March 2024 (inclusive), there were 689 trips cancelled in Region 14. This equates to 3.2% of the 21,389 scheduled trips.

- * 2648 BUS DRIVER SHORTAGES IN REGION 14—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Transport—

As at March 2024, how many bus drivers short is Region 14?

Answer—

I am advised

At commencement of a new timetable on 31 March 2024, Region 14 has a shortage of 18 bus drivers against the requirement for the new adjusted timetable. This equates to 6.8% of the driver requirement.

- * 2649 TRANSPORT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT STATE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING POLICY - DISTANCES FROM STATIONS—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

- (1) In relation to the Transport Oriented Development Program SEPP, are the proposed planning controls within 400 metres of 31 stations:
 - (a) A walking distance from the station entrance(s)?
 - (b) A radius from:
 - (i) The station entrance(s)?
 - (ii) The end of the station platform?

Answer—

I am advised:

Under the proposed Transport Oriented Development SEPP, the 400m radius is to be measured from station coordinates provided by Transport for NSW.

* 2650 CITY WEST HOUSING HOLDINGS LTD—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces representing the Treasurer—

- (1) What evidence or policy base and/or advice formed the basis for your decision to, as an Ordinary Shareholder in City West Housing Holdings Ltd ('CWH'), approve changes to the class rights of CWH?

Answer—

Following advice from CWH that outlined how it could increase its portfolio, Treasury engaged external commercial and legal advisers to do a strategic review. The review report identified a range of structures that could drive better housing outcomes for the people of NSW.

The preferred recommendation was a revised governance structure that requires changes to the class rights of CWH. This would be an enhanced corporate structure typical of a Community Housing Provider (i.e. company limited by guarantee).

The new fit-for-purpose structure has been approved by the requisite number of shareholders.

* 2651 INCREASE IN AIRCRAFT NOISE OVER NEWTOWN—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Can you please provide any advice you have received from the appropriate Federal body(/ies) in relation to:
- (a) What specific measures are in place to monitor and assess aircraft noise levels over the Newtown electorate?
 - (b) A comparative analysis of recent aircraft noise levels over the Newtown electorate against data from previous years?
 - (c) What consultations have been conducted with local residents regarding the impact of an observed increase in aircraft noise over the Newtown electorate?
 - (i) What, if any, actions have been taken in response to their concerns?
 - (d) Whether there are any plans to conduct a contemporary review of the Sydney Airport Long Term Operating Plan, developed in 1996-97 and last reviewed in 2005-06?

Answer—

I am advised

This is a matter for the Federal Government.

* 2652 LAND TAX EXEMPTION FOR LAND USED AND OCCUPIED PRIMARILY FOR LOW-COST ACCOMMODATION—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces representing the Treasurer—

- (1) What policy and/or evidence base informed ruling number LT-116 under the Land Tax Management Act 1956 (NSW), which grants a land tax exemption for land used to provide low-cost rental accommodation within a 5 kilometre radius of 1 Martin Place, Sydney?
- (a) Specifically:
- (i) On what basis was this radius selected?
 - (ii) Are any other geographic locations subject to similar rulings?
 - (iii) Is there any intention to implement similar rulings in relation to other geographic locations?
- (2) In each year since the ruling (and its antecedents) was handed down:

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- (a) How many properties have been subject to a full exemption under the ruling?
- (b) How many properties have been subject to a partial exemption under the ruling?
- (c) What is the total value of land tax foregone under the ruling?

Answer—

- (1) (a)
 - (i) This radius assists with the availability of low-cost accommodation in the Sydney central business district.
 - (ii) I am advised this question is more appropriately directed to the Minister for Finance.
 - (iii) I am advised that there is currently no intention to implement similar rulings for other geographic locations.
- (2) I am advised this question is more appropriately directed to the Minister for Finance.

* 2653 RETIREMENT LIVING IN THE NEWTOWN ELECTORATE—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

- (1) Does the Government have any specific initiatives or programs currently underway to address the housing needs of seniors in Newtown?
 - (a) Are there specific strategies in place to address the unique housing needs of marginalised or vulnerable senior populations in Newtown, such as those with mobility needs, or experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity?
- (2) Are there any existing partnerships or collaborations between the Government and private organisations aimed at increasing the availability of affordable and accessible seniors housing in Newtown?
- (3) Has the Government conducted any assessments or studies to evaluate the current supply and demand for seniors housing in Newtown?
 - (a) If so, what were the key findings and recommendations?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Homes NSW manages 57 social housing properties across two Newtown sites designated for people aged 65 years and over. Homes NSW is also planning to deliver a new generation boarding house in Newtown with six studio units for older women which is due for completion in 2026.
 - (a) Yes.
- (2) Homes NSW continues to work with the City of Sydney and Inner West Councils to explore opportunities to create more social and affordable housing.
- (3) Homes NSW uses waiting list data to better understand the needs of the people and families we assist to design and deliver the right housing for them. Finalised local area analyses for a number of Local Government Areas that guide development pipelines are publicly available at: <https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/land-and-housing-corporation/plans-and-policies/local-area-analyses>.

* 2654 SHARED EQUITY HOME BUYER HELPER SCHEME—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources—

- (1) Since the inception of the Shared Equity Home Buyer Helper Scheme in January 2023, how many households have accessed the scheme?
- (2) Of households who accessed the scheme, how many were:
 - (a) Single parents with dependent children?
 - (b) Single people aged 50 years and over?
 - (c) First home buyers employed as key workers?
 - (d) Victim-survivors of domestic and family violence?
 - (e) First nations people?
 - (f) People with a disability?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) As at 22 March 2024, 796 customers have had their application assessed by Revenue NSW, of which:
 - (a) 182 customers have been granted pre-approval and are searching for a home;
 - (b) 63 customers are in the final approval stage, having found a home and are awaiting settlement;
 - (c) 551 customers have settled on their property and moved into their new home.
- (2) Of households who accessed the scheme:
 - (a) 226 are single parents with dependent children.
 - (b) 197 are single people aged 50 years and over.
 - (c) 368 are first home buyers employed as key workers.
 - (d) 5 are victim-survivors of domestic and family violence.

Revenue NSW does not collect data on First Nations people or People with a disability for Shared Equity.

* 2655 SOCIAL AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING TARGETS—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

- (1) Does the Government currently have any targets (in terms of percentage of growth or number of dwellings) for the delivery of social and affordable housing, either in the 2024 Budget or over any other relevant period?
 - (a) If so, what are these?
 - (b) For any targets pertaining to social housing, how is this split (either in terms of percentage of growth or number of dwellings) between public and community housing?

Answer—

I am advised:

At this stage, there are no formal targets for the delivery of social and affordable housing set.

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This work is a priority for the newly established Homes NSW, based on decisions made as part of the NSW Budget, Housing Australia Future Fund and updated National Housing and Homelessness Agreement.

The details of these targets, including the role of public and community housing, will be made public once this process is finalised .

* 2656 PROTECTING TWEED BUS DRIVERS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) What plans does the Government have to protect Tweed bus drivers?
- (2) Does the Government have plans to provide security screens on Tweed public buses?

Answer—

I am advised

Transport for NSW is working to influence and support positive health and safety outcomes with our contract partners who have management or control of bus operations and continues to discuss managing Anti-Social Behaviour with operators at regular contract governance meetings.

Following some reports from bus operations in the Tweed area, Transport for NSW conducted a review of Anti-Social Behaviour incidents. In November 2023 Transport for NSW made recommendations including high priority actions for the local operator to consider. Transport for NSW is undertaking long term recommendations in relation to the development of communication and community awareness content and investigating safety options for the future bus fleet.

Transport for NSW has encouraged operators to build relationships and report directly to local Police so that incident trends can be managed proactively. Transport for NSW have also engaged with the Police Transport Command and provided Bus Incident Management System data to highlight trends in relation to anti-social behaviour.

* 2657 ELECTRIC VEHICLE REBATE IN THE TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources—

How many residents of the Tweed Electorate (or by postcodes within the Tweed Electorate if data by Electorate is not held) received the \$3000 Electric Vehicle Rebate during the life of the program, including those who have purchased or placed a deposit on an eligible Electric Vehicle and are awaiting delivery of the vehicle?

Answer—

I am advised that the number of customers who received \$3,000 Electric Vehicle Rebate in the following postcodes within the Tweed Electorate are:

2483 -32

2484-23

2485 -19

2486 -37

2487 -37

2488-6

2489-17

2490 - To reduce the risk of recipient identification, Revenue NSW is not authorised to disclose information if the number of recipients in a postcode is less than 5.

Note: Postcodes have been taken from NSW Electoral Commission website [Tweed - NSW Electoral Commission](#)

(Last updated 04 October 2023 at 12:30pm)

- * 2658 FIXED SPEED/RED LIGHT CAMERAS IN TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources—

- (1) For each of the following fixed speed and/or red light cameras, what is the total revenue collected in: Financial Year to date, 2022/23, 2021/22:
- (a) Tweed Heads South - Minjungbal Drive and Rivendell Drive?
 - (b) Tweed Heads West - Gold Coast Highway and Cordyline Drive?

Answer—

I am advised that the total revenue collected for fixed speed and/or red light cameras for:

- (a) Tweed Heads South - Minjungbal Drive and Rivendell Drive is:
2023/24 - \$491,943
2022/23 - \$781,929
2021/22 - \$628,575
- (b) Tweed Heads West - Gold Coast Highway and Cordyline Drive is:
2023/24 - \$3,276,104
2022/23 - \$4,339,034
2021/22 - \$3,919,404

- * 2659 UPDATE ON RESPONSE - 769—The Hon. Mark Speakman to ask the Minister for Women, Minister for Seniors, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault—

Can the Government provide any update to its answer to Question on Notice 769 (“Is the Government implementing a scheme that allows people to find out if others have a history of domestic abuse or domestic violence offending? If so, what are the details of its design?”)?

Answer—

Please refer to answer to Question on Notice 769.

I am advised the Monash University Gender and Family Violence Prevention Centre's research project on this topic is yet to be released.

- * 2660 REPAIR OF JENOLAN CAVES—The Hon. Paul Toole to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

In relation to Transport for NSW’s repair of Jenolan Caves Road:

- (1) Can you outline the works to be carried out on Jenolan Caves Road?
- (a) What is the progress update on this work?
 - (b) What is the predicted completion date?
 - (c) How many closures will occur to complete this work?
 - (d) When will these closures take place?
 - (e) What is the budget for this project?

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Answer—

I am advised

(1)

- (a) The work to remediate Jenolan Caves Road at Hampton is now underway. The Two Mile remediation works are scheduled to begin mid-2024, weather permitting.

A further natural disaster rain event on Friday 5 April 2024 caused significantly more damage to Five Mile and work has stopped until the additional damage is assessed.

- (b) The expected completion date for the remediation works at Hampton is September 2024, weather permitting. Works at Two Mile are scheduled for completion by mid to late 2025, weather permitting. A completion date for Five Mile is currently unknown as we assess the damage from the April 5, 2024 natural disaster.

- (c - d) Transport for NSW is endeavouring to minimise the number of road closures. Transport for NSW is communicating regularly with impacted residents, businesses and councils to inform the community of the road closures.

Hampton Road will require a number of full road closures at the site to allow works to be carried out safely, including culvert replacements. The road will be closed to all traffic for up to 38 days, with the closures beginning in January 2024. This is a reduction in the original estimate of 52 days of closure.

The Two Mile section of Jenolan Caves Road will also require a full road closure for the completion of the work. Transport for NSW is working with Jenolan Caves Reserve Trust to align the road closure with planned renovation works at the Caves precinct, to limit the impact to their operations.

The Five Mile section of Jenolan Caves Road has been closed since 2021 and will remain closed until the remediation works are completed.

- (e) The NSW Reconstruction Authority is providing Natural Disaster Recovery Assistance funding for these works. The full cost estimate for the works is not yet available.

* 2661 ILLEGAL VAPE SALES - FINES—The Hon. Paul Toole to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

In relation to the new vaping laws

- (1) Since the new laws came into effect, how many retailers or pharmacies have been fined for selling vapes illegally?
- (2) How many individuals or organisations in New South Wales have been charged or fined for the importation of disposable, single-use vapes?
- (3) How many individuals or organisations in New South Wales have applied for a licence and permit from the Office of Drug Control to lawfully import vapes?
- (4) How many of these applications were successful?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) The NSW Police Force has not issued any fines under the Therapeutic Goods Legislation Amendment (Vaping) Regulations 2023, implemented on 1 January 2024. NSW Health is the relevant regulator in NSW with NSW Health inspectors monitoring compliance and enforcement. Information on penalties and enforcement are available on the NSW Health website at:

[retailers-penalties-and-enforcement.pdf \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/retailers-penalties-and-enforcement.pdf)

- (2) The illegal importation of vapes is a matter for Federal Government agencies.
- (3 - 4) Applications for licences and permits from the Office of Drug Control is a matter for the Federal Government Department of Health and Aged Care.

* 2662 BLAYNEY POLICE STATION—The Hon. Paul Toole to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) In relation to Blayney Police Station:
- (a) Can you please provide a progress update on the Blayney Police Station upgrade?
 - (b) What is the budget allocation for this project?
 - (c) What is the timeline for this project?
 - (d) Can you please provide a timeframe for designs and plans to be confirmed, a tender process to take place and works to commence on site?
 - (e) How many officers and/or staff work out of Blayney Police Station?
 - (f) Where will they be placed whilst construction takes place?
 - (g) Will the new station operate 24/7?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)
- (a- d and f) The Blayney Police Station upgrade is in the scoping stage.
 - (e) 4.
 - (g) No.

* 2663 ELECTRIC VEHICLES IN THE GOVERNMENT FLEET—The Hon. Leslie Williams to ask the Premier—

- (1) How many of the Government's vehicle fleet are electric vehicles?
- (2) Is the Government planning to increase the number of electric vehicles in the Government's vehicle fleet?
- (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I'm advised:

As of 17 Jan 2024, 145 in the NSW Government vehicle fleet are electric vehicles. (This excludes hybrid and plug-in hybrid.)

The NSW Government has a target of electrifying its passenger vehicle fleet by ensuring that 100 per cent of new purchases/leases are fully electric by 2030, with an interim target of 50 per cent EV procurement by 2026. This target has been in place since the release of the Electric Vehicle Strategy in 2021 under the former NSW Government.

The Minns Labor Government has committed \$260 million in the 2023-24 Budget to support the roll-out of electric vehicles and a new NSW Electric Vehicle Strategy.

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- * 2664 DREDGING OF CROWDY BAY BOAT HARBOUR—The Hon. Leslie Williams to ask the Minister for Transport—

When will the Government undertake dredging of the Crowdy Bay Boat Harbour in 2024 to allow for the safe passage in and out of the harbour?

Answer—

I am advised

The project design and environmental approvals have been completed. Following funding finalisation, the project is anticipated to commence mid to late 2024, with dredging to commence following the demolition of the existing jetties.

- * 2665 DREDGING OF THE TOWN GREEN CHANNEL OF THE HASTINGS RIVER—The Hon. Leslie Williams to ask the Minister for Transport—

When will the Government undertake dredging of the Town Green Channel of the Hastings River in Port Macquarie in 2024?

Answer—

I am advised

Transport for NSW's Maritime Infrastructure Delivery Office has begun preparation of long-term planning and approvals to allow for dredging at the Town Green channel Port Macquarie.

In January 2024, an expert contractor was engaged to assist with obtaining planning approval and permits to allow for dredging at the Hastings River at Port Macquarie, including Town Green channel, for a period of up to 10 years, when funding is available.

Transport for NSW anticipates the Draft Review of Environmental Factors will be made available for comment in mid-2024.

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(Paper No. 49)

- * 2666 TONNAGE LIMIT INFRINGEMENT NOTICES - BRICKMAKERS DRIVE MOOREBANK—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources—

(1) How many infringement notices were produced for exceeding the tonnage limit along Brickmakers Drive, Moorebank for the following years:

- (a) 2018?
- (b) 2019?
- (c) 2020?
- (d) 2021?
- (e) 2022?
- (f) 2023?

Answer—

I am advised

(1) To minimise the risk of identification of any of the fine recipients, Revenue NSW does not disclose any information where the data is 5 or less.

- (a) <5

- (b) 0
- (c) <5
- (d) 0
- (e) 0
- (f) 0

Note: Data includes all notices with offence description including the words ton, weight, mass, load and GVM and are related to tonnage limits.

* 2667 LIVERPOOL FIRE STATION—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

(1) How many times was Liverpool Fire Station temporarily offline in:

- (a) June 2023?
- (b) July 2023?
- (c) August 2023?
- (d) September 2023?
- (e) November 2023?
- (f) December 2023?
- (g) January 2024?

Answer—

I am advised that Liverpool Fire Station is staffed by Permanent Firefighters and is not on the prescribed list of stations that can be taken offline temporarily.

* 2668 ACTIVE KIDS PROVIDERS - HOLSWORTHY—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

(1) How many Active Kids providers are located within the electorate of Holsworthy for:

- (a) 2019?
- (b) 2020?
- (c) 2021?
- (d) 2022?
- (e) 2023 (As of 30 November 2023)?

Answer—

I am advised that:

(1) Due to data limitations, the number of providers by electorate is unavailable. An estimate of the number of providers can be determined using the programs offered.

The estimated number of programs in the electorate of Holsworthy are:

Year	Programs
(a) 2019	33
(b) 2020	36
(c) 2021	37

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- (d) 2022 37
(e) 2023 (As of 30 November 2023) 39

Notes:

- A single provider can create multiple programs in a location.
- Concordance tables cannot be used to calculate number of programs by electorate due to limitations of the data set. Program numbers for the electorate have been estimated using data for postcodes 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2234.

* 2669 COLLECTION OF FINES ON BEHALF OF CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL—Mr Clayton Barr to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources—

- (1) With regard to the work of Revenue NSW in collecting parking fines on behalf of Cessnock City Council:
- Each year, for the past 2 financial years, what is the total value of parking fines issued by Cessnock City Council and subsequently processed and collected by Revenue NSW on behalf of Cessnock Council?
 - Each year, for the past 2 financial years, what is the total number of parking fines issued by Cessnock City Council and subsequently processed and collected by Revenue NSW on behalf of Cessnock Council?
 - Each year, for the past 2 financial years, what has been the annual processing fee charged by Revenue NSW against the total quantum of parking fines pursued by Revenue NSW on behalf of Cessnock City Council?
 - Each year, for the past 2 financial years, what is the total number of parking fines which have been reviewed and replaced with a caution by Revenue NSW on behalf of Cessnock City Council?
 - Each year, for the past 2 financial years, what is the total value of parking fines which have been reviewed and replaced with a caution by Revenue NSW on behalf of Cessnock City Council?

Answer—

I'm advised:

Information regarding parking fines issued by Cessnock City Council can be found on the following Revenue NSW webpage: <https://www.revenue.nsw.gov.au/help-centre/resources-library/statistics>. This data is contained within the Fines section and titled 'Parking Offences (DSF 011)'.

* 2670 REVIEW OF THE DARLING RIVER GAUGING NETWORK BETWEEN WILCANNIA AND WENTWORTH—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

Regarding the Review of the Darling River Gauging Network between Wilcannia and Wentworth:

- Has the review of the number and location of river gauges been undertaken by WaterNSW?
- How many new or modified river gauges, that will account for system losses and gains, have been identified?
- When will these river gauges be operational?
- Where will these new gauges be located?

Answer—

- (1) Yes, the initial review of the number and locations of river gauges has been undertaken. Further investigations into potential new sites and upgrades are continuing.
- (2) WaterNSW is continuing investigation into four (4) existing gauge sites to be upgraded and a potential three (3) new gauge sites to be installed to provide a more accurate overview of the total system flows.
- (3) Timeframes for the implementation of the recommended changes will be dependent on a number of factors including identification of funding sources and field investigations into the feasibility of proposed gauging station locations. I can brief the Member on these timelines once they are available.
- (4) The WaterNSW review of existing gauge sites identified potential opportunities to provide improved information by upgrading two (2) gauge sites with in-situ flow devices, and a further two (2) gauge sites with telemetry.

WaterNSW is continuing its investigations into three (3) new gauge sites: two (2) Talyawalka Creek sites and one (1) on the Darling-Baaka River.

In addition, through the Commonwealth funded Hydrometric Network and Remote Sensing (HNRS) program, it has provided hydrometric upgrades between Wilcannia and Wentworth. This includes a new gauge on the Darling-Baaka River at Trevallyn, and an upgraded gauge on the Darling-Baaka River at Nelia Gaari.

- * 2671 ILLEGAL TREE REMOVAL - REVIEW—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

In relation to illegal tree removal, will you undertake a review in relation to fines, to ensure fines meet public expectation and are a deterrence?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) is consulting with councils on strengthening urban tree protections and management. As part of this work, DPHI will also consider whether the current penalty framework for tree vandalism is effective.

- * 2672 EASING COST OF LIVING PRESSURES—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Premier—

What actions are you undertaking to ease cost of living pressures?

Answer—

I am advised;

The 2023-24 NSW Budget announced more than \$8.2 billion in support for households through more than 130 measures to assist with cost of living, including:

- Toll Relief: \$615 million toll relief program including:

Introduced a \$60 weekly toll cap for 2 years from January 2024, benefiting 700,000 motorists.

- First Home Buyers: 5 out of 6 first home buyers pay no stamp duty or a concessional rate.

More than 18,700 first home buyers have been helped into their dream of home ownership in NSW under the Government's First Home Buyers Assistance Scheme.

The most recent data shows under the new First Home Buyers Assistance Scheme, over 10,000 people have received more support than they would have under the former government's scheme.

- Preschool: An enhanced \$1.6b package of preschool fee relief:

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\$500 in fee relief for 64,000 3yos attending preschool in long daycare centres. This plugs a gap in preschool fee relief.

This is in addition to the existing program which provides:

\$4,220 in fee relief for 3-Syos in community preschools.

\$2,110 fee relief for children aged 4+ in long daycare centres.

- Energy Bill Relief: \$1.3 billion to provide energy rebates and targeted energy bill relief to up to 1.6 million eligible households and around 300,000 eligible small businesses, in partnership with the Australian Government.

* 2673 REVENUE COLLECTION—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources—

(1) How much revenue was collected from the Surcharge Purchaser Duty in the following years:

- (a) 2016-2017?
- (b) 2017-2018?
- (c) 2018-2019?
- (d) 2019-2020?
- (e) 2020-2021?
- (f) 2021-2022?
- (g) 2022-2023?
- (h) 2023-2024?

(2) How much revenue was collected from the Foreign Owner Surcharge in the following years:

- (a) 2016-2017?
- (b) 2017-2018?
- (c) 2018-2019?
- (d) 2019-2020?
- (e) 2020-2021?
- (f) 2021-2022?
- (g) 2022-2023?
- (h) 2023-2024?

(3) In relation to answers to questions 1) and 2), does this revenue go into Consolidated Fund?

- (a) If no, which fund does this revenue go?

Answer—

I'm advised that

- (1) and (2) Surcharge Purchaser Duty and Foreign Owner Surcharge revenue are included in budget documents under the table "General government sector -summary of taxation revenue".
- (3) Yes, both streams of revenue go into the Consolidated Fund.

- * 2674 SEPSIS—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

In relation to sepsis, what actions are the Government undertaking to raise awareness, improve care, and prevention?

Answer—

I'm advised:

The Clinical Excellence Commission's SEPSIS KILLS program raises sepsis awareness, improves care, and reduces preventable harm from sepsis in adults, children, mothers, and babies across NSW.

Resources are maintained in line with best evidence, international guidance and national Clinical Care Standards to support clinical care.

World Sepsis Day awareness activities are promoted in September annually in collaboration with national and international organisations.

In March 2024, NSW Health launched a Sepsis Awareness Campaign to encourage people to ask their health practitioners "could it be sepsis?".

- * 2675 LSCA FOR ST IVES HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

(1) In relation to Local Small Commitments Allocation, will \$100,000 be allocated to St Ives High School towards construction of a new bus shelter and street signs?

(a) If so, when?

(b) If not, why not?

Answer—

I'm advised St Ives High School is yet to complete their online application form to apply for their \$100,000 funding allocation for bus shelters and street signs. Once the form is submitted, it will be assessed in accordance with the LSCA Guidelines.

- * 2676 ACCIDENTS RECORDED AT LINDFIELD STATION—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Transport—

(1) How many accidents have been recorded at Lindfield Station, that were caused/exacerbated by a gap between a platform and train in:

(a) 2018-2019?

(b) 2019-2020?

(c) 2020-2021?

(d) 2021-2022?

(e) 2022-2023?

(f) 2023-2024?

Answer—

I am advised

(1) (a) 0

(b) 1

(c) 0

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- (d) 1
- (e) 1
- (f) 0

* 2677 NUMBERS OF SCHOOL COUNSELLORS WITHIN WILLOUGHBY ELECTORATE—Mr Tim James to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) How many school counsellors are there in each public school within the Willoughby electorate?

Answer—

Schools in the Willoughby electorate have 11 FTE school counselling staff. School counselling service staff are placed at a base school and may provide a counselling allocation to a number of schools.

* 2678 PROPOSED PRIMARY SCHOOL IN CHATSWOOD—Mr Tim James to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In relation to the proposed new primary school at Chatswood:

- (1) What is the current planned opening date?
- (2) When will construction commence?

Answer—

The Department of Education continues to monitor population growth so that it can plan to meet enrolment needs. This analysis informs the delivery of school infrastructure as part of the NSW Government's record \$8.8 billion investment in new and upgraded schools.

* 2679 PROPOSED PRIMARY SCHOOL AT ST LEONARDS—Mr Tim James to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In relation to the proposed new public school at St Leonards:

- (1) What is the current planned opening date of the primary school?
- (2) When will construction commence?
- (3) What are the timelines in relation to a new secondary school at St Leonards?
- (4) Will the secondary school be located on the same site as the primary school?

Answer—

The Department of Education continues to monitor population growth so that it can plan to meet enrolment needs. This analysis informs the delivery of school infrastructure as part of the NSW Government's record \$8.8 billion investment in new and upgraded schools.

* 2680 WILLOUGHBY BUS DEPOT—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Transport—

In relation to the Willoughby Bus Depot:

- (1) Is the Government committed to retaining the depot at its current site in Willoughby?
 - (a) Has there been any investigation or consideration of alternative sites?
- (2) Is the Government committed to the previously announced investment in the Willoughby Bus Depot including:
 - (a) Delivering 97 new zero emission buses?
 - (b) Upgrading electric vehicle charging infrastructure?
 - (i) What is the timeline for this upgrade?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) There are currently no plans to alter the location of services currently operated from Willoughby depot. Transport for NSW are working in partnership with the depot operator, Busways, to develop concept designs for the conversion of the depot to battery electric technology.
- (1) (a) An additional site for the contract region is in development, with a new battery electric bus depot to be built at Macquarie Park. The contract for the design and build of the depot is expected to be awarded late this year with construction to commence in early 2025. The new depot will supplement other depot sites in Contract Region 7, including the Willoughby depot.
- (2) (a) The Willoughby depot is planned to operate 97 new battery electric buses.
- (b) Transport for NSW are working in partnership with the depot operator, Busways, to develop concept designs for the conversion of the depot to battery electric technology.
 - (i) As part of Greater Sydney Stage 1 of the Zero Emissions Bus Program, the Willoughby bus depot is planned to be converted by 2028. Transport for NSW is currently in the planning stage of the conversion with works expected to commence in late 2024/early 2025.

Willoughby bus depot is one of 11 depots in Greater Sydney that will be converted to battery electric technology by 2028.

* 2681 RESPONSE TO QON 2388—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Transport—

In relation to Willoughby Bus Depot and the Minister's response to LA QoN 2388:

- (1) What actions has the Minister and Transport for NSW taken with Busways to boost the recruitment and retention of drivers at the Willoughby depot?
 - (a) Given the progress to date, is the Government considering any further alternative approaches?
 - (b) Has Busways received any penalties for failure to meet required Key Performance Indicators?
- (2) How has Keolis Downer's North Sydney depot met or exceeded full driver establishment each month during a bus driver shortage?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Transport for NSW is working with Busways on initiatives to improve the recruitment and retention of drivers, which include the following:
 - Introducing free Opal cards to bus drivers and other operational staff.
 - Running a statewide bus driver recruitment advertising campaign on online and offline channels.
 - Waiving the Bus Driver Authority application fee and streamlining the approval process to minimise time between application and commencing work.
 - Developing a driver navigation app to help new bus drivers learn bus routes.
 - Developing strategies and plans to attract a more gender and culturally diverse workforce, including upgrading depots and facilities, and investigating more flexible rosters.

Busways also has ongoing recruitment activities:

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- Holding open days throughout 2024 including conducting evening sessions to accommodate those unable to attend during working hours.
 - Job advertisements through job agencies, Busways' website, and social media.
 - Recruitment advertorials in digital and print for local and culturally and linguistically diverse (CALO) audiences (Indian Link, Australian Chinese Daily, Village Observer).
 - Offering incentives; \$6,000 sign on bonus for experienced drivers for Willoughby depot, \$3,000 employment sign on bonus for inexperienced drivers at Willoughby depot and \$1,000 referral bonus for employees.
- (a) Transport for NSW also continues to work closely with Busways to optimise the bus timetable to allow for more efficient scheduling of bus services.
 - (b) Bus operators are measured on Key Performance Indicators (KPI) including Cancelled and Incomplete Trips and On Time Running. When KPI tolerance levels are not been met, there are financial abatements in place.
- (2) Keolis Downer Northern Beaches operate their services from three depots in Region 8 with different requirements. Workforce recruitment can be very dependent on location and North Sydney is such a depot location, and full establishment was reached well ahead of the other two depots.

* 2682 BEACHWATCH PROGRAM—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

In relation to the Beachwatch program:

- (1) Will Beachwatch change to a fee-for-service model for Sydney locations including the Northbridge Baths?
 - (a) If so, why?
- (2) What expenses will councils incur for water quality assessments conducted by Beachwatch?
- (3) How will users of sites such as the Northbridge Baths remain assured of the safety of the water after funding is discontinued?

Answer—

- (1) As part of the 2022 budget process, the previous Government made the decision to align Beachwatch monitoring in the Sydney coastal area with existing arrangements for regional councils who fund their own water quality monitoring and sampling.
 - (a) The cost-sharing model for all councils addresses equity and accessibility and meets increasing community demand for information on swim sites throughout NSW, including inland and regional areas outside the Sydney metropolitan area.

The cost to councils moving to the Beachwatch Partnership Program will depend on the frequency of testing and the number of swim sites each council opts to monitor. The NSW Government will continue to absorb some labour and operational costs and leverage existing Beachwatch assets such as the reporting platform, website and forecast model. Discussions remain ongoing with the 14 affected Sydney councils. A second round of meetings will be scheduled in April 2024. Engagement is designed to address individual council concerns in order to maximise potential for councils to option in to the Beachwatch Partnership. A transition period is in place with Beachwatch continuing to fund the monitoring of Sydney local councils swim sites until 30 June 2024.

- * 2683 ALLOCATION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF HOLTERMANN STREET PARK—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

Is the Government committed to the \$2.5 million funding allocation to North Sydney Council for the development of the Holtermann Street Park in Crows Nest?

Answer—

I am advised:

In 2020, \$2.5 million in funding was allocated to North Sydney Council for strategic planning and design work for Holtermann Street Park.

In February 2024, North Sydney Council informed the Department that it has finalised strategic planning and design work for Holtermann Street Park.

The Department has fulfilled its commitment to provide funding to this project. North Sydney Council is leading the implementation of the strategic planning and design of the project. Any further enquiries should be directed to council.

- * 2684 TOBACCO AND VAPING PRODUCTS SOLD NEAR SCHOOLS—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

What, if any, action has the Government taken in relation to businesses selling tobacco and vaping products opening nearby to schools?

Answer—

I'm advised:

The Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2008 requires retailers to notify NSW Health (through Service NSW) the intent to sell tobacco, non-tobacco smoking products, e-cigarettes and e-cigarette accessories.

NSW Health inspectors proactively visit retailers to monitor compliance and enforce breaches related to selling tobacco and e-cigarette products to minors, selling tobacco or e-cigarette products without notifying NSW Health, sale of nicotine vaping products, and display and advertising restrictions.

Penalties apply to retailers who sell any tobacco and vaping products to minors.

Enforcement is one part of NSW Health's comprehensive approach to addressing vaping among young people, alongside stakeholder engagement, education and communication, research, and clinical engagement.

The NSW Government has committed an additional \$6.8 million over 3 years to boost enforcement to address the sale of illegal vapes and increase support for young people who are addicted to vaping.

- * 2685 ENGINEERED STONE TRANSITION—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations, and Minister for Work Health and Safety—

In relation to the proposed ban on engineered stone:

- (1) What steps has the Government taken to facilitate the transition for workers and businesses in the engineered stone industry?
- (2) What support has been made available by the Government to assist engineered stone workers and businesses transition?
- (3) Is three months enough time for this transition to occur?

Answer—

The NSW Government is committed to tackling the scourge of silicosis by preventing worker exposure to respirable crystalline silica through engineered stone.

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On 13 December 2023, WHS Ministers accepted the findings and recommendations of Safe Work Australia's report on the use of engineered stone. Ministers unanimously agreed to prohibit the use, supply and manufacture of all engineered stone and this prohibition will commence in NSW from 1 July 2024.

To ensure NSW businesses can fulfill consumer contracts and transition to the use of alternative materials, a transitional period will apply to contracts for the installation of engineered stone benchtops, panels and slabs entered into on or before 31 December 2023, as long as installation is completed by 31 December 2024.

Businesses and consumers are strongly encouraged to explore alternative products to minimise the use of engineered stone benchtops, panels and slabs during this transitional period.

I am advised that activities undertaken during this period must be appropriately controlled and will be subject to stronger WHS regulations for high-risk crystalline processes.

* 2686 HARMONY DAY GUIDELINES—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What guidelines, if any, apply to clothing or any other items that students in New South Wales public schools are permitted to wear to school on Harmony Day?
- (2) Are there any restrictions on what students can or cannot wear to school on Harmony Day?
- (3) In 2024, was any specific guidance – separate to any guidelines that may exist – provided to public school principals or other teaching staff by the Department of Education in relation to the above?

Answer—

Schools can allow students to wear something other than their uniform on certain occasions, such as Harmony Day. Each school's uniform is based on a consultation process with students, parents, and the school community. Clothing worn by students must comply with the Department of Education's School Uniform policy.

The Secretary of the department provided advice about Harmony Week to principals reiterating that intolerance and racism have no place in NSW public schools and that Harmony Week is an opportunity for safely bringing school communities together to build intercultural understanding and respect. Schools have ensured there are supports provided for students impacted by the current conflict in the Middle East.

* 2687 PLANNING REFORMS—Ms Jenny Leong to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

- (1) In relation to the Government's proposed changes to the planning system to enable increased density around transport hubs, what modelling, if any, has been undertaken on:
 - (a) The increase in land values and existing property values when land is rezoned to allow more height or density?
 - (b) The impact on land values and existing property values by Local Government Area?
 - (c) Any impacts of the changes on intergenerational equality?
 - (d) Whether the cost of new dwellings is predicted to continue to rise or stay steady?
 - (e) The housing supply expected through the changes, specifically:
 - (i) The timeline by which this is to be delivered?
 - (ii) The overall quantity of housing anticipated as a result of the changes?
 - (1) Over each of the first five years following their introduction?
 - (2) Ten years after their introduction?
 - (3) 15 years of their introduction?

- (iii) Any projections of the quantity of each of the following types of housing that will be delivered by the changes:
- (1) Studio or one-bedroom apartments?
 - (2) Two-bedroom apartments?
 - (3) Three-bedroom apartments?
 - (4) Duplexes?
 - (5) Terrace houses?
 - (6) Any other housing typology?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a-b) Land values are driven by many factors. These can be factors like supply and demand, zoning, size, heritage restrictions and other constraints. Spot rezonings of a single site, often drive higher land values by changing uses, heights and developable outcomes on a case-by-case basis.

The NSW Government's objectives with the policy development of the Transport Oriented Development (TOD) and Low and Mid-Rise Housing

LMR reforms across the Greater Sydney, Illawarra Shoalhaven, Lower Hunter and Newcastle and Central Coast regions are designed to generate greater supply and diversity of housing across the whole of the metropolitan area.

- (c) The NSW Government's objective with the policy design of the TOD and LMR reforms intends to improve intergenerational equality related to housing by providing a significant pipeline of supply of new and diverse housing in well-located areas across the metropolitan area for young people, families and key workers to live close to where their jobs are also located.
- (d) Construction costs of new dwellings are impacted by market factors.
- (e) The National Housing Accord target timelines from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2029 are the focus of the TOD and LMR reforms.

* 2688 SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL REGATTA CENTRE—Ms Eleni Petinos to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) With respect to the Sydney International Regatta Centre, can you please provide the following information:
- (a) What is the annual cost of maintenance for the Sydney International Regatta Centre?
 - (b) What was the annual income generated by the Sydney International Regatta Centre for the most recent year information is available?
 - (c) Is there currently any intention to formulate a masterplan for the Sydney International Regatta Centre?
 - (d) Has the Office of Sport examined flood mitigation measure at the Sydney International Regatta Centre particularly as they relate to blue green algae blooms?
 - (i) If so, what mitigation measures were recommended?
 - (e) What support is provided by the Office of Sport and the Sydney International Regatta Centre in the event of cancellation due to flooding or blue green algae blooms?

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- (f) What steps has the Office of Sport or the Sydney International Regatta Centre taken to ensure sporting organisations such as Rowing Australia are given priority access to booking the facility over commercial events?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) With respect to the Sydney International Regatta Centre, please see the following information:
- (a) The annual cost of maintenance for the Sydney International Regatta Centre was \$434,790 for the 2022/2023 budget.
 - (b) The annual income generated by the Sydney International Regatta Centre was \$1,651,697 for the 2022/2023 budget.
 - (c) The Office of Strategic Lands is the landowner.
 - (d) The Office of Strategic Lands is the landowner responsible for providing a response to flood mitigation measures of the site.
 - (e) The Office of Sport discusses support provided with each venue hirer, and acts in accordance with the Facility Use Agreement.
 - (f) The Office of Sport acts in accordance with the steps outlined in the lease agreement with Office of Strategic Lands and the Sydney International Regatta Centre Event Selection Procedures.

* 2689 U-GO MOBILITY IN SUTHERLAND SHIRE—Ms Eleni Petinos to ask the Minister for Transport—

Can you please provide the following information with regards to bus routes within the Sutherland Shire operated by U-Go Mobility:

- (1) At what date did U-Go Mobility return to a full timetable for bus services?
- (2) Since that date, how many buses servicing the Sutherland Shire ran more than 10 minutes late?
- (3) Since that date, how many buses servicing the Sutherland Shire have been cancelled?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) U-Go Mobility returned to a full timetable for bus services on Monday 26 February 2024.
- (2) Since the return to full timetable, 742 trips servicing the Sutherland Shire operated more than 10 minutes late at the first stop departure. With a total of 22,184 trips operated during that same time, this equates to 3.34% being late.
- (3) Since the return to full timetable, up to and including 24 March 2024, there have been 359 bus service trips cancelled. This equates to 0.74% against a 0.5% target.

* 2690 A-LEAGUE UNITE ROUND—Ms Eleni Petinos to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

As it relates to the A-League Unite Round can you please provide the following information:

- (1) How many visitors did the Unite Round bring to Sydney in 2024?
- (2) How much did the Unite Round generate in tourism spending for the New South Wales economy in 2024?

Answer—

- (1) The event owner reported that the Unite Round attracted more than 47,000 attendees from 12 – 14 January 2024.
- (2) Destination NSW estimates that the Unite Round will deliver \$10.2 million in visitor expenditure over the 2023-24 and 2024-25 seasons.

- * 2691 UNCLAIMED MONEY HELD BY SERVICE NSW—Ms Eleni Petinos to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources—

As at the date for which the most recent data is available (and specifying what that date is), can you please provide the following information:

- (1) What is the dollar value of unclaimed money held by Service NSW?
- (2) What was the total returned to successful claimants in the 2022 calendar year?

Answer—

Questions in relation to Service NSW are best directed to the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government.

- * 2692 ASSOCIATED SCHOOL TRAVEL PROGRAM—Ms Eleni Petinos to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Can you please provide the following information in relation to the Assisted School Travel Program (“the Program”):

- (1) Under the Program, are drivers permitted to stop and assist a passenger in need should a health episode or safety concern arise?
 - (a) If not, why not?
 - (b) If not, what procedures are in place to ensure the safety of passengers should such an incident arise?
 - (c) In the event of a safety incident or health episode are parents or guardians entitled to receive a copy of the incident report?
 - (i) If not why not?
 - (ii) If so, how can a parent or guardian access such a report?
- (2) How many students with addresses in the Miranda Electorate currently receive support through the Assisted School Travel Program?
 - (a) Of these students from the Miranda Electorate using the Program, how many have access to Assisted Travel Support Officers?
- (3) How many students with addresses in the Miranda Electorate have been approved for assistance under this program but are yet to receive an Assisted Travel Support Officer?
 - (a) What is the average wait time for a student to receive an Assisted Travel Support Officer?
 - (b) What support is provided to parents to ensure children can still access schooling as they await access to Assisted Travel Support Officer?
- (5) Since 1 July 2024, how many complaints have been received relating to this program from families with addresses within the Miranda electorate?
- (6) How many of these complaints from families with addresses within the Miranda electorate are still outstanding?

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Answer—

Assisted School Travel Program (ASTP) drivers must follow the procedures in the ASTP Emergency Actions Card carried in vehicles in transit. Drivers are expected to pull over and assess if an incident is serious enough to dial 000 or call ASTP staff for urgent advice. A copy of the ASTP Emergency Actions Card is available at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/main-education/publicschools/astp/media/documents/emergency-action-and-procedures-card.pdf>

Parents may apply for incident reports under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009. Information can be found on the department's website at: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/rights-and-accountability/information-access>. If an incident occurs during transport, parents will normally be notified by telephone in the first instance by the contractor, the school or ASTP, depending on the type of incident.

Under the Education Act 1990, parents and carers are responsible for ensuring their child receives an education. The ASTP seeks to assist parent and carers with school transport arrangements where possible.

* 2693 FULL TIME EMPLOYED PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS IN THE MIRANDA ELECTORATE—Ms Eleni Petinos to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) As at the date for which the most recent data is available, how many fulltime equivalent (FTE) teachers are employed at each public school in the Miranda electorate?
- (2) How many FTE teacher vacancies are currently noted for each public school in the Miranda electorate?

Answer—

There is a total of 705 teachers (FTE) across public schools in the Miranda electorate.

For 12 years the former Liberal National Government suppressed the wages of these teachers in the Miranda electorate. Last year, the Minns Labor Government abolished the wages cap and delivered these the teachers the most significant pay rise in a generation. It is disappointing that the Member for Miranda has criticised this decision to fairly pay teachers in her electorate.

There are 13 FTE teacher vacancies across public schools in the Miranda electorate.

* 2694 ABORIGINAL LAND CLAIMS—Ms Eleni Petinos to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) How many active Aboriginal Land Claims are there within the Sutherland Shire Local Government Area?
- (2) In relation to each active Aboriginal Land Claim in the Sutherland Shire Local Government Area, please identify the location of each claim?
- (3) What is the average time taken to determine Aboriginal Land Claims?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) There are currently 318 undetermined or part undetermined Aboriginal land claims in the Sutherland Local Government Area.
- (2) The Register of Aboriginal Land Claims is the responsibility of the Registrar, Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983. Enquiries regarding the lodgement and location of claims should be directed to the Registrar.
- (3) The length of time taken for each claim depends on the complexity of the claim. As a rule of thumb from the date an assessment commences the average timeframe is between 6 to 9 months. This allows for referencing to external stakeholders and the mandatory 4-month appeals period required under Land and Environment Court rules.

- * 2695 COST TO GOVERNMENT REGARDING ANZAC DAY PANDEMONIUM CONCERT—Ms Robyn Preston to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

Can you advise if there has been any cost to the Government as a consequence of changing the venue of the 2024 ANZAC Day Pandemonium concert from the Domain to Sydney Olympic Park?

Answer—

I am advised:

Commercial terms were negotiated directly between Sydney Olympic Park Authority and the promoter for the event to be staged in Cathy Freeman Park.

The terms of the agreement are commercial in confidence.

- * 2696 FINANCIAL UNDERWRITING - ANZAC DAY PANDEMONIUM CONCERT—Ms Robyn Preston to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

Can you advise if the Government has financially underwritten the Pandemonium concert that is now to be held at the Sydney Olympic Park on ANZAC Day 2024?

Answer—

I am advised:

Commercial terms were negotiated directly between Sydney Olympic Park Authority and the promoter for the event to be staged in Cathy Freeman Park. The terms of the agreement are commercial in confidence.

- * 2697 FIRE ANT COMPLIANCE SITE INSPECTION LOCATIONS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

Regarding the 766 fire ant compliance site inspections undertaken since fire ant were discovered in New South Wales:

- (1) Where did these inspections occur, by town or location?

Answer—

* The answer to this question can be viewed as Attachment A on the Parliament's website under Questions and Answers Tracking.

- * 2698 SCHOOL COUNSELLOR AND PSYCHOLOGIST POSITIONS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Regarding school counsellor and psychologist positions in New South Wales:

- (1) How many Full Time Equivalent vacancies are there at schools within the Tweed Electorate?
(2) Of the 86 school counsellors and psychologists who commenced work in New South Wales public schools at the start of the school year, how many were at schools in the Tweed Electorate?

Answer—

As at February 2024, there are no substantive vacancies in the school counselling service in the Tweed Electorate.

- * 2699 TWEED HEADS AMBULANCE STATION—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

Regarding the Tweed Heads Ambulance Station:

- (1) What plans does the Government have for the location of the Tweed Heads Ambulance Station once Tweed Valley Hospital opens in May?

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- (2) If the station is remaining at The Tweed Hospital, will renovations be undertaken?
(a) If yes, when?

Answer—

I'm advised:

There are no plans for NSW Ambulance to relocate from its current site at Tweed Heads Ambulance Station.

The Tweed Heads Ambulance Station meets current operational requirements. There are no current plans for a refurbishment other than regular maintenance and statutory compliance facility management works.

* 2700 E-BIKE POLICY FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY - TRANSPORT—Mr Michael Regan to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) When did e-bikes first enter the market in New South Wales?
(a) What has the Government's regulatory response been since then?
- (2) Is the Government collecting data or information on trends in e-bike uptake and use across the state?
(a) Where is uptake concentrated?
(b) What behaviours are viewed as problematic?
(c) Are serious accidents being tracked and have any occurred?
- (3) Does growing e-bike use present a material risk to public safety?
- (4) Are the current regulatory, policy and program settings in relation to e-bikes fit-for-purpose?
- (5) What are the risks to public safety from rapid uptake of e-bikes?
(a) What is the Government doing to address these risks?
- (6) Does the Government have plans to:
(a) Review the current road rules to better protect pedestrians, riders and motorists from e-bike accidents?
(i) Why or why not?
(b) Develop an e-bike safety community awareness campaign?
(i) Why or why not?
(c) Provide grants to local councils to assist with improving shared paths?
(i) Why or why not?
(d) Have Local Governments called for the above?
- (7) What is the time frame for the Government taking action to address the risks to public safety of e-bikes use?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Power-assisted pedal cycles (aka E-bikes) have been permitted for more than 40 years. Currently there are two types of permitted e-bikes: Power-assisted pedal cycles and Electrically power-assisted cycles.

Power-assisted pedal cycle is defined in Commonwealth legislation, the Vehicle Standard (Australian Design Rule - Definitions and Vehicle Categories) 2005 determined under the Road Vehicle Standards Act, section 12. This definition is adopted in NSW.

NSW Road Rules amendments in 2023 enabled increases to the power of electrically power-assisted bicycles on NSW roads. This type of e-bike can now have a maximum continued rated power of 500 watts compared to 250 watts under the previous definition. This is to assist cyclists on larger inclines and when carrying heavy loads. The motor is still required to progressively reduce its output above 6 km/h and to cut out entirely at 25 km/h, as was the case when limited to 250 watts.

- (2) It is difficult to determine behavioural issues relating to e-bikes from NSW crash data as the data does not identify e-bikes as a separate category to bicycles. However, crash data shows that 10% of bicycle riders involved in crashes were not wearing a helmet.

The use of non-compliant, high-powered e-bikes, including bikes that operate at speed without the rider pedalling, presents a safety risk to both riders and other road users. Speed contributes to both the risk of having a crash and the severity of injuries from the crash.

- (3) E-bikes that comply with road transport legislation in their design (including power output/ speed requirements) and are used in a compliant and considerate manner by riders, do not represent an increased risk to road safety outcomes.

The use of non-compliant, high-powered e-bikes, including bikes that operate at speed without the rider pedalling, presents a safety risk to both riders and other road users as these devices do not meet appropriate safety standards.

The devices are illegal and significant penalties apply for their use on the road (or on road related areas) as unregistered vehicles.

- (4) The NSW Government continues to monitor the regulatory framework to ensure safety for all road users. Enforcement is the responsibility of the NSW Police Force.

E-bikes that comply with regulations are considered equivalent to bicycles, and the same road rules apply including wearing an approval bicycle helmet. Riders must also give way to pedestrians on shared paths.

- (5) Transport for NSW supports and encourages the use of E-bikes that comply with road transport legislation in their design (including power output/ speed requirements) and are used in a compliant and considerate manner by riders.

The use of non-compliant, high-powered e-bikes, including bikes that operate at speed without the rider pedalling, presents a safety risk to both riders and other road users as these devices do not meet appropriate safety standards.

These devices are illegal and significant penalties apply for their use on the road (or on road related areas) as unregistered vehicles.

- (6) Transport for NSW monitors road safety legislation and actively contributes to the development of the Australian Road Rules (the basis for the NSW rules) on an ongoing basis on behalf of the NSW Government. Transport for NSW has developed and is in the process of developing additional education materials to raise community awareness about bicycle safety including e-bikes.

- The Share the Road campaign provides both riders and drivers with advice for travelling together safely.
- Details of bicycles that meet the requirements for permitted e-bikes on public roads and road related areas in NSW can be found on the Centre for Road Safety section of the Transport for NSW website.
- Transport for NSW has also worked closely with the Food Delivery Rider Industry and other organisations such as SafeWork NSW to support changes to keep Food Delivery riders safe. Education materials have been developed specifically for this industry to support safe behaviours when delivering food.

The NSW Government wants walking and bike riding to be the preferred way to make short trips and a viable, safe and efficient option for longer trips. We estimate that more than 1.5

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billion walking and bike riding trips are taken per year across New South Wales. We want to double this number in 20 years.

Funding for active transport projects is offered to councils across NSW through the Get NSW Active program, a competitive grants program. Since 2011, more than \$600 million has been allocated through Get NSW Active by Transport to local councils for walking and cycling projects. Over 1000 projects have been funded including footpaths, cycleways, and improved safety features that contribute to healthier, more connected communities throughout NSW.

Transport for NSW is aware of requests relating to e-bike safety from several local government areas.

- (7) The NSW Government continues to monitor the regulatory framework and to deliver communications around e-bike safety, and the NSW Police Force enforces the road rules. These ongoing measures are designed to ensure safety for all road users.

* 2701 E-BIKE POLICY FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY - ROADS—Mr Michael Regan to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

- (1) When did e-bikes first enter the market in New South Wales?
 - (a) What has the Government's regulatory response been since then?
- (2) Is the Government collecting data or information on trends in e-bike uptake and use across the state?
 - (a) Where is uptake concentrated?
 - (b) What behaviours are viewed as problematic?
 - (c) Are serious accidents being tracked and have any occurred?
- (3) Does growing e-bike use present a material risk to public safety?
- (4) Are the current regulatory, policy and program settings in relation to e-bikes fit-for-purpose?
- (5) What are the risks to public safety from rapid uptake of e-bikes?
 - (a) What is the Government doing to address these risks?
- (6) Does the Government have plans to:
 - (a) Review the current road rules to better protect pedestrians, riders and motorists from e-bike accidents?
 - (i) Why or why not?
 - (b) Develop an e-bike safety community awareness campaign?
 - (i) Why or why not?
 - (c) Provide grants to local councils to assist with improving shared paths?
 - (i) Why or why not?
 - (d) Have Local Governments called for the above?
- (7) What is the time frame for the Government taking action to address the risks to public safety of e-bikes use?

Answer—

I am advised

Please refer to the response provided for LA 2700.

* 2702 LAW REFORMS FOR SERIOUS ROAD CRIMES - REGIONAL TRANSPORT AND ROADS—Mr Michael Regan to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

- (1) When will the Law Reform Commission deliver its findings on its review of:
 - (a) Whether existing serious road crime offences and the law on accessorial liability are fit for purpose?
 - (b) The appropriateness of maximum sentences and sentencing principles relevant for serious roads crimes?
 - (c) The experiences and rights of victims of serious road crimes and their families in the criminal justice system?
- (2) When are the Government going to deliver on the commitment to an Independent Victims Commissioner?
- (3) Considering that 22 hours of free counselling are available to family members of a homicide victim; however, criminal road fatalities are excluded as they are not categorised as a 'violent crime', does the Government have plans to address this?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised

This is a matter for the Attorney General.

* 2703 LAW REFORMS FOR SERIOUS ROAD CRIMES - ATTORNEY GENERAL—Mr Michael Regan to ask the Attorney General—

- (1) When will the Law Reform Commission deliver its findings on its review of:
 - (a) Whether existing serious road crime offences and the law on accessorial liability are fit for purpose?
 - (b) The appropriateness of maximum sentences and sentencing principles relevant for serious roads crimes?
 - (c) The experiences and rights of victims of serious road crimes and their families in the criminal justice system?
- (2) When are the Government going to deliver on the commitment to an Independent Victims Commissioner?
- (3) Considering that 22 hours of free counselling are available to family members of a homicide victim; however, criminal road fatalities are excluded as they are not categorised as a 'violent crime', does the Government have plans to address this?
 - (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The NSW Law Reform Commission is an independent statutory agency, and the Commission is responsible for its reporting timeframes. However, I am advised that submissions closed on the review of serious road crime offences on 5 April 2024.
- (2) The NSW Government will honour all election commitments. I am working with the Department of Communities and Justice to establish an Independent Victims Commissioner as soon as is practicable.

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- (3) The NSW Government is also currently considering the most effective way to implement its election commitment to provide counselling to family members of victims of road crime. There are a number of projects underway to address this important area of law and provide support to victims of serious road crime. For example, the State Insurance Regulatory Authority recently established a Trauma Support Service which provides counselling to family members of individuals involved in road accidents.

* 2704 E-BIKE FINES—Ms Kellie Sloane to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources—

- (1) How many penalty notices have been handed out surrounding eBike usage since January 2023?
(2) How many fines have been handed out surrounding eBike usage since January 2023?

Answer—

I am advised that Revenue NSW does not hold information specifically relating to E-bike penalty notices. E-bikes that comply with regulations are considered equivalent to bicycles and the same road rules apply.

Data on the number of fines issued for Bicycle offences can be found on the Revenue NSW website.

* 2705 DISPOSAL OF LAND IN SUTHERLAND SHIRE—The Hon. Mark Speakman to ask the Minister for Transport—

Does the Government have any plans to utilise or dispose of any land held or owned by Transport for NSW in the Sutherland Shire, including in or adjacent to the old F6 corridor?

Answer—

I am advised

This is a matter for the Minister for Roads.

* 2706 STATION AND TOWN CENTRE PRECINCTS—The Hon. Mark Speakman to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

- (1) Are any of the following “station and town centre precincts” within the “Explanation of Intended Effect: Changes to create low and mid-rise housing” released by the Government in December 2023:
- (a) The area within 800m walking distance of land zoned E1 Local Centre in Wills Road Woollooware?
 - (b) The area within 800m walking distance of land zoned E1 Local Centre in Woollooware Road Burraneer?
 - (c) The area within 800m walking distance of land zoned E1 Local Centre in Port Hacking Road Caringbah South?
 - (d) The area within 800m walking distance of land zoned E1 Local Centre in Wentworth Avenue Caringbah South?
 - (e) The area within 800m walking distance of land zoned E1 Local Centre at the corner of Kingsway and Gannons Road Woollooware?

Answer—

I am advised:

The station and town centre precincts are proposed as set out in the Explanation of Intended Effect and subject to consultation with local councils.

- * 2707 BATHURST SES—The Hon. Paul Toole to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

In relation to the redevelopment of Bathurst State Emergency Service (SES):

- (1) Can you please provide a progress update on the Bathurst SES upgrade?
- (2) What is the budget allocation for this project?
- (3) What is the timeline for this project?
- (4) Can you please provide a timeframe for designs and plans to be confirmed, a tender process to take place and works to commence on site?
- (5) Where will the new facility be located? If a new location has this land been secured?
- (6) How many staff are based out of the Bathurst facility?
- (7) Where will they be placed whilst construction takes place?
- (8) How many volunteers are based out of the Bathurst facility?
- (9) Where will volunteers congregate and run operations out of whilst the new facility is under construction?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) NSW State Emergency Service (SES) and Bathurst Regional Council have been working closely together to develop concept designs and budget estimates for a new NSW SES Unit. An announcement will be made on the location in due course.
- (2) NSW SES has a budgeted grant contribution allocation of \$4.5million towards the construction of a NSW SES Unit facility.
- (3) The project is planned for completion before June 2026.
- (4) NSW SES and Bathurst Regional Council are currently reviewing the concept design against budget. Once this is finalised the detailed design, tender process and construction commencement is expected to take between 9 and 12 months.
- (5) Please refer to the answer to Question 1 ..
- (6) There are no NSW SES staff based out of the Unit facility, staff are based out of the NSW SES Zone office located at 79 Corporation Ave, Robin Hill.
- (7) Please refer to the answer to Question 6.
- (8) The NSW SES Bathurst Unit has 75 volunteers.
- (9) The NSW SES Bathurst Unit will continue to operate, uninterrupted, out of their current unit located at 2A Lloyds Rd, South Bathurst.

- * 2708 OPERATIONAL DISENGAGEMENT SCHEME—The Hon. Paul Toole to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

In relation to the Operational Disengagement Scheme,

- (1) How many officers applied for the latest round of the Operational Disengagement Scheme (ODS)?
- (2) How many officers were successful in the latest round of the ODS?
- (3) How much did the latest round cost? Please provide a breakdown including total cost of payouts, operational and management costs?
- (4) Will the Government continue the ODS?

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- (i) If not, what does the Government plan to replace the scheme with to support officers leaving the force and looking to reskill?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) 821

(2)-(3) Details of the latest round of the Optional Disengagement Scheme (ODS) are currently unavailable.

- (4) In accordance with the ODS Charter and the ATO Class Ruling 2021/89, the ODS scheme was funded to run over three financial years, for the period January 2022 to June 2024. The ODS is intended as a one-off reorganisation of the operations of the NSW Police Force and has not been proposed, funded or approved to be an ongoing scheme.
- (4) (i) The NSW Police Force will engage an external career transition service provider/s to provide support. Information will also be provided on a range of career transition resources that officers may choose to utilise independently. Officers are not restricted to the career transition provider/s engaged by the NSW Police Force.

* 2709 NOWRA BYPASS AND QON 2400—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

Following my Question on Notice 2400 to the Premier in relation to the Nowra Bypass:

- (1) Does the Minister still plan to deliver the Nowra Bypass?
- (2) When will any reports become available on Transport for NSW's project page?
- (3) When was the project page last updated?
- (4) Noting the eight planning steps as outlined in the project's FAQ sheet (November 2023), what stage is the project currently in?
- (5) When was the last community correspondence and or update sent to subscribers of nowrabypass@transport.nsw.gov.au?

Answer—

- (1) The Australian and NSW governments have contributed a combined total of \$105 million towards planning for the Nowra bypass. The planning phase is expected to take up to three years. Once this initial phase is complete and additional funding is allocated, the project will move into the development and delivery readiness phase. Construction funding is yet to be confirmed.
- (2) Community and stakeholder engagement activities took place during the second half of 2023. A Consultation Summary Report on the findings from those activities will be released to the community and published on the project page shortly. More than 1000 pieces of feedback were received during the consultation period, which Transport for NSW has been analysing and collating in readiness to present to the community.
- (3) The Transport for NSW Project site was last updated on 27 March 2024.
- (4) The project is currently within the early planning stage. Under the planning steps identified within the FAQs, the project is currently in the process of transitioning between 'Key stakeholders and community consultation to assist in early investigations' and 'Consultants appointed to investigate options.'

The planning and early development process for the Nowra bypass and transport improvements study is expected to be completed by early 2026.

- (5) The last community correspondence was sent on 13 October 2023 to invite the community to provide feedback.

- * 2710 MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS IN NSW POLICE WORKFORCE—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

With respect to mental health awareness in the NSW Police Workforce:

- (1) Could the Minister provide an evaluation of the impact the Memorandum of Understanding between NSW Health (including NSW Ambulance) and the NSW Police Force has had on the management of public health emergencies and safety incidents since its implementation, including any statistical improvements in response times or outcomes?
- (2) What plan does the Government have to review or update the Memorandum of Understanding between NSW Health (including NSW Ambulance) and the NSW Police Force, to ensure enhanced cooperation and efficiency in public safety and health response initiatives?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) A formal evaluation of the impact of the Memorandum of Understanding has not been conducted.
- (2) The NSW Police Force engage regularly with partner agencies to monitor the Memorandum of Understanding.

- * 2711 CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME UPDATE—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

In relation to expanding container deposit schemes to include wine and spirit glass containers:

- (1) Can the Minister provide a specific timeline or projected date for when New South Wales plans to integrate wine and spirit glass bottles into the Return and Earn scheme, including any preliminary steps or pilot phases that are envisaged?
- (2) What are the primary challenges and concerns the Ministry anticipates in the expansion of the scheme to include these additional container types?
- (3) Has there been any formal consultation or engagement with stakeholders from the wine and spirit industry regarding the scheme's expansion?
- (4) If so, could the Minister share outcomes from these discussions, particularly industry concerns and how they are being addressed to align with the scheme's broader environmental objectives?

Answer—

- (1) No. The Government has not made a decision on expanding the Return and Earn scheme, so no timeframes have been set.
- (2) During the public consultation in late 2022, stakeholders raised concerns about the potential impacts of expanding the scheme. These concerns included the financial impact on small suppliers from participating in the scheme, the impact of labelling changes, and the impact of not harmonising with other jurisdictions.
- (3) Yes. In late 2022, the EPA released a Discussion Paper on Driving NSW's Circular Economy, which proposed options to improve the recovery and recycling of beverage containers and other glass packaging, including expanding the NSW Return and Earn container deposit scheme.
- (4) The EPA received almost 900 submissions from the discussion paper. The Government is considering feedback from these submissions and will continue to work with key stakeholders on their concerns and opportunities.

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- * 2712 'HAVE YOUR SAY' CONSULTATIONS—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

With respect to 'Have Your Say' consultations by your Department:

- (1) Is the current consultation process (aka “Have your Say”) fit for purpose?
- (2) Do you have plans to enhance consultation processes?
- (3) Was this process used for projects such as the Bomaderry High School upgrade and will it be used for the Calderwood School upgrade?

Answer—

After more than a decade of Liberal and National Government in NSW, where local communities were repeatedly ignored, the Department of Education has been asked to work to improve its processes for consultation with local communities.

- * 2713 PLASTIC REFUSAL, REDUCTION AND RECYCLING INITIATIVES—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

With respect to the Government plastics refusal, reduction and recycling initiatives:

- (1) Could the Minister confirm the total financial commitment towards plastic reduction initiatives since March 2023?
- (2) How has any allocated funding been distributed across various plastic reduction programs and initiatives and what role have partnerships with non-governmental organisations and the private sector played in these efforts?
- (3) Can the Minister detail the effectiveness and outcomes of these initiatives?
- (4) Can the Minister update the House on key outcomes and actions in its Plastics Action Plan:
 - (a) Legislative measures and product transitions to reduce plastic waste generation?
 - (b) Innovations supported to maximize the value of plastic resources?
 - (c) Efforts to minimize plastic leakage into the environment, with a focus on cigarette butts and nurdles?
 - (d) Advances in plastics research and understanding of future challenges and opportunities in plastic waste management?
- (5) Is the Government on track to meet its goal to reduce plastic litter by 30% by 2025, address the proliferation of microplastics, and ensure alignment with national efforts and commitments made by other states and territories in this domain?

Answer—

- (1) Since it was introduced, the Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy has had \$13 million allocated against it to avoiding plastic waste. The \$13 million consists of:
 - \$10 million allocated for Circular Materials Fund
 - \$2 million for Plastics Research Partnerships
 - \$1 million for the education campaign on single-use plastic phase outs.

The Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy also allocated \$38 million to litter prevention which predominantly targets plastic litter.

- (2) The NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has partnered with numerous non-governmental organisations reaching one million people about plastic reduction. This includes partnerships with:
- The NSW environmental and zoological education centres to help educate 2500 students in 21 schools about the impact of their waste.
 - The Australian Mens' Shed Association with the 'Going Green at the Shed' awareness campaign.
 - The University of Wollongong to implement the sustainable plate initiative which has seen 22,000 single-use containers diverted from landfill within one year.
 - The EPA also funded Boomerang Alliance \$138,000 for a 12-month pilot program to work with the cafe sector across the Sydney Metro Area in behaviour change strategies aimed at reducing single use plastic coffee cups and food containers.
- (3) Some of these Plastics Action Plan initiatives have only commenced in the past 12 months and some are still being designed. Initiatives will be evaluated on completion.
- (4)
- (a) In 2022, the Plastics Reduction and Circular Economy Act 2021 banned the supply of certain single-use plastic items including lightweight plastic bags, cotton buds, straws, cutlery, and plates and bowls (without lids).
- On 29 October 2023, the Minister for the Environment released the 'NSW Plastics: Next Steps' paper for feedback on potential further action to reduce plastic waste. Consultation closed on 4 February 2024, with 418 written submissions and 4787 survey responses received. The Government is now reviewing the feedback which will help to inform what actions to progress on the items and materials outlined in the paper.
- (b) The \$10 million Circular Plastics Program incentivises reducing the use of hard to recycle plastics and increase use of recycled plastic in new products. The second round of funding will be made available in the second half of 2024.
- (c) There are a range of initiatives to tackle cigarette butt litter as part of the NSW Litter Prevention Grants Program.
- The 'NSW Plastics: Next Steps' paper includes a proposal to 'introduce design standards preventing plastic filters in cigarette butts so that they do not persist in the environment when cigarettes are littered' and for the NSW Government to 'work with the Commonwealth Government for a national approach'.
- Operation Clean Sweep NSW launched in April 2023 to target nurdle leakage, with targeted research, site audits and industry engagement underway.
- (d) The EPA is developing the \$2 million Plastics Research Partnership to increase research into the harmful environmental impact of plastics and pathways to improving the quality of recycled plastics made in NSW.
- (5) Yes, through the range of initiatives and proposed action already outlined.
- The NSW Government is also working closely with other government, industry and the community to better harmonise action on problematic single-use plastics, with the Environment Ministers requesting a roadmap for consideration.

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- * 2714 AUSTRALIAN ROAD ASSESSMENT PROGRAM—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

In relation to the Australian Road Assessment Program (AusRAP) and five-star ratings of New South Wales road networks:

- (1) What strategies and actions are your department undertaking to elevate the safety and quality ratings of New South Wales roads, especially those in regions with disproportionately lower ratings like the South Coast?
- (2) How does the Ministry plan to address the regional disparities in road safety ratings?
- (3) When is the interactive road safety rating map expected to be available to the public?
- (4) How is the road safety rating system integrated into your department's strategy for prioritising road improvements?
- (5) Is the Government committed to achieving AusRAP's objective for 80% of roads to be rated three stars or higher by 2030?
- (6) What steps are being taken towards this goal?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Transport for NSW is committed to reducing trauma on NSW roads and meeting the goals of the National Road Safety Action Plan 2023-25, and the NSW 2026 Road Safety Action Plan.

Australian Road Assessment Program (AusRAP) is one of the tools Transport for NSW are using to meet these goals. AusRAP helps ensure that road safety infrastructure in NSW is being used to maximise trauma reduction on our roads.

Traditionally, investment in road safety infrastructure has adopted a reactive approach of targeting safety improvements at locations with an established safety problem. This is commonly delivered through crash reduction programs, black spot and route analyses treatments.

While this approach serves well as reactive measures and continues to do so, the increasing need to pre-empt black spots to achieve safety benefits for the community has required more proactive assessment methods, and AusRAP is now key to Transport for NSW's road safety infrastructure programs.

Between 2013 and 2018, Transport for NSW conducted risk assessments of all state highways, which is about 20,000 kilometres of road, using the internationally adopted International Risk Assessment Program (iRAP) methodology known as AusRAP.

Between 2021 and 2023, Transport for NSW furthered the risk analysis using AusRAP to risk rate all regional roads across NSW, which has recently been completed.

This analysis helped Transport for NSW plan and develop road safety improvement programs such as the Safer Roads Program, which delivers life-saving road safety treatments like safety barriers and wide centre lines, which continues to do so under the refreshed Towards Zero Safer Roads Program. The network wide star rating analysis allows for the pro-active identification of higher risk sections of the road network to direct program funding where it is most required.

- (2) Transport for NSW is committed to addressing regional disparities in road safety ratings by aligning with the goals set forth by the iRAP, and reflected in Australia's National Road Safety Strategy. This includes implementing measures outlined in the National Road Safety Action Plan 2023-25 and the NSW 2026 Road Safety Action Plan to achieve a 3-star or better standard on roads, as a means to halve road deaths and injuries by 2030, in accordance with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

To achieve this, Transport for NSW is leveraging tools such as the AusRAP, which employs both collective risk measures and individual risk measures to assess crash risk on specific road sections. AusRAP's star rating system evaluates the inherent safety of road infrastructure, providing a clear indication of safety levels ranging from 1-star (least safe) to 5-star (safest).

Infrastructure upgrades remain a key focus for addressing regional disparities in road safety ratings. Initiatives such as the NSW Towards Zero Safer Roads Program and the Australian Government Road Safety Program prioritise enhancements to road infrastructure, including elements such as dual lane divided carriageways, effective line marking, and wider lanes -all of which contribute to higher star ratings and improved safety outcomes.

The Road Safety Program requires that a star rating minimum 3-star and above be achieved for applications. The AusRAP demonstrator tool (<https://demonstrator.vida.irap.org/>) can be used by practitioners to assess how infrastructure and risk mitigation of the road network affects the star rating of the road. Practitioners have been advised and equipped with the knowledge of using the AusRAP demonstrator tool in a briefing session which occurred on 4 March 2024, which included Local Government. This means practitioners are able to set up a typical cross section for the road they are investigating and apply various infrastructure treatments to estimate the star rating change. This will provide greater confidence that their project application is achieving the 3-star minimum requirement.

- (3) Transport for NSW is also working closely with Austroads, in conjunction with other states and territories, on the coordination and acceleration of releasing publicly a national position of AusRAP information. The PDF copy of "AusRAP - Star Rating Australia's National Network of Highways Report", which includes the star rating of the national highways in the country, including those in NSW, is available online: <https://www.nrspp.org.au/resources/ausrap-star-rating-australias-national-network-of-highways/>
- (4) The Australian Government Road Safety Program Guidelines require any upgrade to raise the star rating of the road to minimum 3 stars. Transport for NSW highlights:
 - A minimum of 3 stars will reduce the roadside risk of the road and reduce the incidence of Fatal and Serious Injuries (FSI). It should be noted that 3-star minimum roads alone will not meet the trauma reduction targets set out in the NSW Government 2026 Road Safety Action Plan. Where possible, the AusRAP demonstrator should be used to consider additional cost-effective treatments to continue improving the star rating above the 3-star minimum.
 - If the improved section of road is part of a longer route, changes along the length route should be considered to improve the overall route star rating. Further, the upgrade should not be out of context of the remainder of the route. Where possible, provide a consistent cross section.
 - Practitioners should consult with the relevant Austroads Guidelines and Standards to align with safe system interventions, reducing exposure, likelihood and severity, using primary safe system treatments where suitable.
 - Speed zone reductions are not to be included as a treatment unless prior written principle agreement has been provided from the appropriate local Transport.
- (5) Transport for NSW is committed to continuing risk assessments for the NSW road network that improves the safety performance of all roads. As all State and Regional Roads have been risk assessed, and continue to be refreshed annually, Transport for NSW has commenced planning on how to risk assess the Local Road network which accounts for approximately 80% of the network.

Through the Australian and NSW Governments significant investment in various road safety infrastructure programs, the aim is to improve road safety by minimising deaths and serious injuries by implementing treatments that deliver safer outcomes linked to the National Road Safety Strategy 2021-30 and the National Road Safety Action Plan 2023-25, as well as the NSW Governments Road Safety Action Plan 2026. The target is to reduce fatal crashes by 50 per cent and serious injuries by

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30 per cent on NSW roads by 2030. In doing so, the intention to increase the risk rating to a minimum of 3 stars or better for high-risk highways and arterial roads.

- (6) Funding Applications for Road Safety Program 2023/24-2025/26 opened on 4 March 2024 and close at midnight on 10 May 2024. Transport for NSW and all local government areas within NSW can apply for funding under this Program. It is anticipated that successful applications will be announced in mid-2024.

Funded construction activity can commence as soon as projects are approved. All work must be completed by 31 March 2026 and project completion reports submitted by 15 April 2026. It is up to each applicant to manage the delivery schedule to ensure all approved projects are completed and project completion reports are submitted and approved by this date.

The Australian Government requires Transport for NSW to compile and submit the Program Completion Report by 30 April 2026.

- * 2715 CASEWORKER VACANCIES—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Inclusion—

With respect to caseworker vacancies:

- (1) What is the current caseworker vacancy rate?
- (2) When was the vacancy rate at this level previously?
- (3) Will you consider re-deploying staff from the Office of the Senior Practitioner to front-line child protection positions?
- (4) Will you revisit requirements for tertiary qualifications for child protection caseworkers?
- (5) Will you engage with TAFE and other Registered Training Organisations to change content rules for caseworker related courses?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1-2) As at the December 2023 quarter, the caseworker vacancy rate is 11 per cent. Quarterly and annual caseworker vacancy rates are publicly available from September 2013 onward via the Caseworker Statistics Dashboard:

<https://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/resources/statistics/caseworker-statistics/dashboard>

- (3-5) The NSW Government is embarking on significant structural reform to fix the child protection system inherited from the previous government. A critical element of the reform will involve the attraction and retention of caseworkers, ensuring they are well equipped, and feel supported while they do their incredibly important job - keeping children safe.

- * 2716 UPGRADES AND NEW BUILDS - PRESCHOOLS - Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

With respect to upgrades and new builds of schools and preschools:

- (1) Does the Minister have plans to meet with Members, including myself, and residents, to discuss upgrades and new projects under your portfolio?
- (2) Will the Minister consider providing pre-school and out-of-school-hours care at Jamberoo Public School and Shoalhaven Heads Public School?
- (3) Can the Minister provide an update on planned pre-school developments at Bomaderry Primary School and East Nowra Public School?

Answer—

The NSW Department of Education is engaging regularly with stakeholders in relation to new and upgraded schools and the NSW Government's commitment to deliver 100 new public preschools. The selection of sites for public preschools was conducted through a rigorous assessment process with independent oversight.

The Department has advised that Jamberoo Public School currently has an Out Of School Hours (OOSH) care service operated by Peak Sports and Learning. Shoalhaven Heads Public School has an OOSH service operated by Shoalhaven Heads OOSH.

* 2717 24-HOUR ECONOMY COMMISSIONER—Mr Gareth Ward to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

With respect to the office of the 24-hour Economy Commissioner and the Government's Vibrancy Reforms to boost New South Wales's night economy:

- (1) Can the Minister provide an update on the Vibrancy Reforms Timeline and the implementation of the 24-Hour Economy Legislation Amendment (Vibrancy Reforms) Act 2023 and the 24-Hour Economy Commissioner Act 2023?
- (2) Have all outcomes of Quarter 1 (Jan-Mar 2024) been achieved?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- (5) When will the new entertainment sound rules commence?
- (6) How is the Minister supporting businesses and venues in resolving disputes with councils?
- (7) How many members of the current Advisory Group come from regional NSW?
- (8) Can the Minister report on the efficacy and outcomes of the Live Performance Venue Program, Vibrancy Reforms, and the Uptown Program?

Answer—

- (1) Detail on the implementation and timeline of Vibrancy Reforms can be found on <https://nsw.gov.au/business-and-economy/24-hour-economy/vibrancy-reforms>
- (2) The delivery of the reforms has been timetabled for staged implementation. While minor adjustments may be made to milestones from time to time, delivery of key reforms remains on track. The Vibrancy Reforms webpage at <https://nsw.gov.au/business-and-economy/24-hour-economy/vibrancy-reforms> is kept updated and confirms when reforms are expected to come online and detail those that have commenced.
- (3) The new framework for entertainment sound complaint management for licensed venues, led by Liquor and Gaming NSW, will commence from July 2024.
- (4) The NSW Government is providing significant support to venues and councils to build vibrant night time precincts, including through programs delivered by the Office of the 24-Hour Economy Commissioner such as the Live Performance Venue Accelerator, which helps hospitality businesses diversify into live programming; industry playbooks to provide best practice advice in key areas including noise, safety and growing their businesses; and support for councils including the Local Government Toolkit and Masterclasses to help them to grow their night-time economies. In addition, the Hospitality Concierge provides hospitality businesses and councils with free, tailored guidance.
- (5) The current 24-Hour Economy Advisory Group was appointed in November 2022, and its members are serving their term.

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Membership of this Council will reflect the requirement of the 24-Hour Economy Commissioner Act 2023 to include at least one person who, in the Minister's opinion, represents the interests of regional New South Wales.

- (6) The impact of the Vibrancy Reforms will be tracked over time in consultation with key agencies. The earliest available data reflects strong adoption of initiatives such as increased incentives for dedicated live music and performance venues, which, as at March 2024, have seen an 84 per cent increase in the number of licensed venues registered as live music and performance venues, as compared to March 2023.

The first round of the Uptown Program concludes on 30 June 2024. Following this, a post-program evaluation will occur and key information from the evaluation will be published on the Uptown Program webpage.

The Live Performance Venue Program concludes on 30 June 2025. Following this, an evaluation will be undertaken and key information from the evaluation will be published on the Live Performance Venue Program webpage.

- * 2718 REMOVING DILAPIDATED STRUCTURES IN SYDNEY HARBOUR—Ms Felicity Wilson to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Can the Minister advise whether there is any plan in place to remove dilapidated structures in Sydney Harbour such as rotting wharves, pilings and moorings?
- (a) Is there a plan to simultaneously address the derelict structures in Berrys Bay during the transformation of the Berrys Bay precinct?

Answer—

I am advised

Transport for NSW is currently prioritising maritime projects that improve safety and accessibility and facilitate a better experience for public transport customers.

A number of wharves and moorings have been left in the Berrys Bay area by past leaseholders. The assets identified have been inspected and pose no immediate threat to the environment or vessels in the water. Transport for NSW will continue to monitor the assets for safety.

- * 2719 TAPPING ON RATES - WHARVES—Ms Felicity Wilson to ask the Minister for Transport—

Can the Minister provide data for how many individuals “tapped on” at the following wharves:

- (1) McMahons Point Wharf:

- (a) 2020?
(b) 2021?
(c) 2022?
(d) 2023?

- (2) Milsons Point Wharf:

- (a) 2020?
(b) 2021?
(c) 2022?
(d) 2023?

- (3) Jeffrey Street Wharf:

- (a) 2020?

- (b) 2021?
- (c) 2022?
- (d) 2023?
- (4) Kirribilli Wharf:
 - (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?
- (5) North Sydney High Street Wharf:
 - (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?
- (6) Neutral Bay Wharf:
 - (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?
- (7) Cremorne Point Wharf:
 - (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?
- (8) Old Cremorne Wharf:
 - (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?
- (9) Mosman Bay Wharf:
 - (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?
- (10) South Mosman Wharf:
 - (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?

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- (c) 2022?
- (d) 2023?
- (11) Taronga Zoo Wharf:
 - (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) (a) 2020- 97,046
 - (b) 2021 - 86,453
 - (c) 2022 -130,351
 - (d) 2023 - 169,205
- (2) (a) 2020 - 222,463
 - (b) 2021 - 145,995
 - (c) 2022 - 390,444
 - (d) 2023 - 540,177
- (3) Jeffrey Street Wharf: No opal data is available, as there is no public transport ferry service via this wharf, only private ferry and fast ferry services.
- (4) (a) 2020 - 41,337
 - (b) 2021 - 36,241
 - (c) 2022 - 62,843
 - (d) 2023 - 89,125
- (5) (a) 2020 - 11,493
 - (b) 2021 - 8,173
 - (c) 2022 -8,955
 - (d) 2023 -19,639
- (6) (a) 2020 -62,234
 - (b) 2021 -55,055
 - (c) 2022 -86,276
 - (d) 2023 -115,204
- (7) (a) 2020 -81,472
 - (b) 2021 -68,574
 - (c) 2022 -88,385
 - (d) 2023 -131,947
- (8) (a) 2020 -13,022

- (b) 2021 -11,022
- (c) 2022 -19,192
- (d) 2023 -16,367
- (9) (a) 2020 -95,121
- (b) 2021 -83,648
- (c) 2022 -128,768
- (d) 2023 -163,200
- (10) (a) 2020 -29,937
- (b) 2021 -25,883
- (c) 2022 -38,691
- (d) 2023 -52,222
- (11) (a) 2020 -209,281
- (b) 2021 -170,808
- (c) 2022 -416,601
- (d) 2023 -591,155

* 2720 TAPPING ON RATES - TRAIN STATIONS—Ms Felicity Wilson to ask the Minister for Transport—

Can the Minister provide data on how many individuals “tapped on” at the following train stations:

- (1) St Leonards Station:
 - (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?
- (2) Wollstonecraft Station:
 - (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?
- (3) Waverton Station:
 - (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?
 - (d) 2023?
- (4) North Sydney Station:
 - (a) 2020?
 - (b) 2021?
 - (c) 2022?

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- (d) 2023?
- (5) Milsons Point Station:
- (a) 2020?
- (b) 2021?
- (c) 2022?
- (d) 2023?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1)
- (a) 2,821,175
- (b) 2,405,311
- (c) 2,601,532
- (d) 3,802,830.
- (2)
- (a) 431,213
- (b) 343,565
- (c) 411,568
- (d) 594,049.
- (3)
- (a) 389,489
- (b) 325,222
- (c) 396,495
- (d) 552,757.
- (4)
- (a) 3,831,072
- (b) 2,867,132
- (c) 3,693,962
- (d) 5,325,388.
- (5)
- (a) 1,400,824
- (b) 1,056,634
- (c) 1,535,351
- (d) 2,038,573.

* 2721 GRANTS - SMALL BUSINESS MONTH—Ms Felicity Wilson to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

(1) Can the Minister advise if there are grants available for organisations for Small Business Month in October?

(a) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised that the NSW Government will be supporting a range of events and activities as part of the Small Business Month program in 2024.

* 2722 ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS—Ms Felicity Wilson to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

(1) Can the Minister advise whether there are any plans to install EV charging stations in North Shore?

(a) If so, can the Minister advise where these are planned?

(b) Will the local community be allowed to provide input on any planned charging stations?

Answer—

(1) The NSW Government currently administers two public Electric Vehicle (EV) charging programs, both of which have plans to install EV charging stations in the North Shore area of Sydney. Beyond the EV charging programs that the Government is providing, the private sector is installing EV infrastructure across the State as the demand for this service increases.

(a) In the NSW Government's EV Fast Charging program, 21 fast-charging stations have been approved in and around the North Shore area.

These are detailed on the NSW Electric Vehicle Public Charging Master Plan, which is available at www.energy.nsw.gov.au/business-and-industry/programs-grants-and-schemes/electric-vehicles/EV-master-plan-map.

In the NSW Government's \$10 million EV Kerbside Charging Grants program, funding is available to grant applicants that apply for EV charging locations in the North Shore and meet program eligibility requirements. The first funding round for this program has concluded and funding agreements are currently being finalised before results and locations can be announced.

(b) The NSW Government does not prescribe the specific street addresses or sites for EV chargers beyond setting the eligibility criteria for grant programs (e.g. optimal zones or eligible local government areas across NSW).

The exact location of charging stations is determined by the charge point operators (a combination of private sector businesses and local governments) following normal planning processes. Local councils across NSW take a varied approach to planning approvals, but many consult with the local community on proposed charger sites through their existing processes.

* 2723 BUS TIMETABLE RETURN TO FULL SERVICE—Ms Felicity Wilson to ask the Minister for Transport—

(1) Can the Minister advise when local bus services in North Shore will be returning to the full timetable?

(a) If not, why?

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Answer—

I am advised

Operators in the North Shore are committed to returning services as soon as they have the drivers to do so, including returning to a full timetable as soon as possible. They are engaging in multi-pronged recruitment strategies seeking to increase driver numbers in a difficult job market.

From 31 March 2024 timetables and routes for some Northern Beaches and North Shore buses were adjusted to improve reliability and capacity to meet passenger demand.

* 2724 UPDATE ON SYDNEY METRO PROJECT—Ms Felicity Wilson to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Can the Minister provide an update on the Sydney Metro project?
 - (a) When is train testing on the City to Sydenham line expected to be complete?
 - (b) When are services expected to be running from Crows Nest and Victoria Cross Station?

Answer—

I am advised

- (1) Construction on Sydney Metro City & Southwest is well advanced, with testing and commissioning of Sydney Metro trains between Chatswood to Sydenham underway, ahead of passenger services starting through Sydney's CBD in mid 2024, and onto Bankstown in 2025. Over 9,000 hours of testing has been completed to date.

Construction is underway on both the Sydney Metro West and Sydney Metro - Western Sydney Airport projects.

- (a) The testing will be completed in the first half of 2024, ahead of the commencement of the trial running phase.
- (b) Sydney Metro passenger services between Chatswood and Sydenham will start in mid 2024.

* 2725 PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS - SPIT JUNCTION ON MILITARY AND SPIT ROADS—Ms Felicity Wilson to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

Can the Minister provide advice on the pedestrian crossings at Spit Junction on Military and Spit Roads and what safety measures could be implemented to ensure safer crossings for pedestrians?

Answer—

I am advised

A review of the most recent finalised five-year crash data from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2023, revealed there have been no pedestrian related crashes at this location. Further provisional crash data obtained on 26 March 2024 also shows no reported crashes involving pedestrians at the subject location. As the crash history indicates, drivers and pedestrians are aware of the conditions and adjust their behaviour accordingly. (Please note that the provisional crash data may be incomplete and is subject to change)

There are existing facilities to improve pedestrian safety such as pedestrian crossing lanterns, red arrow pedestrian protection and pedestrian fencing. There is also a middle concrete island providing storage for pedestrians. In addition, there is also an alternate option for pedestrians to cross Military Road, via the use of the pedestrian bridge located approximately 50 metres west of the Spit Junction which connects to two buildings on each side of Military Road.

There are currently no projects identified for this location however, Transport for NSW will continue to monitor the road network in this area to ensure it is operating safely and as efficient as possible.

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2726 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN NORTHERN BEACHES LGA—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

- (1) What is the exact dollar amount of funding that has been provided by the Government to youth mental health services in the Northern Beaches Local Government Area for the following years:
 - (a) 1 July 2023 – 6 May 2024 (or the closest date for which records are held)?
 - (b) 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023?
 - (c) 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022?
- (2) What is the exact dollar amount of funding that has been provided by the Government to Youth Up Front for the following years:
 - (a) 1 July 2023 – 6 May 2024 (or the closest date for which records are held)?
 - (b) 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023?
 - (c) 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022?
- (3) What is the exact dollar amount of funding that has been provided by the Government to The Burdekin Association for the following years:
 - (a) 1 July 2023 – 6 May 2024 (or the closest date for which records are held)?
 - (b) 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023?
 - (c) 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022?
- (4) What funding opportunities are currently available for youth mental health services?
 - (a) What funding opportunities for youth mental health services were available and receiving applications between 1 July 2023 – 6 May 2024 (or the closest date for which records are held)?
- (5) Does the Government have any current plans to provide youth mental health services with funding opportunities in the 2024-25 Budget?
- (6) If any of the answers to the above questions reference publicly available material, could you please provide URL and page number where the relevant information is located?

2727 FUNDING FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVOR SUPPORT—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Women, Minister for Seniors, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault—

- (1) What is the exact dollar amount of funding that has been provided by the Government to domestic violence survivor support services in the Northern Beaches Local Government Area for the following years:
 - (a) 1 July 2023 – 6 May 2024 (or the closest date for which records are held)?
 - (b) 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023?
 - (c) 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022?
- (2) What is the exact dollar amount of funding that has been provided by the Government to Northern Beaches Women's Shelter for the following years:

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- (a) 1 July 2023 – 6 May 2024 (or the closest date for which records are held)?
 - (b) 1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023?
 - (c) 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022?
- (3) What is the exact dollar amount of funding that has been provided by the Government to The Women's Resilience Centre for the following years:
- (a) 1 July 2023 – 6 May 2024 (or the closest date for which records are held)?
 - (b) 1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023?
 - (c) 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022?
- (4) What is the exact dollar amount of funding that has been provided by the Government to Women and Children First for the following years:
- (a) 1 July 2023 – 6 May 2024 (or the closest date for which records are held)?
 - (b) 1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023?
 - (c) 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022?
- (5) What funding opportunities are currently available for domestic violence survivor support services?
- (6) What funding opportunities for domestic violence survivor support services were available and receiving applications between 1 July 2023 – 6 May 2024 (or the closest date for which records are held)?
- (7) Does the Government have any current plans to provide domestic violence survivor support services with funding opportunities in the 2024-25 Budget?
- (8) If any of the answers to the above questions reference publicly available material, could you please provide URL and page number where the relevant information is located?
- 2728 CAPITAL WORKS AND UPGRADES AT NARRABEEN SPORTS HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- (1) What is the exact dollar amount spent on capital works or upgrades (including any work which might be characterised as maintenance works) at Narrabeen Sports High School between 1 July 2023 and 6 May 2024 (or the closest date for which records are held)?
 - (2) What is the exact dollar amount planned to be spent on capital works or upgrades (including any work which might be characterised as maintenance works) at Narrabeen Sports High School between 7 May 2024 and 30 June 2024?
 - (3) Does the Government have any current plans to provide additional capital works or upgrade (including any work which might be characterised as maintenance works) funding to Narrabeen Sports High School in the 2024-25 Budget?
 - (4) Does the Government or the Department of Education have any dollar amount recorded in internal documents identifying additional capital works or upgrades (including any work which might be characterised as maintenance works) funding to Narrabeen Sports High School in the forward estimates?
 - (a) If yes, what is the exact dollar amount the Government or Department of Education currently plans to allocate to capital works or upgrades (including any work which might be characterised as maintenance works) to Narrabeen Sports High School between 1 July 2024 and 30 June 2028?
- 2729 NEW PRESCHOOL IN TERREY HILLS—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

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- (1) Does the Government have any current plans to open a new preschool in Terrey Hills?
- (a) If yes, when does the Government currently plan to provide funding for a preschool at Terrey Hills?
- (b) Based on current plans, what month and year is it the new Terrey Hills preschool expected to open for operation?
- 2730 MONA VALE ROAD WEST—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—
- (1) Does the Government currently plan to restore the \$340 million funding for Mona Vale Road West in the 2024-25 Budget?
- (2) Does the Government currently plan to restore any funding for Mona Vale Road West in the 2024-25 Budget? If yes, what is the exact dollar amount that will be restored?
- (3) Does the Government currently plan to restore the \$340 million funding for Mona Vale Road West in the 2025-26 Budget?
- (4) Does the Government currently plan to restore any funding for Mona Vale Road West in the 2025-26 Budget? If yes, what is the exact dollar amount that will be restored?
- (5) Does the Government currently plan to restore the \$340 million funding for Mona Vale Road West in the 2026-27 Budget?
- (6) Does the Government currently plan to restore any funding for Mona Vale Road West in the 2026-27 Budget? If yes, what is the exact dollar amount that will be restored?
- (7) Does the Government currently plan to restore the \$340 million funding for Mona Vale Road West in the 2027-28 Budget?
- (8) Does the Government currently plan to restore any funding for Mona Vale Road West in the 2027-28 Budget? If yes, what is the exact dollar amount that will be restored?
- (9) Given the answer 2125 printed in Questions & Answers Paper No. 41 regarding the Mona Vale Road West upgrade project being deferred for two years:
- (a) What is the currently planned deadline for the finalisation of the detailed design?
- (b) What is the date by which the Government currently plans to put out the project to tender?
- (c) What is the date by which the Government currently plans to commence substantive works on the project?
- 2731 FLOOD MITIGATION FUNDING - NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—
- In relation to the \$31.1 million provided by the Government to Northern Beaches Council to conduct flood mitigation works on the Council's land adjacent to the Wakehurst Parkway:
- (1) What is the exact dollar amount of this funding spent so far by Northern Beaches Council?
- (2) What exact month and year is the Northern Beaches Council contractually required to complete these flood mitigation works?
- (3) What exact date does the Government require this funding be spent by?
- (a) Will unspent funds revert to the Government on this date?

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2732 NORTHERN SYDNEY ROAD REVIEW—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

- (1) On what month and year will the Northern Sydney Road Review be completed?
- (2) On what month and year will the results of the Northern Sydney Road Review be published?
- (3) Does the Government have any current plans to allocated funding to ‘pinch points’ across the Northern Beaches Local Government Area?
- (4) Does the Government have any current plans to allocated funding to upgrade the intersection of Pittwater Road and the Wakehurst Parkway at Narrabeen?
 - (a) If yes, how much funding will be allocated?
 - (b) Will this funding be allocated in the 2024-25 Budget?
 - (i) If no, in which budget will the funding be allocated?
- (5) Does the Government have any current plans to allocated funding to upgrade the intersection of Pittwater Road and Mona Vale Road at Mona Vale?
 - (a) If yes, how much funding will be allocated?
 - (b) Will this funding be allocated in the 2024-25 Budget?
 - (i) If no, in which budget will the funding be allocated?

2733 SCOTLAND ISLAND RURAL FIRE BRIGADE - NEW FIRE BOAT—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

- (1) Could the Minister please advise if there are any current plans for the Government to hand over a new fire boat to the Scotland Island Rural Fire Brigade?
 - (a) If yes, what exact month and year will the Scotland Island Rural Fire Brigade receive this new fire boat?

2734 ENROLMENT CHANGES BETWEEN BARRENJOEY HIGH SCHOOL AND FRESHWATER SENIOR CAMPUS—Mr Rory Amon to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Could the Minister please advise:

- (1) The exact number of students enrolled at Barrenjoey High School in 2020 that enrolled to attend Freshwater Senior Campus in 2021 and attended Freshwater Senior Campus at the start of that year?
- (2) The exact number of students enrolled at Barrenjoey High School in 2021 that enrolled to attend Freshwater Senior Campus in 2022 and attended Freshwater Senior Campus at the start of that year?
- (3) The exact number of students enrolled at Barrenjoey High School in 2022 that enrolled to attend Freshwater Senior Campus in 2023 and attended Freshwater Senior Campus at the start of that year?
- (4) The exact number of students enrolled at Barrenjoey High School in 2023 that enrolled to attend Freshwater Senior Campus in 2024 and attended Freshwater Senior Campus at the start of that year?

2735 ALFORDS POINT ROAD—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

With respect to Question 1514 –

- (1) Can the Minister provide an update on the designed that has been progressed for the central barrier along Alfords Point Road?
- (2) Is the project funded?
- (3) Are there any other plans to upgrade Alfords Point Road between Brushwood Drive and Menai Road?

2736 SCHOOL TRANSFER REQUESTS—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Can the Minister provide the number, by year for 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023, of requests to transfer to another school from:
 - (a) Lurnea High School?
 - (b) Moorebank High School?
 - (c) Liverpool Boys High School?
 - (d) Liverpool Girls High School?
 - (e) Menai High School?

2737 REPORTED CAR BREAK-INS AND THEFTS AT HOLSWORTHY TRAIN STATION—Mrs Tina Ayyad to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) How many reported car break-ins were reported at Holsworthy train station carpark in:
 - (a) 2016?
 - (b) 2017?
 - (c) 2018?
 - (d) 2019?
 - (e) 2020?
 - (f) 2021?
 - (g) 2022?
 - (h) 2023?
- (2) How many reported car thefts were reported for cars parked at Holsworthy train station carpark in:
 - (a) 2016?
 - (b) 2017?
 - (c) 2018?
 - (d) 2019?
 - (e) 2020?
 - (f) 2021?
 - (g) 2022?
 - (h) 2023?

2738 STATUS OF DROUGHT—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

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In 2020, the NSW Rural Assistance Authority deemed drought to be a weather event and no longer a natural disaster:

- (1) Can the Minister advise how this decision was determined?
 - (a) If the decision is attributed to the previous Government, does the Minister intend to overturn the decision?
 - (a) If not, why?

2739 STAFF EMPLOYED BY CROWN LANDS IN BROKEN HILL—Mr Roy Butler to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

- (1) How many staff are employed by Crown Lands in Broken Hill?
- (2) How many of these staff are present in the Broken Hill office from Monday to Friday?

2740 GOVERNMENT INFORMATION PUBLIC ACCESS (GIPA) ACT—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

In relation to the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA):

- (1) Did your ministerial office receive correspondence from the Information and Privacy Commission (IPC), dated 8 April 2024, in relation to a GIPA application decision made by your ministerial office, that was reviewed by the IPC?
 - (a) If yes, does your office intend on actioning the recommendation of the IPC?
 - (i) If yes, when will your ministerial office respond to that recommendation?
 - (ii) If no, why?

2741 REGION 14 BUS SERVICE CANCELLATIONS—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) In relation to the buses in Region 14, how many services were cancelled during the period:
 - (a) 15 March to 31 March 2024?
 - (b) 1 April to 14 April 2024?
 - (c) 15 April to 30 April 2024?
 - (d) 1 May to 14 May 2024?

2742 NEW SYDNEY TRAINS TIMETABLE - T1 LINE—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) In relation to the new Sydney Trains timetable on the T1 North Shore and Western Line, can you rule out:
 - (a) Any service cuts?
 - (b) Any slower service times?

2743 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES IN BRISBANE—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

In relation to the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Brisbane in 2032:

- (1) What steps have been taken by the Government to help support the Queensland Government deliver the games?
 - (a) Will there be a whole-of-government approach by the Government?

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- (2) Have there been any discussions or confirmation that New South Wales will host any Olympic or Paralympic events?
- (3) Will there be a strategy to ensure New South Wales receives a boost to the visitor economy from the Olympic and Paralympic Games?
- 2744 CHANGE IN FUNDING ALLOCATION - SCHOOLS—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- In relation to the change in funding for the Resource Allocation Model (RAM) for schools in the Davidson Electorate between 2023 and 2024:
- (1) Can you please provide advice for school Parents and Citizens' Associations who have asked about the change in funding?
- 2745 NSW MINISTERIAL DIARY DISCLOSURES—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- In relation to the NSW Ministerial Diary disclosures and travel in which you disclose you met with “Ku-ring-gai Shire Council” on 29 February 2024:
- (1) Where did this meeting take place?
- (2) Since April 2023, have you visited Ku-ring-gai Local Government Area?
- 2746 TRANSPORT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENTS - LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND COUNCILS—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- In relation to local governments/councils that have a Transport Oriented Development(s) (TOD):
- (1) Did every single local government/council provide options to Planning NSW in relation to flexibility of commencement and/or local planning work?
- 2747 COMMUTER CARPARK LINDFIELD—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Minister for Transport—
- In relation to Transport for NSW requesting \$9.8 million be refunded by Ku-ring-gai Council in relation to commuter parking at Lindfield in November 2023 and given the Transport Oriented Development (TOD) commences in Lindfield in May 2024:
- (1) Does Transport for NSW still request the refund of \$9.8 million?
- 2748 MEDICAL RESEARCH PORTFOLIO—Mr Matt Cross to ask the Premier—
- What actions has your Government undertaken in the Medical Research portfolio since 28 March 2023?
- 2749 LOCAL SMALL COMMITMENT ALLOCATION PROGRAM—Mr Mark Hodges to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—
- (1) With respect to Response given as to Question 1263 could the Special Minister of State provide an update as to the following matters:
- (a) Can you please provide an update as to when each application was submitted pursuant to the Local Small Commitment Allocation (LSCA) Program for each project within the Castle Hill Electorate?
- (b) Could you please provide an update as to the progress of the assessment for each projected within the Castle Hill Electorate?

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2750 HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL - LSCA—Mr Mark Hodges to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

(1) With respect to the LSCA Grant Funding of \$1,500.00 allocated to the Hornsby Shire Council for Playground and Park Upgrades please advise:

(a) What is the status of the said amount of \$1,500.00 allocated to the Hornsby Shire Council?

2751 DEDICATED UNDERQUOTING TEAM—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections—

(1) Is there a dedicated underquoting team within NSW Fair Trading?

(a) If yes:

(i) When was the team established?

(ii) How many staff are allocated to it?

(iii) What is its role?

(iv) What has it achieved?

2752 PREMIER'S LITERARY MULTICULTURAL AWARD PANEL CHAIR—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

Is the current Panel Chair of the NSW Premier's Literary Multicultural Award, sponsored by Multicultural NSW, an impartial and suitable person to judge that award?

2753 OPPORTUNITY CLASSES AT ARTARMON PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Tim James to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In relation to opportunity classes (OC) at Artarmon Public School:

(1) Does the government plan to reduce the number of OC places offered at the school?

(2) How many places will be cut?

(3) When will the cut commence?

(4) What transitional arrangements, if any, will be implemented?

(5) Was the school or its Parents & Carers consulted on prior to the announcement?

(6) Will any student currently eligible for an OC place at the school need to move catchments to avoid missing out on a place?

2754 AMBULANCE STATION AT NAREMBURN—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

In relation to the ambulance station at 14-16 Slade St, Naremburn:

(1) Is this an active ambulance station?

(a) If yes:

(i) How many ambulances are based at the station?

(ii) How many ambulance staff are allocated to the station?

(2) What are the plans for the site?

- (3) Are there any plans to dispose of the land or develop the site?
- (4) What was the expenditure on maintenance and capital works at the site in the previous and current financial years?

2755 LITHIUM-ION BATTERY FIRES—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

How many reportable lithium-ion battery fires have agencies received notification for in each of the past 5 years?

2756 PEDESTRIAN CROSSING OVER THE PACIFIC HIGHWAY—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

- (1) Are there any plans to improve the crossing over the Pacific Highway near Victoria Avenue to enhance the safety of students travelling to and from Chatswood Public School and Chatswood High School?
- (2) Is the government considering funding upgrades or a replacement to the existing Willoughby Council pedestrian bridge over the Pacific Highway that is approaching its end of life?

2757 LAND CLAIMS UNDER THE ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS ACT—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, and Minister for the Central Coast—

In relation to land claims under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (NSW):

- (1) Is the register of land claims maintained by the Office of the Register, Aboriginal Land Rights Act publicly available and searchable?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- (2) Does the Minister have any plans to increase the transparency of the register and of land claims made in New South Wales?
 - (a) If not, why not?

2758 TRANSPORT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM - CROWS NEST ACCELERATED PRECINCT—Mr Tim James to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

In relation to the Transport Oriented Development Program, Crows Nest accelerated precinct:

- (1) When will the plans for the Crows Nest precinct be released?
- (2) Will the plans be placed on public exhibition for consultation?
- (3) Will heritage areas in Naremburn or Crows Nest within 1200m of Crows Nest station be subject to any zoning uplift or changes to planning controls?
- (4) Are there any plans to add new residential zones or amend minimum non-residential floor space ratios within the precinct?
- (5) How much of the \$520 million funding for community infrastructure in Transport Oriented Development accelerated precincts will be allocated to Crows Nest?
 - (a) How will the funds be allocated?
 - (b) Will funding include projects identified as priorities under the St Leonards and Crows Nest Special Infrastructure Contribution?

2759 DISPLAY OF NEW ZEALAND FLAG ON ANZAC DAY—Mr Tim James to ask the Premier—

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- (1) Is the flag of New Zealand flown from the Sydney Harbour Bridge on ANZAC Day?
- (a) If not, why not?
- (2) Is one of the existing flagpoles on the Sydney Harbour Bridge available to mark special occasions?
- (a) If not, why not?
- 2760 CONSOLIDATION OF PROJECTS - HOUSING—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—
- What efforts are made by your Department to consolidate multiple service and maintenance works into a single project to reduce the inconvenience or unavoidable out of home time of social housing residents?
- 2761 GAMBLEAWARE TELEVISION ADVERTISEMENTS—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, and Minister for the Central Coast—
- In relation to the NSW GambleAware television advertisements that identifies the harm to young people caused by gambling features within video games:
- (1) What plans does the Government have to reduce the incidence of gambling features within video games?
- (2) When will these plans be implemented?
- (3) Does the definition of 'video game' in these advertisements include in-game ads on mobile phone apps?
- 2762 TRANSPORT CONNECT ACCOUNTS - PARK&RIDE—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Transport—
- (1) Why don't Park&Ride locations allow users who tap on with their credit/debit card, then exit the carpark using that same credit/debit card, benefit from the 18 hours of free parking unless they have an active 'Transport Connect' account?
- (2) Are there any plans to address this anomaly?
- (3) What utility does Transport Connect provide:
- (a) The customer?
- (b) The Government?
- 2763 STRATA SCHEMES MANAGEMENT ACT REFORM—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections—
- (1) Does the Government have any plans to reform the Strata Schemes Management Act?
- (a) If so, what areas of the Act is the Government seeking to reform?
- (b) What consultation has/will take place with relevant stakeholders?
- (c) When does the Government anticipate being able to announce the details of these reforms?
- 2764 RELOCATING OPPORTUNITY CLASSES—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- (1) What plans does the Government have to move Opportunity Classes from schools that are over capacity into schools that are under capacity?

- (2) How many general admission spaces could such a proposal free up in public schools that are presently over capacity?

2765 CONCESSION CARD HOLDERS ACCESSING NATIONAL PARKS—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

In relation to concession card holders accessing National Parks:

- (1) What differences exist between the requirements for a seniors card holder and a pension card holder?
- (2) Do seniors card holders have to nominate specific vehicle registered in their name at their address?
 - (a) Why or why not?
- (3) Do pension card holders have to nominate a specific vehicle registered in their name at their address?
 - (a) Why or why not?
- (4) Is there a disparity between seniors cards and pension cards when accessing National Parks concession passes?
 - (a) If so, why?
 - (b) If so, are there any plans to remove this disparity, to allow seniors the same flexibility as pensioners to travel to National Parks in another vehicle, not necessarily one registered in their name, at their address?
- (5) How many people currently access the seniors concession, compared to those accessing the pension concession?

2766 BUS TASKFORCE MEETING - RYDE—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Will there be a bus taskforce meeting held in the Ryde electorate?
 - (a) If so, when and where?

2767 TG MILLNER PLAYING FIELDS—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Local Government—

Was the Office of Local Government informed of any pre-election commitments made by the Government in relation to the TG Millner playing fields in Marsfield, at any time in the last 14 months?

2768 CRITERIA FOR EMERGENCY HOUSING—Mr Jordan Lane to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast representing the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Youth, and Minister for the North Coast—

What (if any) physical safety and discretion criteria are considered by your Department when deeming a premises suitable for emergency housing for people escaping Domestic Violence?

2769 REAL-TIME TAGGED SHARK LISTENING STATIONS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education representing the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—

Does the Government plan to install any more real-time tagged shark listening stations along the New South Wales coastline?

2770 DREDGING OF CUDGEN CREEK AT KINGSCLIFF—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

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What plans, if any, does the Government have to dredge Cudgen Creek at Kingscliff?

2771 COMMUNITY TRANSPORT OPERATORS - TWEED VALLEY HOSPITAL—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

Does the Government have plans for Community Transport operators in the Tweed electorate to receive additional funding to meet the increased demand for assistance anticipated once the Tweed Valley Hospital opens and The Tweed Hospital closes on May 14 2024?

2772 GRADUATING HEALTH CARE STUDENTS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

Of the 2,030 new and graduating healthcare students awarded health worker study subsidies in April, how many of these students reside within the Tweed Electorate (or Tweed Shire if data is not held by Electorate)?

2773 HART MOTORCYCLE LICENCE TRAINING AND TESTING SCHEME TRAINING CENTRE AT ST IVES—Mr Michael Regan to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

- (1) Can you please advise why HART NSW was not awarded a contract renewal for the Motorcycle Licence Training and Testing Scheme (MLTTS) training centre in St Ives?
 - (a) Have they been advised why they were not successful?
- (2) Has a contract been awarded to any other service provider to operate a MLTTS training centre at the St Ives site?
- (3) Given the efforts from HART NSW to address the feedback provided by Transport for NSW, is there an avenue for HART NSW to secure a contract renewal to operate the MLTTS training centre in St Ives?
- (4) If the St Ives MLTTS training centre is no longer in operation, are there any plans to have another MLTTS site in the north-east quarter of Sydney?
- (5) What are the future plans for the St Ives MLTTS site?

2774 TURNING TIMES FROM FOREST WAY INTO WARRINGAH ROAD, FRENCHS FOREST—Mr Michael Regan to ask the Minister for Transport representing the Special Minister of State, Minister for Roads, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy, and Minister for Jobs and Tourism—

- (1) In relation to the southbound lane turning right from Forest Way onto Warringah Road, does Transport for NSW have data on peak and non-peak hour traffic wait times?
 - (a) If so, how often is this data collected?
 - (b) If so, when was the most recent data collected?
 - (c) If so, what was the average wait time during weekday peak hours?
 - (d) If so, what was the average wait time during other times?
 - (e) What was the weekday peak hour wait time prior to grade separation?
 - (f) What was the average wait time prior to the grade separation?
- (2) For intersections across New South Wales equivalent to the Forest Way and Warringah Road intersection, is there any standard for acceptable traffic wait times?

- (a) If so, what are they and how does the southbound lane turning right from Forest Way onto Warringah Road compare?

2775 RELEASE OF EPA CLIMATE CHANGE GUIDANCE AND POLICIES—Mr Michael Regan to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

- (1) When was the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) due to release the ‘climate change guidance and policies to support the EPA’s input into the planning process’ as per Action 5c of the NSW EPA Climate Change Action Plan 2023-26?
- (2) Has the ‘climate change guidance and policies to support the EPA’s input into the planning process’ as per Action 5c of the NSW EPA Climate Change Action Plan 2023-26, been released?
 - (a) If not, when will this commitment be fulfilled and in what form?

2776 REGION SIX - SYDNEY METROPOLITAN BUS CONTRACT—Ms Kobi Shetty to ask the Minister for Transport—

Regarding the Sydney metropolitan bus contract for region six:

- (1) What requirements are in place for the service operator to create and maintain a daily record of missed stops on each route?
- (2) If there is any such requirement:
 - (a) In what manner is it being fulfilled?
 - (b) What reasons for missing a stop are captured and recorded?
 - (c) What processes are in place to ensure the information is being accurately captured and recorded?
 - (d) Where are the records kept?
 - (e) Are the records published and available for public viewing?

2777 PROPOSED WIND FARM IN OBERON—The Hon. Paul Toole to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice—

In relation to the proposed wind farm in Oberon:

- (1) How many wind turbine related fires have occurred in New South Wales since their creation?
- (2) What potential fire danger is there for surrounding state forest, farmers and residents if the proposed Oberon Wind Farm was to go ahead?
- (3) Who is responsible for the risk of economic and environmental damage if a wind turbine caused a bushfire in one of our State Forests?

2778 PROPOSED WIND FARM IN OBERON—The Hon. Paul Toole to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—

In relation to the proposed wind farm in Oberon:

- (1) How many wind turbine related fires have occurred in New South Wales since their creation?
- (2) What potential fire danger is there for surrounding state forest, farmers and residents if the proposed Oberon Wind Farm was to go ahead?
- (3) Who is responsible for the risk of economic and environmental damage if a wind turbine caused a bushfire in one of our State Forests?

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2779 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LIASON OFFICERS—The Hon. Paul Toole to ask the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) In relation to Domestic Violence Liaison Officers (DVLO).
 - (a) How many DVLOs are there across the state?
 - (b) What is the position description of a DVLO?
 - (c) At what stations are the DVLOs currently located and can you please provide a list?
 - (d) What stations currently do not have a DVLO and can you please provide a list?

2780 GRANTS FOR REGIONAL NEW SOUTH WALES—Mrs Wendy Tuckerman to ask the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces representing the Treasurer—

In relation to Grant Programs for Regional NSW:

- (1) What grant programs does the Government have plans to provide to support prosperity, businesses, and communities across regional New South Wales?

2781 WASTE AND SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS STRATEGY—Mrs Wendy Tuckerman to ask the Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Youth Justice representing the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

- (1) Does the Government plan to fund the delivery of priority infrastructure as outlined in the Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy?
- (2) Does the Government plan to support a state-wide Food Organics and Garden Organics implementation?
- (3) Will the Government expand greater Sydney landfill airspace capacity beyond expected 2034 expiry?
 - (a) If so, when?
- (4) What regulatory framework is supporting investment in the circular economy?
- (5) What funding is supporting investment in the circular economy?
- (6) How is the Government working with the Commonwealth Government to introduce producer responsibility schemes?

2782 COVID DEBT RECOVERY—Mrs Wendy Tuckerman to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Lands and Property, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Sport—

In relation to COVID Debt Recovery:

- (1) How many small businesses have been sent notices of review of their 2021 COVID-19 Micro-business Grant?
- (2) What quality assurance has been applied to ensure that the debt recovery notices are accurate?
- (3) How many debt recovery notices have been overturned?
- (4) How many debt recovery notices have been issued/ or how many small businesses have been required to repay the funds provided?
 - (a) How many of these were through JobSaver?
 - (b) How many of these were through the Micro-Business grants?
- (5) How many requests for review have been received from businesses or business groups that have been asked to repay, separately, JobSaver and Micro-Business grant money?

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- (6) What is the process for review?
- (7) If the small business wasn't eligible for JobSaver, was it then retrospectively assessed and deemed eligible for the Micro Business grant?
- (a) If not, why not?
- (8) What assistance is available for those businesses that would have been eligible for Micro-Business grants and have instead been issued a demand to repay JobSaver money?
- (9) What policies are currently in place to support small business that are on the brink of closing?
- (10) What policies in place to support small business who may be significantly affected financially after COVID-19 assistance payments are recovered?
- 2783 OVERPAID LAND TAX AND COUNCIL RATES—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Attorney General representing the Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources—
- (1) Is there any recourse available to land holders who have overpaid on land tax and council rates due to incorrect land value assessments, including multiple previous years?
- (a) If not, does the Government have plans to provide recourse to these land holders?
- (i) If so, what are these plans?
- (ii) If not, why not?
- 2784 OVERPAID LAND TAX AND COUNCIL RATES—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Local Government—
- (1) Is there any recourse available to land holders who have overpaid on land tax and council rates due to incorrect land value assessments, including multiple previous years?
- (a) If not, does the Government have plans to provide recourse to these land holders?
- (i) If so, what are these plans?
- (ii) If not, why not?
- 2785 CHANGES TO TRAINS AND SAFETY AT STATIONS—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Transport—
- (1) Have New South Wales Train announcements been altered to replace the words, “alight” with “get off”, “terminates” with “ends”, and “additional” with “extra”?
- (a) If so, can you please advise why such a change was made?
- (b) If so, can you please advise how many complaints were received by Transport for NSW regarding the linguistic complexity of its announcements in the 12 months prior to the change?
- (c) If so, can you please provide all if any focus group, research or survey data used in justifying this change?
- (i) Can you please provide the cost of attaining of this data?
- (d) Can you please provide all relevant contractual details used in the procurement of this data?
- (e) Are there any plans to replace the word “customers” with “passengers” in Transport for announcements?
- (a) If not, why not?
- (2) Does an escalator that is stationary effectively functions as a set of stairs?

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- (a) If so, can you please advise why broken down escalators at New South Wales railway stations not under immediate repair are blocked off by barriers, forcing congestion and inconvenience to passengers, especially at Metro Stations such as Macquarie University and Macquarie Park which do not have stairs available?
- (b) What factors disallow a stationary escalator from being used as a staircase until reparations begin?
- (c) Have any incidents of injury been recorded by Transport for NSW relating to stationary escalators?
- (d) Can you please advise the incidence of escalator break down over the last 12 months at Metro Stations, with data organised by Metro Station?
 - (i) Can you please include: the number of incidents, the average time of outage, the average time between an outage being reported and technicians arriving on scene, and the average percentage of time per outage where the escalator was not being repaired, and could have been utilised as a set of stairs?
- (3) Are black, corflute, prism-shaped signs that read 'We take your safety seriously' being used at Central Station?
 - (a) If so, why are these signs that provide common sense information necessary?
 - (b) Do the signs clutter the walkways and foot-traffic areas of Central Station?
 - (c) Do these signs present tripping hazards especially during busy times?
 - (d) How many complaints has Transport for NSW received about these signs?
 - (e) Can you please provide all if any focus group, research or survey data used in justifying these signs?
 - (i) Can you please provide the cost for the attaining of this data?
 - (ii) Can you please provide all relevant contractual details used in the procurement of this data?
 - (f) Are signs indicating that a citizen should not take a mobility scooter, wheelchair or shopping trolley on a step escalator necessary?
 - (i) How would someone logistically take any of these items onto a step escalator?
 - (ii) Have any incidents of injury been recorded by Transport for NSW relating to someone taking a mobility scooter, wheelchair or shopping trolley on an escalator that justify the signage?
 - (g) How many of these signs are there in total in the Central Station precinct?
 - (i) Are there any plans to reduce or increase the number of signs?
 - (ii) Are there any plans to expand the signs to other railway stations?

2786 INMATE ACCESS TO EDUCATION—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections—

- (1) Could you please advise, in the last 12 months:
 - (a) How many inmates in New South Wales prisons have attempted to enrol in university level education?
 - (i) How many of these applications have been approved?
 - (ii) How many of these applications have been rejected?

- (b) How many inmates of New South Wales prisons have attempted to enrol in other tertiary level education (including trade or technical schools)?
 - (i) How many of these applications have been approved?
 - (ii) How many of these applications have been rejected?
- (c) How many inmates of New South Wales prisons have attempted to enrol in secondary level education?
 - (i) How many of these applications have been approved?
 - (ii) How many of these applications have been rejected?