



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 288

FRIDAY 5 JULY 2024

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

Notice given on date shown.

Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
Q & A No. 273 (Including Question Nos 2404 to 2413)	5 July 2024
Q & A No. 274 (Including Question Nos 2414 to 2434)	8 July 2024
Q & A No. 275 (Including Question Nos 2435 to 2445)	9 July 2024
Q & A No. 276 (Including Question Nos 2446 to 2475)	10 July 2024
Q & A No. 277 (Including Question Nos 2476 to 2479)	11 July 2024
Q & A No. 278 (Including Question Nos 2480 to 2484)	12 July 2024
Q & A No. 279 (Including Question Nos 2485 to 2491)	15 July 2024
Q & A No. 280 (Including Question Nos 2492 to 2495)	16 July 2024
Q & A No. 281 (Including Question Nos 2496 to 2503)	17 July 2024
Q & A No. 282 (Including Question Nos 2504 to 2514)	18 July 2024
Q & A No. 283 (Including Question Nos 2515 to 2520)	19 July 2024
Q & A No. 284 (Including Question Nos 2521 to 2525)	22 July 2024
Q & A No. 285 (Including Question Nos 2526 to 2526)	23 July 2024
Q & A No. 286 (Including Question Nos 2527 to 2534)	24 July 2024
Q & A No. 287 (Including Question Nos 2535 to 2542)	25 July 2024
Q & A No. 288 (Including Question Nos 2543 to 2553)	26 July 2024

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(Paper No. 273)

* 2404 LOCAL GOVERNMENT—SEWER MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITY—Dr Amanda Cohn to ask the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Local Government—

- (1) In local government areas where the council provides wastewater services, who is responsible for maintenance of sewer systems?
- (2) Is a council liable for damages resulting from blockages in sewer systems?

Answer—

- (1) Sewer systems involve private connections, trunk or network systems (pipes and carriers), as well as head works (sewerage pumping stations or treatment plants). Councils, owners of private properties connected to a council's sewer system and licenced contractors who carry out approved work, all have responsibilities for sewer system maintenance depending on which part of the system they deal with.
- (2) It is not possible to answer this question in general terms as the cause of a blockage may not be within the council's control.

* 2406 POLICE AND COUNTER-TERRORISM—IMITATION FIREARM PERMITS—The Hon. Mark Banasiak to ask the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales representing the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, and Minister for the Hunter—

- (1) How many imitation firearm permits have been submitted to NSW Firearms Registry within the last two years?
 - (a) Of these, how many were approved in the first instance?
 - (b) Of those initially not approved, how many were subsequently approved on internal review?
- (2) How many imitation firearm permits for laser games and laser skirmish have been submitted to NSW Firearms Registry within the last two years?
 - (a) Of these, how many were approved in the first instance?
 - (b) Of those initially not approved, how many were subsequently approved on internal review?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) 79.
 - (a) 49 with three (3) applications currently under review.
 - (b) Nil.
- (2) Three (3).
 - (a) Three (3).
 - (b) Nil.

* 2407 ROADS—WESTERN AND SOUTH-WESTERN SYDNEY ROADS PROJECTS—The Hon. Natalie Ward to ask 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 names of the projects committed to Western Sydney Roads and South-Western Sydney Roads planning allocated in the recent Federal budget?
 - (a) What are the funding commitments?

(b) What are the project commencement dates?

Answer—

I am advised:

This is a matter for the Federal Government.

* 2408 TRANSPORT—RAPID BUS SERVICES FOR WESTERN SYDNEY AIRPORT—The Hon. Natalie Ward to ask 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 representing the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Will the Government deliver on the commitment to provide rapid bus services, that are competitive with or faster than a car, from Campbelltown to Western Sydney International Airport prior to its opening in 2026?

Answer—

I am advised:

The 2023-24 NSW Budget allocated \$302.7 million to establish bus services from Blacktown, Mount Druitt, Campbelltown, Liverpool and Penrith to the Western Sydney International Airport prior to airport operations commencing in 2026.

These enhanced connections will improve access to employment, health services, educational institutions, leisure facilities, and other community amenities.

* 2409 TRANSPORT—INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORTING WESTERN SYDNEY AIRPORT—The Hon. Natalie Ward to ask 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 representing the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Will the Government commit to any infrastructure upgrades, including bus lanes and bus prioritisation at intersections, along the route from Campbelltown to Western Sydney International Airport, to enable buses to move faster than traffic?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Campbelltown bus route to Western Sydney International Airport and Bradfield will use the existing dedicated bus lanes on Narellan Road and The Northern Road.

* 2410 TRANSPORT—METRO TO WESTERN SYDNEY AIRPORT—The Hon. Natalie Ward to ask 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 representing the Minister for Transport—

- (1) When will the final business case be finalised for metro from Western Sydney International Airport to Campbelltown?

Answer—

I am advised:

Work on the business case for Sydney Metro - Western Sydney Airport - Southern extension is expected to be completed within this term of government.

* 2411 TRANSPORT—METRO TO WESTERN SYDNEY AIRPORT VIA LEPPINGTON—The Hon. Natalie Ward to ask 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 representing the Minister for Transport—

- (1) When will the final business case be finalised for metro from Western Sydney International Airport to Glenfield via Leppington?

Answer—

I am advised:

Work on the business case for Sydney Metro - Western Sydney Airport - Northern extension is expected to be completed within this term of government.

* 2412 ENVIRONMENT—BRUMBY SHOOTINGS VIA HELICOPTER—The Hon. Emma Hurst to ask the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage—

- (1) How many wild horses have been shot via helicopter in Kosciuszko National Park from 1 May to 14 June 2024, broken down by daily tally and general location?
 - (a) How many of these wild horses that were shot via helicopter during this time period were in the designated retention areas under the Kosciuszko Wild Horse Heritage Act 2018?

Answer—

- (1) The number of wild horses removed by aerial shooting, and their general location within Kosciuszko National Park (KNP), are as follows:

Date	Total	Location
1 May 2024	180	Northern KNP
2 May 2024	77	Northern KNP
3 May 2024	177	Northern KNP
4 May 2024	0	Northern KNP
5 May 2024	0	Northern KNP
6 May 2024	38	Northern KNP
7 May 2024	90	Northern KNP
8 May 2024	54	Northern KNP
9 May 2024	0	Northern KNP
10 May 2024	0	Northern KNP
11 May 2024	0	Northern KNP
12 May 2024	0	Northern KNP
13 May 2024	0	Northern KNP
14 May 2024	118	Northern KNP
15 May 2024	143	Northern KNP
16 May 2024	132	Northern KNP
17 May 2024	25	Northern KNP
18 May 2024	0	Northern KNP
19 May 2024	0	Northern KNP
20 May 2024	148	Northern KNP
21 May 2024	100	Northern KNP
22 May 2024	113	Northern KNP
23 May 2024	42	Northern KNP
24 May 2024	41	Northern KNP
25 May 2024	0	Northern KNP
26 May 2024	0	Northern KNP
27 May 2024	11	Northern KNP
28 May 2024	11	Northern KNP
29 May 2024	16	Northern KNP
30 May 2024	0	Northern KNP
31 May 2024	0	Northern KNP
1 June 2024	0	Northern KNP
2 June 2024	0	Northern KNP

3 June 2024	0	Northern KNP
4 June 2024	0	Northern KNP
5 June 2024	0	Northern KNP
6 June 2024	0	Northern KNP
7 June 2024	0	Northern KNP
8 June 2024	0	Northern KNP
9 June 2024	0	Northern KNP
10 June 2024	0	Northern KNP
11 June 2024	0	Northern KNP
12 June 2024	0	Northern KNP
13 June 2024	5	Northern KNP
14 June 2024	0	Northern KNP
Total	1521	Northern KNP

- (a) Of the 1521 of total horses removed during this time period, 1373 of these were within the retention area. All horses removed were in the northern section of Kosciuszko National Park.

No horses have been removed from wild horse retention management areas since 24 May 2024.

This is based on an undertaking provided by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) to the NSW Supreme Court, where no more than 811 horses would be removed from wild horse retention management areas between 9 May and 30 June 2024. This target was reached on 23 May 2024.

Aerial shooting of horses is continuing in removal areas, where the population is required to be reduced to zero. However, due to winter weather the program has slowed down.

* 2413 FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES—ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY-CONTROLLED ORGANISATIONS—The Hon. Natasha Maclaren-Jones to ask the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage representing the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Inclusion—

- (1) How many Aboriginal children and young people in out-of-home care have been transferred from Department of Communities and Justice to Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations from January to March 2024?
 - (a) What is the breakdown by age?
 - (b) What is the breakdown by gender?
 - (c) What is the breakdown by location?
- (2) How many Aboriginal children and young people in out-of-home care have been transferred from Department of Communities and Justice to Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations from April to June 2024?
 - (a) What is the breakdown by age?
 - (b) What is the breakdown by gender?
 - (c) What is the breakdown by location?
- (3) How many Aboriginal children and young people in out-of-home care have been transferred from non-government organisations to Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations from January to March 2024?
 - (a) What is the breakdown by age?
 - (b) What is the breakdown by gender?
 - (c) What is the breakdown by location?

- (4) How many Aboriginal children and young people in out-of-home care have been transferred from non-government organisations to Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations from April to June 2024?
- (a) What is the breakdown by age?
- (b) What is the breakdown by gender?
- (c) What is the breakdown by location?

Answer—

I am advised:

As you are aware, and as was the case when you were the relevant minister as recently as last year, data that has not been aged is unreliable. Data for April to June 2024 is not yet available.

Due to privacy requirements, not all information is able to be provided. Where necessary, some responses have been grouped to reduce risk of children being identified in accordance with privacy and confidentiality guidelines. If a figure is smaller than five it has been suppressed. Where this figure could be derived from the remaining information, the second smallest figure has also been suppressed.

Comparison information has also been provided for a similar period when you were the relevant minister.

(1)-(2)

Aboriginal children and young people in out-of-home care (OOHC) who were case management transferred from DCJ to an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO), by age group at transition.

Age group	January to March 2022	January to March 2024
0 - 1 year	7	7
2 - 17 years	10	19
Total Aboriginal Children	17	26

Aboriginal children and young people in OOHC who were case management transferred from DCJ to an ACCO, by gender.

Gender	January to March 2022	January to March 2024
Female	9	8
Male	8	18
Total Aboriginal Children	17	26

Aboriginal children and young people in OOHC who were case management transferred from DCJ to an ACCO, by location (metro versus non-metro).

Area	January to March 2022	January to March 2024
Metro	np	8
Non-Metro	np	18
Total Aboriginal Children	17	26

Note: Cells with small values (<5) have been suppressed and labelled as 'np' to maintain client confidentiality. The second values are also suppressed when they can be calculated.

Metro includes DCJ district of Nepean Blue Mountains, Western Sydney, South Western Sydney, Sydney, Northern Sydney, and South Eastern Sydney. Non-Metro includes the other DCJ districts.

(3)-(4)

Aboriginal children and young people in OOHC who were case management transferred from a non-Aboriginal non-government organisation (NGO) to an ACCO, by age group at transition.

Gender	January to March 2022	January to March 2024
Female	np	8

Male	np	7
Total Aboriginal Children	np	15

Note: Cells with small values (<5) have been suppressed and labelled as 'np' to maintain client confidentiality. The second values are also suppressed when they can be calculated.

Aboriginal children and young people in OOHHC who were case management transferred from a NGO to an ACCO, by area (metro versus non-metro).

Area	January to March 2022	January to March 2024
Metro	np	np
Non-Metro	np	np
Total Aboriginal Children	np	15

Note: Cells with small values (<5) have been suppressed and labelled as 'np' to maintain client confidentiality. The second values are also suppressed when they can be calculated.

Metro includes DCJ district of Nepean Blue Mountains, Western Sydney, South Western Sydney, Sydney, Northern Sydney, and South Eastern Sydney. Non-Metro includes the other DCJ districts.

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2543 ROADS—COFFS HARBOUR BYPASS VEGETATION—The Hon. Sam Faraway to ask 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 an interview about the Pacific Bay Noise Wall on 28 April 2024, you stated on Triple M Radio that you "have been at other parts of the state where we have had vegetation like that removed, similar sized trees in fact, and I've been back 12 months later and they have been quite advanced what they've got in the replacement." Could you please provide the locations you have visited and the species of vegetation planted there?

2544 HEALTH—BELLINGEN HOSPITAL—Dr Amanda Cohn to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources representing the Minister for Health, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for the Illawarra and the South Coast—

- (1) I am advised that in early 2024, 13 beds at Bellingen Hospital were closed due to lift maintenance. Is this correct?
 - (a) If this is the case, how has the funding for these beds been reallocated while these beds are closed?
 - (b) Have additional funded beds been opened at Coffs Harbour Hospital to address increased transfers from Bellingen Hospital?
 - (i) If so, on which ward?

2545 BETTER REGULATION AND FAIR TRADING—FAIR TRADING STRATA SCHEME OVERSIGHT—The Hon. Chris Rath to ask the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage representing 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 oversight by Fair Trading in relation to owners corporations and lenders?
 - (a) If so, what oversight?
 - (b) If not, will there be oversight?
- (2) Has Fair Trading identified any risks to consumers?
- (3) Has Fair Trading received any complaints or feedback from owners corporations or lenders?

2546 BETTER REGULATION AND FAIR TRADING—TAFE NSW PUBLIC SERVANT OVERSEAS TRAVEL APPROVALS—The Hon. Chris Rath to ask the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage representing 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) As Minister, do you approve overseas travel for TAFE NSW public servants?

2547 REGIONAL TRANSPORT AND ROADS—NSW TRAINLINK PLATFORM GAP FALLS—The Hon. Chris Rath to ask 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 representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

(1) In relation to people falling through the gap between the platform and train on the NSW TrainLink network, how many people fell between the gap during the period of:

(a) 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024?

(b) 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023?

(c) 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022?

(d) 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021?

(2) What were the five most recorded NSW TrainLink stations, broken down by number, for people falling through the gap for the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024?

2548 REGIONAL TRANSPORT AND ROADS—NSW TRAINLINK PLATFORM RUBBER GAP FILLERS—The Hon. Chris Rath to ask 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 representing the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads—

(1) In relation to rubber gap fillers installed at platforms on the NSW TrainLink network, what stations have had this installed as of 30 June 2024?

(2) What stations are scheduled to have this installed?

2549 TRANSPORT—SYDNEY TRAINS PLATFORM GAP FALLS—The Hon. Chris Rath to ask 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 representing the Minister for Transport—

(1) In relation to people falling through the gap between the platform and train on the Sydney Trains network, how many people fell between the gap during the period of:

(a) 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024?

(b) 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023?

(c) 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022?

(d) 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021?

(2) What were the five most recorded Sydney Trains stations, broken down by number, for people falling through the gap for the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024?

2550 TRANSPORT—SYDNEY TRAINS PLATFORM RUBBER GAP FILLERS—The Hon. Chris Rath to ask 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 representing the Minister for Transport—

(1) In relation to rubber gap fillers installed at platforms on the Sydney Trains network, what stations have had this installed as of 30 June 2024?

(2) What stations are scheduled to have this installed?

2551 ROADS—ANTI-CLIMB MESH BARRIERS FRENCHS FOREST—The Hon. Chris Rath to ask 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 installation of anti-climb mesh barriers at the intersection of Warringah Road and Forest Way in Frenchs Forest that was completed on 24 March 2024, what was the total cost to install?
- 2552 ROADS—MONA VALE ROAD POTHOLES—The Hon. Chris Rath to ask 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) Since 1 January 2024, what work has taken place to fix potholes on Mona Vale Road between Pymble and Belrose?
- 2553 ROADS—GRAFFITI FRENCHS FOREST—The Hon. Chris Rath to ask 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 graffiti at the intersection of Warringah Road and Forest Way in Frenchs Forest, how much has been spent on removing and/or cleaning graffiti from this site in the following financial years:
- (a) 2023-2024?
- (b) 2022-2023?

David Blunt AM
Clerk of the Parliaments