

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2023-24-25

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 552

FRIDAY 1 AUGUST 2025

(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. 536 (Including Question Nos 4117 to 4119)	31 July 2025
Q & A No. 537 (Including Question Nos 4120 to 4127)	1 August 2025
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Q & A No. 548 (Including Question Nos 4263 to 4272)	18 August 2025
Q & A No. 549 (Including Question Nos 4273 to 4279)	19 August 2025
Q & A No. 550 (Including Question Nos 4280 to 4280)	20 August 2025
Q & A No. 551 (Including Question Nos 4281 to 4295)	21 August 2025
Q & A No. 552 (Including Question Nos 4296 to 4306)	22 August 2025

10 JULY 2025

(Paper No. 536)

- * 4117 TRANSPORT—OPAL CARD REFUNDS—The Hon. Natalie Ward to ask the Special Minister of State, Minister for Transport, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy—
 - (1) Under the Opal Refund and Balance Transfer Policy, what is the total amount of money that has been refunded for each of the following financial years:
 - (a) 2024-2025?
 - (b) 2023-2024?
 - (c) 2022-2023?
 - (d) 2021-2022?
 - (2) Under the Opal Refund and Balance Transfer Policy, what is the total amount of charges individuals have claimed for refunding in each of the following financial years:
 - (a) 2024-2025?
 - (b) 2023-2024?
 - (c) 2022-2023?
 - (d) 2021-2022?

Answer-

I am advised

(1)

2021-2022 - \$442,040.12

2022-2023 - \$550,294.24

2023-2024 - \$331,467.72

2024-2025 - \$364,309.74

(2)

2021-2022 - \$442,113.49

2022-2023 - \$550,294.24

2023-2024 - \$336,043.99

2024-2025 - \$364,349.83

11 JULY 2025

(Paper No. 537)

- * 4120 TREASURER—NOTE ON GENDER IN 2025-26 BUDGET PAPER—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Treasurer—
 - (1) I refer you to page i of your 2025-26 Budget Paper No.02, Performance and Wellbeing, and its 'note on gender', declaring that in describing "differences in the experiences of women and men, the Budget Paper refers to "all people identifying as women and men, including transgender and cisgender people". What is a woman?
 - (2) Why has the Treasury in this Budget Paper deviated from the New South Wales legal definitions of a man and a woman, as outlined at section 23 of the New South Wales Anti-Discrimination Act, such that a man is "a member of the male sex" and a woman is "a member of the female sex"?

(3) In preparing this Budget Paper, why has the relevant Treasury official shown more concern for "incorporating the experiences of gender-diverse people in a meaningful way" than important issues of economic policy such as productivity?

Answer-

I am advised this question is more appropriately directed to the Minister for Finance.

- * 4121 TREASURER—MENTAL HEALTHCARE SATISFACTION—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Treasurer—
 - (1) I refer you to page 2-5 of your 2025-26 Budget Paper No.02, Performance and Wellbeing. Concerning the measure of "Mental healthcare satisfaction" from patients, how reliable is this data given that the patients are mentally ill?

Answer-

I am advised this question is more appropriately directed to the Minister for Finance.

- * 4122 TREASURER—SURVEY OF HOUSEHOLD, INCOME AND LABOUR DYNAMICS IN AUSTRALIA—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Treasurer—
 - (1) I refer you to page 1-7 of your 2025-26 Budget Paper No.02, Performance and Wellbeing. Concerning the use of the longitudinal Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) survey, conducted nationwide since 2001, for "Measuring overall wellbeing", given that only 0.07 per cent of the New South Wales population are included in the survey, how reliable is the data presented for "Overall life satisfaction, NSW"?
 - (a) Who decided to use this measure involving such a tiny number of our population in the Budget Paper?
 - (b) Why aren't other HILDA measures from this survey, such as in health and education, cited in Budget Paper No.02?

Answer—

I am advised this question is more appropriately directed to the Minister for Finance.

- * 4123 HEALTH—HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT PERFORMANCE DATA FOR TRIAGE 1—
 The Hon. Mark Latham 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) Why is hospital emergency department (ED) performance data for Triage 1, which requires immediate treatment within 2 minutes, not reported by the Bureau of Health Information?

Answer-

I'm advised:

Detailed information about the data, methods and technical terms used for quarterly activity and performance reporting is provided in the Technical Supplement issued with each Bureau of Health Information Healthcare Quarterly and publicly available at:

https://www.bhi.nsw.gov.au/BHI_reports/healthcare_quarterly/Jan-Mar2025.

- * 4124 TREASURER—PERFORMANCE MEASURES FOR NSW PUBLIC HOSPITALS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Treasurer—
 - (1) I refer you to pages 2.2 to 2.4 of your 2025-26 Budget Paper No.02, Performance and Wellbeing. Regarding performance measures dealing with the crisis in the New South Wales public hospital system, do you support a much wider range of published measures to provide greater public accountability for hospital performance, thereby lifting expectations and standards, and also assisting patients in knowing the quality of the hospitals from which they might seek care?
 - (2) Why doesn't the Government publish data, both overall for hospitals and specifically in emergency departments, for:

- (a) rates of misdiagnosis?
- (b) fatalities from misdiagnosis?
- (c) mistaken patient discharges from misdiagnosis?
- (d) infection rates?
- (e) administering known prohibited medicines to patients, such as those triggering allergies?
- (f) ambulance waiting times for transfer to hospital?
- (g) ramping times at the hospital transfer?
- (3) Why isn't the data in (2) above part of the Government's performance accountability for New South Wales public hospitals in this Budget Paper?

Answer-

I am advised this question is more appropriately directed to the Minister for Finance.

- * 4125 GAMING AND RACING—GWIC QUARTERLY INDUSTRY DATA AND REPORTS—Ms Abigail Boyd to ask the Special Minister of State, Minister for Transport, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy representing 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) Can you please provide copies of the quarterly reports for:
 - (a) life cycle report for April to June 2025?
 - (b) injury report for April to June 2025?
 - (2) Given that previous reports have generally been uploaded to the website within one month after the end of the quarter, what is the reason for the delay in these reports being published to the website of the Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission (GWIC)?
 - (3) What is the reason for the nearly four-month delay in publishing the injury and life cycle reports for the quarter of January to March 2025 to the GIWC's website?
 - (4) Given that the data captured in the quarterly reports are updated daily within the GWIC's system, why have multiple quarterly reports in the last year been published so late?
 - (5) Can you please explain the process for extracting relevant data from the GWIC's system and compiling them into the quarterly reports?
 - (a) Within GWIC, who is responsible for this?
 - (b) How long after the end of each quarter are the reports due to be filed internally, before being published on the website?
 - (c) How do you ensure that this data is being accurately and transparently extracted and reported?

Answer—

I am advised by the Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission (the Commission):

The Commission:

- is currently in the process of finalising the April-June 2025 quarterly life cycle and injury report reports and expects to publish by the end of August 2025 aims to publish quarterly lifecycle and injury reports within eight weeks of the end of each quarter.
- is currently developing a more transparent approach to reporting greyhound mortalities resulting from a track injury, the development of which previously led to some delay.
- the development of this enhanced reporting will consolidate NSW's reputation as a leader in public accounting for the greyhound industry.

- is committed to accuracy in the reporting of greyhound racing injuries and other industry metrics
 and has recently allocated additional resources for injury and life-cycle reporting, to ensure
 continued quality and timeliness of reports.
- the preparation of the life cycle and injury quarterly reports is undertaken by staff in the Commission's Business Operations section.
- in preparing these reports Commission staff audit and cross-check records for completeness and undertake internal consultation to ensure records are correctly classified.
- reporting templates have been built in eTrac for many types of information published in quarterly reports, which automate the initial selection of data records for quarterly reports.
- data records are then audited both manually and with additional eTrac templates to identify
 possible errors and omissions.
- data that is used in these reports is extensively audited for accuracy and completeness, including comparison to other sources, and consultation with other staff and external experts, where necessary.
- since 2023, injury and life cycle data has been held in a secure database from which it can be extracted when required.
- * 4126 FINANCE—EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY LAND CLASSIFICATION—The Hon. Damien Tudehope to ask the Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources—
 - (1) Have guidelines been issued under section 47E of the Emergency Services Levy Act 2017?
 - (a) If so, what is the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for these guidelines?
 - (2) Has any information been provided to the Chief Commissioner under section 47B of the Emergency Services Levy Act 2017?
 - (a) If so, which local councils have provided this information?
 - (3) Has the Chief Commissioner established the register required by section 47C of the Emergency Services Levy Act 2017?
 - (4) Has the Chief Commissioner conducted any audits or other compliance activity under section 47D of the Emergency Services Levy Act 2017?
 - (5) How much, if any, is allocated in the 2025-26 Budget for reimbursement of local council for exercising functions under Part 9 of the Emergency Services Levy Act 2017?
 - (6) When is the classification of land to prepare for emergency services levy reform expected to be completed?

Answer-

I am advised:

- (1) The Preliminary Land Classification Guidelines 2024 were issued on the Revenue NSW resources website on 26 September 2024. https://www.revenue.nsw.gov.au/_resources/documents/Preliminary-Land-Classification-Guidelines-2024.pdf.
- (2) All NSW local councils, including the Lord Howe Island Board have provided land classification and ownership information under section 47A to the Chief Commissioner.
- (3) Yes, a register has been established as required by section 47C of the Emergency Services Levy Act 2017.
- (4) Yes, data verification and validation compliance activities under section 47D were conducted after receiving data from councils.
- (5) No amount has been allocated in the 2025-26 Budget for reimbursement of local councils for exercising functions specifically under Part 9 of the Emergency Services Levy Act 2017.

- (6) The preliminary land classification process under the guidelines has been completed.
- * 4127 SPECIAL MINISTER OF STATE—LSCA FUNDING ALLOCATIONS FOR MURRAY, ORANGE AND WOLLONDILLY—The Hon. Damien Tudehope to ask the Special Minister of State, Minister for Transport, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy—
 - (1) The table, published by the Cabinet office, lists the electorates of Murray, Orange and Wollondilly as having no nominated projects and \$400,000 of unallocated funds under the Local Small Commitments Allocation (LSCA) as at 21 June 2023. Projects and funding allocations were subsequently added by the Premier's Office for each of these three electorates before delivering the amended master list to the LSCA program office on 28 July 2023. Given the members for Wollondilly and Murray have claimed credit for securing LSCA funding for some of these projects, do you still maintain as you attested in the signed briefs for the successful projects, that each of those projects was an election commitment by the Labor candidates for Murray, Orange and Wollondilly?

Answer-

I am advised:

The list of nominated projects was finalised by the Premier's Office and provided to the LSCA Program Office on 28 July 2023.

Where nominated projects did not proceed, the associated residual funding was offered to local councils to be used for playground and park upgrades. Councils offered residual funding were asked to consult with their local Member of Parliament (MP) to determine any new project(s) to put forward for assessment. Local MPs were also notified of residual funds allocations and invited to liaise with their local council.

Local councils in the Murray and Wollondilly electorates were offered residual funds.

Across all electorates, MPs were notified of successful projects in their electorate and may have made their own public announcements to raise awareness in their electorate.

1 AUGUST 2025

(Paper No. 552)

- 4296 MUSIC AND NIGHT TIME ECONOMY—MUSIC FESTIVALS—Ms Cate Faehrmann to ask the Special Minister of State, Minister for Transport, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy—
 - (1) Regarding any music festivals, which have been notified to the Secretary under s10AA of the Music Festivals Act 2019?
 - (a) Could you please provide a list of the name of each festival?
 - (b) Could you please provide a list of the festivals which have been determined by the Secretary to require an agreed health and medical plan?
 - (c) Could you please provide the names of all festivals which have been required to submit to the Secretary a schedule about matters relating to law enforcement and safety as requested by the Commissioner of Police?
 - (d) Were all the festivals listed at (c) above required by the Secretary to submit a law enforcement and safety schedule?
 - (i) If not, which ones were not required?
 - (ii) If so, could you please provide the names of all those festivals which had conditions imposed upon them by the Commissioner of Police?
 - (e) With regards to (d)(ii) above, could you please detail which music festivals had the proposed conditions approved with changes?
 - (i) Which had the proposed conditions approved without changes?
 - (2) In relation to the Music Festivals Appeals Panel, has the panel met?

- (a) If so, how many times?
 - (i) Who is on the panel?
- (b) In relation to any applications considered by the panel under s19C, could you please provide:
 - (i) the name of each festival?
 - (ii) the government charges originally imposed on each festival broken down by department and agency?
 - (iii) the name of each festival for which the panel decided to waive or reduce the amount payable and by how much?
 - (iv) the name of each festival where the panel refused to waive or reduce the amount payable?
- 4297 MENTAL HEALTH—OFFICIAL VISITORS IN MENTAL HEALTH RATES OF PAY—Dr Amanda Cohn to ask the Minister for Water, Minister for Housing, Minister for Homelessness, Minister for Mental Health, and Minister for Youth—
 - (1) In response to Question on Notice number 3944, you advised that an independent assessment of the Principal Official Visitor role is being progressed to determine an appropriate remuneration based on their role description. Will this review also include remuneration for Official Visitors who are not the Principal Official Visitor?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- 4298 SPECIAL MINISTER OF STATE—REQUIRED DECLARATIONS BY THE MEMBER FOR CAMDEN—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Special Minister of State, Minister for Transport, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy—
 - (1) Further to the Minister's answer to Question 4082, given that the Minister has made no defence of the Member for Camden's undeclared conflict of interest, especially her undeclared secondary interest (a clear breach of the LSCA integrity process) and has advised me to report it myself to the NSW integrity agencies, why hasn't the Minister exercised his Section 11 responsibility to report this matter to ICAC?
- 4299 PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES—HOUSING DELIVERY AUTHORITY SSD-229650 AT AVERILL AND LEEDS STREETS, RHODES—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
 - (1) I refer the Minister to HDA-SSD-229650 at Averill and Leeds Streets, Rhodes, lodged with the Housing Delivery Authority by Billbergia and the Minister's subsequent SSD Declaration Order (no.11) 2025 on 23 July 2025, and ask, what was in the Billbergia application that allowed it to be approved on non-Billbergia land, such as 15 Leeds Street, without the consent of those landowners, contrary to the HDA rules?
 - (a) How could the Panels and Housing Delivery unit in the Department of Planning advise the non-Billbergia landowners on 24 July that, "We have amended the Ministerial Order that declared the site SSD"?
 - (b) Did the Minister amend his own Order? What was the exact nature of the amendment?
 - (c) How could the Minister and/or his Department grant a retrospective approval such as this, where the process was faulty and against the rules, seemingly 'corrected' with the stroke of a pen?
 - (d) Why wasn't the process re-commenced to follow the HDA rules from beginning to end?
 - (e) Has the Minister received legal advice as to the validity of the retrospective approval and what does it say?
 - (f) Given the obvious integrity concern about this process, will the Minister now ensure all applications to the HDA are published and subject to public scrutiny?

- (g) Consistent with (f) above, will the Minister now release the initial Billbergia application to the disadvantaged non-Billbergia landowners in Rhodes?
- 4300 GAMING AND RACING—MINISTERIAL OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE ICAC ACT—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Special Minister of State, Minister for Transport, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy representing 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) Further to the Minister's answer to Question 4106, has the Minister read the NSW ICAC Act?
 - (a) Why doesn't the Minister understand that Section 11(1), as written, applies to Ministers not MPs?
- 4301 PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES—BILLBERGIA'S EOI SUBMISSION TO THE HOUSING DELIVERY AUTHORITY—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
 - (1) In light of the Minister's answer to LC Question 4107 confirming the Housing Delivery Authority accepted Billbergia's EOI 229650 even though the developer did not control all of the land, will the Minister table, within seven days, the complete EOI submission (including the schedule that was to 'demonstrate ownership or option to purchase' for every lot) together with all departmental due-diligence notes and legal advice relied on to recommend State Significant Development Declaration Order (No 11) 2025?
 - (a) Will the Minister explain the legislative or policy basis on which the Department deemed the mandatory land-control criterion 'satisfied' despite that deficiency?
 - (b) Will the Minister refer the matter to the Independent Commission Against Corruption for investigation into whether false or misleading information was provided to obtain a statutory benefit?
 - (i) If not, why not?
 - (c) Will the Minister immediately suspend further assessment of EOI 229650 and its associated SEARs request until any such investigation is complete?
- 4302 WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY—TERMINATION OF DXC CONTRACTS—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Treasurer representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, and Minister for Work Health and Safety—
 - (1) Why were the DXC contracts with icare and the Treasury Managed Fund (TMF) terminated on 17 June 2025, the day of the Public Accountability and Works Committee (PAWC) inquiry into workers compensation?
 - (2) What changed between the date the DXC contracts were entered into in early 2025 and the date of termination, to justify this decision?
 - (3) How was the inadequacy of the icare management and Information Technology (IT) systems not known when the DXC contracts were entered into?
 - (4) When was it first known that the icare claims management system would not be ready before 2028?
 - (5) What discussions did senior icare management have about the termination of DXC with EML, QBE and Allianz, prior to the termination decision being publicly announced?
 - (a) What are the details?
 - (6) Did the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of icare, Ms Aplin, contact a Woolworths executive prior to the DXC termination announcement to inform them of the decision?
 - (a) If so, why, given that icare has no relationship with self-insurers?
 - (b) When was this contact made?
 - (7) When she was the CEO of EML, did Ms Aplin lose the lucrative Woolworths contract to DXC?

- (8) In the conversation in (6) above, did Ms Aplin tell Woolworths they made a mistake in moving from EML to DXC?
- (9) Has the DXC termination decision helped to consolidate the market share of EML in this oligopoly market for claims management, as the best EML staff would now be reluctant to join a rival company like DXC?
- (10) Given that 300 DXC staff are now adversely affected by the termination decision, having been recruited by DXC to handle its new contracted responsibilities and yet within a few months now face retrenchment, what action will the Government take to assist them?
- (11) What has been the impact of the DXC contract terminations on the future development of the industry, particularly in discouraging future new entrants?
- (12) Are you satisfied that Ms Aplin's conduct in this matter has been ethical and in good faith?
- (13) Given her past close and immediate senior role at EML, what declaration of interest did Ms Aplin make regarding the icare decision to terminate DXC?
 - (a) What are the details?
- 4303 PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES—PLANNING RULES REQUIRED UNDER THE RHODES PLACE STRATEGY—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
- (1) I refer the Minister to the Rhodes Place Strategy, finalised by your Department in September 2021 and locked into law on 30 October 2021, which set out Planning Rules that require the Leeds Street Foreshore and Cavell Avenue character areas to be planned and assessed separately under their own height, density and public-benefit tests, and ask, by what statutory or policy authority did the Housing Delivery Authority, at its 7 February 2025 meeting, merge these two precincts into a single 2,020-dwelling State-Significant Development (EOI 229650), export most of the tower mass into the mid-rise Cavell Avenue zone and then, after Declaration Order No 11 of 24 July 2025, cut out three privately-owned Leeds Street lots, still keeping the full 2,020-dwelling yield?
 - (a) Will you table the briefing, legal advice and precinct-variation approval that authorised this departure from the Rhodes Place Strategy and explain how it complies with the HDA's own land-control criterion?
 - (b) How could the HDA be so incompetent and does the Minister still have confidence in this new planning authority?
- 4304 PREMIER—STRAW DONATIONS FOR THE 2015 CAMPAIGN—The Hon. Mark Latham to ask the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage representing the Premier—
 - (1) I refer you to your repeated promise of paying back or donating somewhere the more than \$10,000 in straw donations (in units of \$900) for your 2015 Kogarah campaign as organised by Jonathan Yee and uncovered by ICAC in 2019 and ask where is the money today?
- 4305 PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES—JETTY FORESHORE PRECINCT—Ms Sue Higginson to ask the Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage representing the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces—
 - (1) The State Significant Rezoning Evaluation Panel evaluated the Jetty Precinct development for rezoning on 23 September 2024 with a score of 6.4. A document sent to the Evaluation Panel by 'Foreshore For All' on 9 December 2024 and again on 14 January 2025, identified significant errors and omissions in the proposal provided to the Evaluation Panel by the Department of Planning NSW. Was the State Significant Rezoning Evaluation Panel and Probity Advisor made aware of this information by the Department of Planning?
 - (a) If so, when did this occur?
 - (b) If any, what was the Evaluation Panel's response?

- (2) What Governance and Probity processes were employed for handling any errors and omissions identified in the Assessment and Review Process?
- (3) Were the State Significant Rezoning Evaluation Panel members and Probity Advisor offered the opportunity to review the Evaluation given that the Jetty Precinct Evaluation had the lowest score of the applications considered?
- (4) Does the Evaluation currently meet all the requirements of the State Significant Rezoning Policy and Probity Controls with the Probity Advisor that was engaged confirming "...that processes undertaken are accountable, defensible, fair and transparent and conducted in accordance with the probity fundamentals"?
- (5) If any information was changed on the application, or subject to review or independent assessment, would any scores have changed in the Evaluation?
- (6) Are you certain that there has not been maladministration in the current assessment processes for the rezoning applications under the State Significant Rezoning process?
- (7) What is the actual area of the land that is currently zoned RE1 proposed to be rezoned to MU1?
- (8) What is the area of land currently zoned SP2 proposed to be rezoned to MU1?
- 4306 AGRICULTURE—NETTED BEACHES—The Hon. Emma Hurst to ask the Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Western New South Wales—
 - (1) There are 51 'netted beaches' across New South Wales. What size or area of water does the Department considered humans to be "protected" by a shark net?
 - (a) Is the "protected" area of water defined by straight lines or by a radius from the net?
 - (b) Could you please provide details as to the size or dimensions of the protected area?
 - (2) How is the area of a netted beach defined for reporting?
 - (a) For example, when determining whether a shark-human interaction has occurred at a netted beach or not?
 - Ooes the Department hold the position that shark nets deter or stop sharks from establishing 'territories' near netted beaches?

Authorised by the Parliament of New South Wales

(a) If so, could you please provide details of any scientific literature, research or other evidence relied upon to support this position?

Steven Reynolds Clerk of the Parliaments