



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-FOURTH PARLIAMENT

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 214

TUESDAY 20 JULY 2010

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.

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Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
Q & A No. 202 (Including Question Nos 10491 to 10561)	25 June 2010
Q & A No. 203 (Including Question Nos 10562 to 10598)	06 July 2010
Q & A No. 204 (Including Question Nos 10599 to 10658)	07 July 2010
Q & A No. 205 (Including Question Nos 10659 to 10713)	08 July 2010
Q & A No. 206 (Including Question Nos 10714 to 10786)	09 July 2010
Q & A No. 207 (Including Question Nos 10787 to 10821)	13 July 2010
Q & A No. 208 (Including Question Nos 10822 to 10872)	14 July 2010
Q & A No. 209 (Including Question Nos 10873 to 10934)	15 July 2010
Q & A No. 210 (Including Question Nos 10935 to 10999)	16 July 2010
Q & A No. 211 (Including Question Nos 11000 to 11035)	27 July 2010
Q & A No. 212 (Including Question Nos 11036 to 11071)	28 July 2010
Q & A No. 213 (Including Question Nos 11072 to 11165)	29 July 2010
Q & A No. 214 (Questions—Nil)	-

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21 MAY 2010

(Paper No. 202)

***10491 DRUNK AND DISORDERLY OFFENCES**—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

Given advice that provisions of the Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2000 empower police to detain intoxicated persons found in a public place behaving in a disorderly manner likely to cause harm to themselves or another person or to damage property (Question 9546):

How many people in the Albury Local Area Command have been detained under the provisions of the Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2000 in the last 12 months?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me police records indicate that in the 12 months to the end of April 2010, 77 people were detained in the Albury Local Area Command under the section of the Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2002 relating to the detention of intoxicated persons.

***10492 PEOPLE PRESENTED TO EMERGENCY WARDS—APRIL**—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

(1) How many people presented to the Tomaree Community Hospital emergency ward on:

- (a) 1 April 2010;
- (b) 2 April 2010;
- (c) 3 April 2010;
- (d) 4 April 2010;
- (e) 5 April 2010;
- (f) 6 April 2010;
- (g) 7 April 2010?

(2) How many people presented to John Hunter Hospital emergency ward on:

- (a) 1 April 2010;
- (b) 2 April 2010;
- (c) 3 April 2010;
- (d) 4 April 2010;
- (e) 5 April 2010;
- (f) 6 April 2010;
- (g) 7 April 2010?

(3) How many people presented to Calvary Mater Hospital emergency ward on:

- (a) 1 April 2010;
- (b) 2 April 2010;
- (c) 3 April 2010;
- (d) 4 April 2010;
- (e) 5 April 2010;
- (f) 6 April 2010;
- (g) 7 April 2010?

(4) How many people presented to the Maitland Hospital emergency ward on:

- (a) 1 April 2010;
- (b) 2 April 2010;
- (c) 3 April 2010;
- (d) 4 April 2010;
- (e) 5 April 2010;
- (f) 6 April 2010;
- (g) 7 April 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1)

- (a) 25
- (b) 58
- (c) 80
- (d) 85

- (e) 67
- (f) 34
- (g) 34
- (2)
 - (a) 161
 - (b) 164
 - (c) 162
 - (d) 173
 - (e) 189
 - (f) 169
 - (g) 157
- (3)
 - (a) 70
 - (b) 70
 - (c) 79
 - (d) 88
 - (e) 98
 - (f) 82
 - (g) 79
- (4)
 - (a) 98
 - (b) 89
 - (c) 123
 - (d) 112
 - (e) 131
 - (f) 103
 - (g) 116

*10493PEOPLE PRESENTED TO EMERGENCY WARDS—MAY—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) How many people presented to the Tomaree Community Hospital emergency ward on:
 - (a) 1 May 2010;
 - (b) 2 May 2010;
 - (c) 3 May 2010;
 - (d) 4 May 2010;
 - (e) 5 May 2010;
 - (f) 6 May 2010;
 - (g) 7 May 2010?
- (2) How many people presented to John Hunter Hospital emergency ward on:
 - (a) 1 May 2010;
 - (b) 2 May 2010;
 - (c) 3 May 2010;
 - (d) 4 May 2010;
 - (e) 5 May 2010;
 - (f) 6 May 2010;
 - (g) 7 May 2010?
- (3) How many people presented to Calvary Mater Hospital emergency ward on:
 - (a) 1 May 2010;
 - (b) 2 May 2010;
 - (c) 3 May 2010;
 - (d) 4 May 2010;
 - (e) 5 May 2010;
 - (f) 6 May 2010;
 - (g) 7 May 2010?
- (4) How many people presented to the Maitland Hospital emergency ward on:
 - (a) 1 May 2010;
 - (b) 2 May 2010;
 - (c) 3 May 2010;

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- (d) 4 May 2010;
- (e) 5 May 2010;
- (f) 6 May 2010;
- (g) 7 May 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)
 - (a) 42
 - (b) 48
 - (c) 27
 - (d) 28
 - (e) 16
 - (f) 20
 - (g) 16
- (2)
 - (a) 180
 - (b) 190
 - (c) 188
 - (d) 187
 - (e) 171
 - (f) 171
 - (g) 151
- (3)
 - (a) 68
 - (b) 84
 - (c) 102
 - (d) 75
 - (e) 63
 - (f) 77
 - (g) 75
- (4)
 - (a) 101
 - (b) 143
 - (c) 117
 - (d) 114
 - (e) 104
 - (f) 102
 - (g) 99

*10494PEOPLE PRESENTED TO EMERGENCY WARDS—JUNE—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) How many people presented to the Tomaree Community Hospital emergency ward on:
 - (a) 1 June 2010;
 - (b) 2 June 2010;
 - (c) 3 June 2010;
 - (d) 4 June 2010;
 - (e) 5 June 2010;
 - (f) 6 June 2010;
 - (g) 7 June 2010?
- (2) How many people presented to John Hunter Hospital emergency ward on:
 - (a) 1 June 2010;
 - (b) 2 June 2010;
 - (c) 3 June 2010;
 - (d) 4 June 2010;
 - (e) 5 June 2010;
 - (f) 6 June 2010;
 - (g) 7 June 2010?

- (3) How many people presented to Calvary Mater Hospital emergency ward on:
- (a) 1 June 2010;
 - (b) 2 June 2010;
 - (c) 3 June 2010;
 - (d) 4 June 2010;
 - (e) 5 June 2010;
 - (f) 6 June 2010;
 - (g) 7 June 2010?
- (4) How many people presented to the Maitland Hospital emergency ward on:
- (a) 1 June 2010;
 - (b) 2 June 2010;
 - (c) 3 June 2010;
 - (d) 4 June 2010;
 - (e) 5 June 2010;
 - (f) 6 June 2010;
 - (g) 7 June 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)
- (a) 22
 - (b) 18
 - (c) 18
 - (d) 16
 - (e) 28
 - (f) 35
 - (g) 28
- (2)
- (a) 189
 - (b) 165
 - (c) 163
 - (d) 147
 - (e) 168
 - (f) 181
 - (g) 174
- (3)
- (a) 76
 - (b) 76
 - (c) 62
 - (d) 61
 - (e) 82
 - (f) 86
 - (g) 83
- (4)
- (a) 110
 - (b) 89
 - (c) 98
 - (d) 97
 - (e) 111
 - (f) 139
 - (g) 130

*10496PAMBULA HOSPITAL—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Can the Minister guarantee the Pambula Hospital's future?
- (2) Is there any plan to close Pambula Hospital?
- (3) Why hasn't the government returned services to Pambula Hospital as promised?
- (4) Will maternity services ever be returned to Pambula Hospital?

Answer—

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I am advised:

The NSW Government is continuing to invest in the services and facilities at Pambula Hospital.

Recent investments to upgrade facilities include enhancements to Paediatric services with more than \$30,000 invested to refurbish the existing Children's Ward, including a bathroom extension and creation of a new isolation room. New equipment has also been purchased. Work will also commence shortly on the construction of a child-appropriate waiting area and paediatric observation room located within the Emergency Department at Pambula Hospital.

Health services at Pambula Hospital also continue to be enhanced. The recent introduction of computerised radiography allows x-ray images to be transmitted electronically to radiologists and viewed remotely. Reports can now be returned within 24 hours and urgent requests in one hour.

Cardiac monitoring returned to the Hospital earlier this year following a \$6,200 ward refurbishment to provide nursing staff improved observation of patients. The ward is used regularly for both cardiac monitoring and other patients requiring close observation.

Furthermore, additional surgery will be delivered at Pambula Hospital with Ophthalmology services commencing in the later part of 2010. Greater Southern Area Health Service has engaged the services of an Ophthalmologist, equipment has been ordered and staff will soon undergo training. This will deliver services to people locally where they previously had to travel to Batemans Bay or Canberra.

An expert independent assessment of maternity services for the Bega Valley recommended that in the interests of patient safety all birthing services should be located at Bega not Pambula. The previous arrangement of an alternating birthing service one week at Pambula, one week at Bega, simply wasn't safe.

This arrangement provides a more comprehensive and safer model of care for mothers and babies in the local community.

*10497 EDEN AND SOUTHERN REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENT—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

Does the Minister support the Eden and Southern Regional Forest Agreement?

Answer—

Yes.

*10502 STAFF EMPLOYED—ENFORCEMENT OF SMOKE-FREE AREAS—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to the enforcement of offences under the Smoke-Free Environment Act 2000, Section 7:

(1) How many full-time equivalent staff were employed to enforce smoke-free areas in all New South Wales public hospitals in:

- (a) financial year ending 2007;
- (b) financial year ending 2008;
- (c) financial year ending 2009?

(2) How many full-time equivalent staff were employed to enforce smoke-free areas in Ryde Public Hospital in:

- (a) financial year ending 2007;
- (b) financial year ending 2008;
- (c) financial year ending 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) Area Health Services have in place arrangements which support the promotion, monitoring and enforcement of the Smoke Free Workplace Policy in public hospitals and other NSW Health facilities. Arrangements supporting the policy may include staff with security, facilities and site management, occupational health and safety, clinical operations and health promotion functions.

*10503 INFRINGEMENTS ISSUED—SMOKE-FREE AREAS—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to the enforcement of offences under the Smoke-Free Environment Act 2000, Section 7:

(1) How many infringements were issued for the offence of smoking in a smoke-free area in all NSW

public hospitals in:

- (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (2) How many infringements were issued for the offence of smoking in a smoke-free area in Ryde Public Hospital:
- (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) No infringements have been issued from fines issued for the offence of smoking in a smoke-free area in all NSW public hospitals for the periods in question. NSW Health has in place a comprehensive program for promoting and monitoring compliance with the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 and the Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2008 in relation to tobacco sales to minors, tobacco point of sale and smoke-free environments. An educative approach is supported by appropriate regulatory activity.

*10504 SMOKE FREE WORKPLACE POLICY DIRECTIVE—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to NSW Health's Smoke Free Workplace Policy Directive (Document No: PD2005_375, Publication date 27-Jan-2005) page 3 states "Progression to Phase 4 at each facility is conditional on access for staff to smoking cessation services":

- (1) How much money was allocated towards smoking cessation services for staff in all NSW public hospitals in:
- (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (2) How much money was allocated towards smoking cessation services for staff at Ryde Public Hospital in:
- (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) While no specific data is collected or reported centrally in relation to expenditure on smoking cessation programs of Area Health Services or at specific facilities, all NSW Health staff have access to smoking cessation programs.

*10505 SMOKE FREE WORKPLACE POLICY DIRECTIVE—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to NSW Health's Smoke Free Workplace Policy Directive (Document No: PD2005_375, Publication date 27-Jan-2005) page 3 states "Progression to Phase 4 is also conditional on provision of nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) for staff members who smoke":

- (1) In how many of NSW's 222 public hospitals is this service currently offered to staff members?
- (2) How many NSW Health staff members used the NRT service in:
- (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (3) Much money was spent on providing the service in all NSW public hospitals in:
- (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (4) Much money was spent on providing the service in at Ryde Public Hospital in:
- (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;

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(c) financial year ending 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (4) While no specific data is collected or reported centrally in relation to expenditure on smoking cessation programs of Area Health Services or at specific facilities, all NSW Health staff have access to smoking cessation programs.

*10506 REVENUE RAISED FROM FINES—SMOKE-FREE AREAS—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to the enforcement of offences under the Smoke-Free Environment Act 2000, Section 7:

- (1) What was the total revenue raised from fines issued in all NSW public hospitals for the offence of smoking in a smoke-free area in:
- (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (2) What was the total revenue raised from fines issued in Ryde Public Hospital for the offence of smoking in a smoke-free area in:
- (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) No revenue has been raised from fines issued in all NSW public hospitals for the offence of smoking in a smoke-free area for the periods in question. NSW Health has in place a comprehensive program for promoting and monitoring compliance with the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 and the Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2008 in relation to tobacco sales to minors, tobacco point of sale and smoke-free environments. An educative approach is supported by appropriate regulatory activity.

*10507 SMOKE FREE WORKPLACE POLICY DIRECTIVE—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to NSW Health's Smoke Free Workplace Policy Directive (Document No: PD2005_375, Publication date 27-Jan-2005):

- (1) How many of the 222 NSW public hospitals have now achieved the Phase 4 objective of "totally smoke free health care facilities, campuses and vehicles under the control NSW Health"?
- (2) Why was the statewide deadline for the implementation of Phase 4 removed from the policy?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The NSW Health Smoke Free Workplace Policy aims to reduce the number of patients, staff and visitors exposed to environmental tobacco smoke when in contact with NSW Health's facilities, with implementation planned to occur over four phases.

NSW Area Health Service hospital campuses are now smoke free. Exemptions from the policy remain in place for some services, including mental healthcare facilities, where smoking is permitted in outdoor designated smoking areas only. As a result, limited outdoor designated smoking areas are currently retained in some hospital campuses. Exemptions from the Policy are approved by local-level implementation committees within the Area Health Service.

The implementation and enforcement of the NSW Health Smoke Free Workplace Policy is the responsibility of the Chief Executive within each Area Health Service.

- (2) The statewide deadline for the implementation of Phase 4, totally smoke-free healthcare facilities, campuses and vehicles under the control of NSW Health, was removed in recognition of issues specific to the implementation of smoke free healthcare facilities in such services as in-patient mental health facilities and drug and alcohol step-down units. Area Health Services are expected to continue to progress action under the Policy and Chief Executives are provided with discretion to determine the timing of implementation based on local circumstances and consultation with healthcare consumers and the community.

A Departmental Guideline 'Guidance for implementing smoke-free mental health facilities in NSW' was released in July 2009 to provide practical advice to Chief Executives and designated personnel in Area Health Services planning to implement the NSW Health Smoke Free Workplace Policy in NSW public hospitals, residential mental healthcare facilities and drug and/or alcohol facilities (including step-down units) used by mental health consumers.

*10508 GOVERNMENT ANTI-SMOKING CAMPAIGNS—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Why was Government funding for anti-smoking campaigns reduced from \$11.7 million during financial year 2008-09 to \$8 million in Financial year 2009-10?

Answer—

I am advised:

The 2008 mini-budget detailed a range of savings initiatives which included a 25% reduction in expenses for all government advertising in excess of \$100,000. The budget reduction is effective from 2009-10 to 2011-12 financial years.

The Cancer Institute NSW has well established and high profile frontline programs focusing on educating the public regarding the harms of smoking, unsafe sun exposure and the importance of target age group women participating in breast and cervical screening programs.

These essential programs, including the provision of the NSW Quitline service, are in accordance with NSW Government priorities outlined in the State Plan.

*10512 COST OF ADMINISTERING THE YOUTH DRUG AND ALCOHOL COURT—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

- (1) What was the cost of administering the Youth Drug and Alcohol Court in:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (2) How many young offenders used the services of the court during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (3) Of those offenders who used the services of the court, how many also appeared before the Children's Court on the same or a related offence during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)
 - (a) \$4,109,368
 - (b) \$3,972,696
 - (c) \$4,041,864
- (2)
 - (a) 66
 - (b) 71
 - (c) 93
- (3) The following statistics are based on young offenders appearing on a 'related' offence if they appeared in the Children's Court for an offence that was in the same Australian Standard Offence Classification (ASOC) category as their Youth Drug and Alcohol Court offence. It should be noted that the non-YDAC Children's Court appearances do not necessarily reflect a conviction. Also, as a YDAC participant may start on the program at any stage during a financial year, some of the non-YDAC Children's Court appearances may have occurred prior to the participant entering the YDAC program and/or be the consequence of offences committed prior to this time.
 - (a) 32
 - (b) 33

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(c) The relevant court statistics for 2009 are not yet available.

*10513 SMOKE FREE WORKPLACE POLICY DIRECTIVE—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to NSW Health's Smoke Free Workplace Policy Directive (Document No: PD2005_375, Publication date 27-Jan-2005) page 3, which states "Outdoor designated smoking areas may be retained after progression to Phase 4 for the some patient groups only":

- (1) In how many of NSW's 222 public hospitals have retained outdoor designated smoking areas?
- (2) How many outdoor designated smoking areas currently exist at Ryde Public Hospital?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) The purpose of the NSW Health Smoke Free Workplace Policy is to reduce the number of patients staff and visitors exposed to environmental tobacco smoke when in contact with NSW Health's facilities, with implementation planned to occur over four phases.

All NSW Area Health Service hospital campuses are now smoke free. Exemptions from the policy remain in place for some services, including mental healthcare facilities, where smoking is permitted in outdoor designated smoking areas only. As a result, limited outdoor designated smoking areas are currently retained in some hospital campuses. Exemptions from the Policy are approved by local-level implementation committees within the Area Health Service and all Area Health Services are expected to continue to progress action under the Policy.

The implementation and enforcement of the NSW Health Smoke Free Workplace Policy is the responsibility of the Chief Executive within each Area Health Service and it is the Chief Executives' discretion to determine the timing of implementation based on local circumstances and consultation with healthcare consumers and the community. Practical advice is provided to Chief Executives and designated personnel in Area Health Services who are planning the implementation of the NSW Health Smoke Free Workplace Policy in NSW public hospitals, residential mental healthcare facilities and drug and/or alcohol facilities (including step-down units) used by mental healthcare consumers.

Ryde Public Hospital provides both acute and non-acute inpatient services, including drug and alcohol and mental healthcare services.

*10515 CASEWORKERS—NSW POLICE—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

- (1) How many caseworkers within Child Wellbeing Units are employed in New South Wales Police as of 20 May 2010?
- (2) Is there any plan to expand these numbers?
- (3) If so, could the Minister provide a specific schedule as to growth in the employment of caseworkers within Child Wellbeing Units within New South Wales Police?
- (4) Are there any other employment categories describe as "caseworker" that work on any programs concerning children and young people?
- (5) If so, could the Minister provide details of these programs?
- (6) How many caseworkers are employed by New South Wales Police under these programs?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) As previously advised, the NSW Police Force does not employ 'caseworkers'. There are 22 Child Wellbeing Assessment Officers in the Child Wellbeing Unit. These officers do not case manage or work directly with children.
- (2) The Unit will be subject to an external evaluation in October 2010, when all operational facets will be reviewed.
- (3) to (6) Not applicable.

*10517 CASEWORKERS—NSW HEALTH—Ms Pru Goward asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) How many caseworkers within Child Wellbeing Units are employed in New South Wales Health Department as of 20 May 2010?
- (2) Is there any plan to expand these numbers?
- (3) If so, could the Minister provide a specific schedule as to growth in the employment of caseworkers

within Child Wellbeing Units within New South Wales Health Department?

- (4) Are there any other employment categories describe as "caseworker" that work on any programs concerning children and young people?
- (5) If so, could the Minister provide details of these programs?
- (6) How many caseworkers are employed by the New South Wales Health Department under these programs?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (6) There are no employment categories identified as "caseworker" in the Health Professionals and Support Services Award 2010.

*10519DISUSED MUNITIONS DEPOT—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) What studies or plans have been undertaken in relation to the disused munitions depot at Bantry Bay?
- (2) What are the Government's plans for the site?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) Two plans have been made: The Garigal National Park Plan of Management (1998) and the Conservation Management Plan for Bantry Bay Explosives Magazine Complex (2005).
- (2) The intention of the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water is to secure the buildings at the site and, where appropriate, to provide managed access through the National Parks and Wildlife Service Discovery tours program.

*10522MANLY HOSPITAL AND MONA VALE HOSPITAL—ASBESTOS—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) What areas of (a) Manly Hospital and (b) Mona Vale Hospital contain asbestos?
- (2) What reports in the last 15 years have been undertaken to review the level of asbestos in the hospitals?
- (3) What is the total anticipated cost of the removal of the asbestos?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) Asbestos materials have been identified in a number of the buildings at both Manly and Mona Vale Hospitals. Numerous reports have been completed over the past 15 years to review and monitor asbestos at Manly and Mona Vale Hospitals. For example, reports on asbestos at Mona Vale Hospital have been completed in 2000, 2003-2007, 2009 and 2010. The draft Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service Asset Strategic Plan 2010 estimates that the cost for removing the asbestos materials would be \$2 million for Manly Hospital and \$5 million for the wards at Mona Vale Hospital.

*10523MONA VALE HOSPITAL AND MANLY HOSPITAL VISITS—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) What wards did the Minister visit at Mona Vale Hospital and Manly Hospital?
- (2) How would the Minister describe the physical state of each ward you visited?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) I visited Manly Hospital on 3 February 2010 and inspected a number of wards including the Emergency Department, Emergency Medical Unit, Intensive Care Unit, Aged Care Rehabilitation Ward, Maternity Ward, Day Surgery Unit and Ward South Wing 5 (Medical Ward).

I then travelled to Mona Vale Hospital and inspected a number of wards including the Emergency Department, Intensive Care Unit, Children's Ward, Day Surgery Unit, Ward Level 3 (Medical Ward), Medical Assessment Unit, Renal Dialysis Unit, Ward Level 5 (Surgical Ward), Aged Care and Rehabilitation Unit and the Maternity Unit (building works in progress).

Each ward varied according to the timing of construction and refurbishment works. I am advised that recent investments in Manly Hospital include \$758,000 for the development of an Emergency Medical Unit and \$2.5 million for the upgrade of the Intensive Care Unit. Recent investments at

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Mona Vale Hospital include a \$4.125 million refurbishment of the Emergency Department, the establishment of a six chair satellite Renal Dialysis Unit at a cost of \$935,000.

*10524MEETING WITH CHAIRPERSONS OF MEDICAL STAFF COUNCILS—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) After her meeting with the Chairpersons of the Medical Staff Councils at Manly and Mona Vale hospitals did the Minister report back to them on any response to the matters they raised with her?
- (2) If so, when and what did the Minister indicate to them about the future services at the hospitals?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) I met with Dr Stuart Pincott, Chair, Medical Staff Council, Mona Vale Hospital and Dr Michele Franks, Chair, Medical Staff Council, Manly Hospital in January 2010 to discuss general health service issues and to seek their opinions on future health service delivery matters.

After that meeting, in February 2010, I visited Manly and Mona Vale Hospitals to tour the facilities. And in June 2010, I announced that the NSW Government has committed, in the 2010/11 Budget, \$5 million to commence a \$29 million investment in planning and enabling works for the commencement of stage one of the northern beaches health services redevelopment, and for preparatory works at Manly and Mona Vale hospitals.

*10532PEOPLE DETAINED—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

How many people in the Hornsby electorate have been detained under the provisions of the Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2000 in the last 12 months?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that it does not collect data based on electoral boundaries.

*10536GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION TARGET—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

Given the State Plan no longer includes a greenhouse gas reduction target to reduce emissions to 2000 levels by 2025:

- (1) Does the NSW Government have a target for greenhouse gas reductions in NSW by 2025?
- (2) If so, what is it?
- (3) If not, what greenhouse gas reductions does the NSW Government expect will be achieved by 2025?
- (4) Does the Government have a plan that specifies action the Government will take to ensure NSW will achieve its target of 60 per cent greenhouse gas reductions by 2050?
- (5) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) No.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) The NSW Government is committed to a 60 per cent cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, which is in line with Australian Government targets. The NSW Government expects its emissions to track downwards on a path in line with this target. This will equate to a reduction of at least 5 per cent below 2000 levels in 2025.
- (4) The Green State Chapter of the State Plan provides comprehensive information on the NSW Government's priorities and targets for tackling climate change and developing a clean energy future for NSW. The Government is committed to developing a NSW Climate Change Action Plan, which will provide further details on programs that will achieve the State Plan emissions target.
- (5) Not applicable.

*10537ASTHMA SUPPORT—Ms Clover Moore asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Noting the Commonwealth Government decision to increase taxes on tobacco products, and the community concern about the impacts on low income and other disadvantaged people:

- (1) What programs does the NSW Government provide or fund to help people quit smoking?
- (2) What programs will the NSW Government provide or fund to target the following groups to quit smoking:
 - (a) health care workers;

- (b) health service users;
 - (c) mental health service users;
 - (d) alcohol and drug service users;
 - (e) users of Government-funded services such as Neighbourhood Centres, Family Support Services, and Youth Services?
- (3) What other action will the NSW Government take to help low income and other disadvantaged people stop smoking?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government supports various programs to support people to quit smoking including Quitline, social marketing, legislative reform and localised programs.

The NSW Health Smoke Free Workplace Policy prohibits smoking in all buildings, vehicles and property controlled by NSW Health.

NSW Department of Health guidelines will continue to be implemented by health professionals to improve the management of nicotine dependent inpatients and enhance brief interventions for smoking cessation for health service users.

"Guidance for implementing smoke-free mental health facilities in NSW" was released in July 2009 to provide practical advice to Chief Executives and designated personnel in Area Health Services planning to implement the NSW Health Smoke Free Workplace Policy in NSW public hospitals, residential mental healthcare facilities and drug and/or alcohol facilities (including step-down units) used by mental health consumers. The NSW Department of Health also funds the Cancer Council NSW to support Area Health Services in implementing smoke free mental healthcare facilities.

The NSW Department of Health is funding the implementation of a Cancer Council NSW project to work with key regional health and community sector organisations to reduce the high smoking rates among disadvantaged populations.

The NSW SmokeCheck project trains Aboriginal health workers and other relevant health workers in the delivery of evidence-based best practice brief interventions for smoking cessation. Under the National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health Outcomes, the NSW Government is providing funding to build tobacco control capacity amongst Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services (ACCHS).

The Quit for New Life project is being implemented in partnership with the Aboriginal Maternal and Infant Health Service and will involve the employment of dedicated smoking cessation coordinators, provision of smoking cessation training for health workers who are in contact with pregnant Aboriginal clients, resource development and free nicotine replacement therapy for pregnant women where appropriate.

To address the high prevalence of smoking in prison populations, the NSW Department of Health provides funding for a multi-component intervention for smoking cessation among Australian male inmates research project, which is currently being undertaken by the University of New South Wales.

The Cancer Institute NSW, Multicultural Health Communication Service and the NSW Quitline have established seven language-specific telephone lines.

Area Health Services across NSW develop and implement local projects targeted at specific population groups with high smoking prevalence.

*10538CYCLING SAFETY—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

Noting the response from the Minister for Transport which states in point 7, "The Road Rules currently require a driver to change lanes when overtaking a cyclist. A minimum distance is therefore not considered necessary" (Question 9497):

- (1) What enforcement operations do NSW Police carry out to enforce this rule?
- (2) How many infringements or warnings were given in 2009 for drivers failing to change lanes when overtaking a cyclist?
- (3) What plans does the Government have to increase enforcement of this rule, given the increasing numbers of cyclists?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that there is no requirement under the Road Rules 2008 for a driver to change lanes when passing a cyclist. Hence, failing to change lanes in these circumstances is not

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an offence and is not enforced by police. However, there is a requirement under rule 144 to keep a safe distance when overtaking any vehicle.

*10539 KIDNEY DISEASE—Ms Clover Moore asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Noting current research from Kidney Health Australia that:

- less than nine per cent of the population know the link between Type 2 Diabetes and kidney failure;
 - more than one quarter of people going onto dialysis have not seen a kidney specialist until within the three months before their kidneys failed; and
 - many people lose 90 per cent of their kidney function without knowing it:
- (1) What does NSW Government data show about trends in chronic kidney disease and diabetes?
 - (2) What action has the Government taken to implement the "NSW Renal Dialysis Service Plan to 2011" and what outcomes have been reported?
 - (3) What action has the Government taken to expand early screening and detection of chronic kidney disease since my 2007 Written Question (ref. Question 0846)?
 - (4) What community education programs has the Government provided since my 2007 question?
 - (5) What prevention programs has the Government provided to chronic kidney disease high risk groups since my 2007 question?
 - (6) What plans does the Government have to provide additional programs or expand existing programs based on these trends and the Kidney Health Australia research?

Answer—

(1) The health of the people of NSW—Report of the Chief Health Officer, has been produced since 1996 and has become a flagship publication of the NSW Department of Health. This report is available at www.health.nsw.gov.au

(2) and (6) Enhancement funding for renal dialysis services has been made available to the extent of \$35 million since 2002. Further enhancement funding to the extent of \$10.1 million per annum has been made available for allocation in 2010/11.

This funding will provide continued growth in dialysis services needed across NSW to respond to the annual growth in demand of around 6 per cent. The funding will provide for additional renal dialysis chairs and intensive therapy capacity, vascular access services, home dialysis support, prevention programs, education and other support for renal patients.

(3) A Policy Directive entitled "Kidney Health Check: Promoting the Early Detection & Management of Chronic Kidney Disease" was released in April 2010. This policy directive outlines a new approach to the early detection and management of chronic kidney disease to prevent progression to end stage kidney disease. It involves opportunistic screening using the Kidney Health Check in order to identify risk of chronic kidney disease, and will target high-risk individuals in hospital settings.

(4) and (5) A number of community education and prevention campaigns have been initiated in recent years including the following: The Measure Up Campaign, The Get Healthy Information and Coaching Service®, The Sydney Diabetes Prevention program and a number of Tobacco Programs identified under the NSW Tobacco Action Plan 2005-2009.

*10541 IT-RELATED PROJECTS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, and Minister for Public Sector Reform—

- (1) How many IT-related projects involving NSW Commerce/Government Chief Information Office are current under each of the following categories:
 - (a) Support Services;
 - (b) Government Licensing;
 - (c) Collaborative Government Services;
 - (d) Application Consolidation;
 - (e) Desktop Environment;
 - (f) Data Centre Reform;
 - (g) Telecommunications;
 - (h) Government Radio Networks?
- (2) How many projects under each category are coded "Amber" or "Red" to denote a potential or actual problem with the project status?

Answer—

- (1) Categories (a) to (h) involving GCIO total 26.
- (2) The colour coding system used in the program reports is a project management tool and to guide daily workflow and is not related to program performance.

*10546 TWEED-BYRON LOCAL AREA COMMAND VACANCIES—Mr Geoff Provost asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

In relation to five positions in the Tweed/Byron Local Area Command that have recently become vacant and have been advertised internally, according to the NSW Police Association:

- (1) Has the selection process to fill these positions commenced?
- (2) If so, when will the selection process close?
- (3) When will the positions be filled?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that, once part-time officers in the Tweed/Byron Local Area Command are taken into account, there are only three vacant positions. One of these has already been filled and recruitment and selection procedures are underway for the other two.

*10547 TWEED-BYRON LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Mr Geoff Provost asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

How many police officers have resigned or retired in the Tweed-Byron Local Area Command in the following years:

- (a) 2007;
- (b) 2008;
- (c) 2009;
- (d) year to date?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that in the Tweed/Byron Local Area Command between 1 January 2007 and 25 May 2010, there were three separations from the Police Force by way of resignation or retirement (two in 2007 and one in 2009).

*10548 HAIRY GEEBUNG—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) How many Hairy Geebung are there within the State seat of Castle Hill?
- (2) How many individuals are in areas under state Government control?
- (3) How many individuals are in areas under local Government control?
- (4) How many individuals are in areas under private control?
- (5) What practical measures from the 21 priority actions has the Government put in place to protect the endangered Hairy Geebung in Castle Hill?
- (6) (a) Have markers been erected?
- (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

In the State seat of Castle Hill:

- (1) There are an estimated 22 Hairy Geebung plants.
- (2) There are no individuals known to be in areas under State Government control.
- (3) About 20 Hairy Geebung plants are known to be in areas under local government control.
- (4) Two Hairy Geebung plants have been recorded in areas under private control.
- (5) A plan of management for the population occurring on Fred Caterson Reserve and Castle Hill Cemetery has been prepared by Baulkham Hills Shire Council.
- (6) (a) No.
- (b) This is not a priority action for that species.

*10549 AMPEREA XIPHOCLADA VAR. PEDICELLATA—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Was the one identified individual of *Amperea xiphoclada* var. *pedicellata* in the Baulkham Hills Shire

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Local Government Area on public land, or private?

- (2) Given that *Amperea xiphoclada* var. *pedicellata* is "presumed extinct" on the ATLAS database, when did the one observed plant die?
- (3) If the plant is still alive, what measures have been enacted to protect it?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) The 1996 record in the NSW Wildlife Atlas database of *Amperea xiphoclada* var. *pedicellata* in Baulkham Hills Shire was not verified as being of that species as the herbarium at the Royal Botanic Gardens has only one type specimen of that species recorded, being from 1892 and collected in the eastern suburbs.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) Not applicable.

*10552 TANGLED BEDSTRAW—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) How much Tangled Bedstraw is left in the Sydney Basin?
- (2) Has it been fenced in urban areas, as the priority actions call for?
- (3) Given its critical status, what on-ground works are being carried out to save the Tallong Midge Orchid following its discovery in the Morton National Park site in 2001?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) There are five records of Tangled Bedstraw in the NSW Wildlife Atlas database for the Sydney Basin, all located in the southern part of Hornsby Shire. These were all incidental records of individual plants. The population sizes at these sites are unknown.
- (2) No.
- (3) Since 2001, surveys to again locate the small population of Tallong Midge Orchid in Morton National Park have been unsuccessful, probably because drought has prevented flowering. Further surveys will be undertaken when a good flowering season occurs. The national park site is not considered to be under threat and no protective works are considered necessary. Recovery works for the species have been concentrated at its main locations in the village of Tallong, where the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water is working closely with Goulburn-Mulwaree Council to minimise loss of habitat.

*10553 AUSTRAL PILLWORT AND SQUARE RASPWORT—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Given that the Austral Pillwort has only been observed twice in coastal NSW, why is it classed as "vulnerable" and not "endangered"?
- (2) What is being done to protect it near Howlong and Culcairn?
- (3) Given that the Square Raspwort has only been observed 6 times in NSW, and only once in the Sydney Basin, why is it classed as "vulnerable" and not "endangered"?
- (4) What is being done to protect it near Wallaga Lake?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) The Austral Pillwort is listed as Endangered under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995.
- (2) There are no populations of Austral Pillwort at these locations.
- (3) The Square Raspwort does not meet the criteria for listing as Endangered under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 as large numbers of mature individuals occur under suitable conditions, it is distributed over a large area, it occurs in six National Parks and there is no evidence of continuing declines in most populations.
- (4) There are no programs currently being carried out to specifically protect this population as it is not known to be under threat.

*10554 BIOBANK CREDITS—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Who purchased the biobank credits from the St Martins Towers site?
- (2) Where are the development sites those credits were retired on?
- (3) What ecosystems were those credits used to destroy, and how large were they?

- (4) Who determined that an ecosystem credit for the area is worth \$2,800, and how?
- (5) How much is one species credit worth for the Cumberland Land Snail?
- (6) How many Cumberland Land Snails were actually observed at the site at St Martins Towers?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) purchased the credits on the St Mary's Tower site as part of the Growth Centre's Biodiversity Offset Program.

This is the first of many offset sites, national parks and other protected lands that will be conserved in the Sydney Region over the next 40 years via the program.

Note: The site is called St Mary's Tower, not "St Martins Tower".

- (2) The Growth Centres in western Sydney.
- (3) The credits retired at the St Mary's Tower Biobank site form one of the first of many biodiversity offsets for the Growth Centres in western Sydney. The Growth Centres will clear a total 1,867 hectares of Cumberland Plain vegetation for urban development over the next 40 years. The vegetation will be cleared due to Sydney's projected population growth and the demand for more dwellings and employment opportunities.
- (4) The Society of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart and DECCW determined the price of the ecosystem credits on the site.

The ecosystem credit price was calculated using the Biodiversity Credits Credit Pricing Spreadsheet. This spreadsheet was developed by an independent actuarial consultant.

There are two components to the pricing spreadsheet. One component calculates the management action costs in perpetuity (including fencing, weed control, fire management and pest control). This amount is deposited into the Biobanking Trust Fund and invested to pay the site owner for annual management actions. The second component calculates the lost opportunity costs, profit and risk margins. This amount is paid directly to the site owner.

The Biodiversity Credits Credit Pricing Spreadsheet is publicly available on DECCW's website.

- (5) The Cumberland Land Snail does not have a separate species credit price for the site. As the Cumberland Land Snail is predicted to be associated with vegetation types on the site it is included as part of the ecosystem credits.

Only fauna and flora that cannot be predicted to be associated with vegetation types have separate species credits.

- (6) No Cumberland Land Snails were observed during the field work done as part of the assessment of the site.

*10555STAFF BULLYING AT NEPEAN HOSPITAL—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

How many reports of staff bullying were investigated by the department or Sydney West Area Health Service at Nepean Hospital in the 12 months to 30 April 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

Nepean Hospital and Sydney West Area Health Service have undertaken investigation into 22 staff complaints of bullying in accordance with NSW Health Policy Directive PD 2005_223: Bullying, Harrassment and Discrimination - Joint Management/Employee Association Policy Statement in the 12 months to 30 April 2010.

*10556CONCORD REPATRIATION GENERAL HOSPITAL FORESHORE ACCESS—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Are there any restrictions on the foreshore pedestrian access between Yaralla Bay and Brays Bay at Concord Repatriation General Hospital?
- (2) Are there any plans to put in place restrictions on the foreshore pedestrian access between Yaralla Bay and Brays Bay at Concord Repatriation General Hospital?
- (3) If so, what consultation has the Hospital, Department or Deputy Premier and Minister for Health held with the local community and stakeholders?

Answer—

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The walking trail borders the Concord Centre for Mental Health and Rivendell which is a specialist facility for children and young people with mental health problems. The priority is the privacy, dignity and safety of these vulnerable patients.

Access to the foreshore on the Concord Hospital campus is provided in accordance with the 2004 Master Plan, which was approved by the City of Canada Bay Council following a period of public exhibition.

***10557COAG HEALTH REFORMS**—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) How many persons were part of the NSW Government delegation who attended and negotiated the COAG Health Reforms in Canberra on 19 and 20 April 2010?
- (2) How many employees of the NSW Public Service were part of the NSW Government delegation who attended and negotiated the COAG Health Reforms in Canberra on 19 and 20 April 2010?
- (3) How many employees of the NSW Department of Health were part of the NSW Government delegation who attended and negotiated the COAG Health Reforms in Canberra on 19 and 20 April 2010?
- (4) How many employees of NSW Treasury were part of the NSW Government delegation who attended and negotiated the COAG Health Reforms in Canberra on 19 and 20 April 2010?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) The Council of Australian Governments comprises the Prime Minister, Premiers, Chief Ministers and the President of the Australian Local Government Association.

Arrangements and protocols for the operation of Ministerial Councils including the Council of Australian Governments are set out in the Commonwealth-State Ministerial Councils Compendium (http://www.coag.gov.au/ministerial_councils/docs/compendium.pdf).

The Council of Australian Governments meeting held in Canberra on 19 and 20 April 2010 was attended by the Premier and the Treasurer along with their respective Chiefs of Staff, the Director General and Assistant Director General Policy and Strategy of the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Secretary of NSW Treasury, Deputy Director General Strategic Development from NSW Health, four health policy advisors and officials as well as other relevant advisors and senior Departmental officials.

***10559MONA VALE HOSPITAL PAEDIATRIC WARD**—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) What was the average bed occupancy rate of Mona Vale Hospital's paediatric ward in:
 - (a) November 2009;
 - (b) December 2009;
 - (c) January 2010;
 - (d) February 2010;
 - (e) March 2010;
 - (f) April 2010?
- (2) Given that Mona Vale Hospital's paediatric ward is the only paediatric ward on the northern beaches, can the Minister confirm that no plans exist to downgrade this service?

Answer—

Annual bed occupancy days for each hospital in NSW are reported in the NSW Health Services Comparison Data Book (the Yellow Book) which can be found on NSW Health's website at www.health.nsw.gov.au. Occupancy rates will vary according to the type of clinical service, time of the year, geographical location and models of clinical care for the particular service.

There are no plans to downgrade the paediatric service at Mona Vale Hospital.

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(Paper No. 203)

***10562RESIDENTIAL BUILDING INSPECTIONS**—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for the Arts—

Over the 2008-09 financial year, how many residential building inspections were undertaken by officers of the Office of Fair Trading?

Answer—

Between 1 July 2008 and 30 June 2009 NSW Fair Trading's building inspectors carried out 1730 residential building inspections in response to consumer and trader disputes.

In addition, Fair Trading investigators conducted 1,173 field audit inspections to ensure compliance with home building regulation as part of compliance activities and campaigns across New South Wales.

*10563HOME WARRANTY INSURANCE MANAGED SERVICE PROVIDERS—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Special Minister of State—

In respect of the proposed home warranty insurance scheme due to commence on 1 July 2010:

- (1) How many members or businesses will be on the proposed panel of managed service providers?
- (2) How many licensed builders does the Minister expect will require the assistance of a managed service provider in order to obtain home warranty insurance?
- (3) Will the Government require that each panel member/business has professional indemnity insurance?
- (4) What level of professional indemnity insurance will be required of a member/business on this panel?
- (5) Can a licensed builder commence a residential building project with one managed service provider and then, unilaterally, end that arrangement and carry on the same project with a different managed service provider?
- (6) Will the Government guarantee payment to a managed service provider who undertakes a project with a builder referred by the Government or SICorp?
- (7) Under the rules governing this panel, for how many building inspections on a particular building project can the panel member/business demand payment in advance?
- (8) Will panel members/businesses be able to choose the geographical areas of NSW in which they will work?
- (9) Can the Government or SICorp compel panel members/businesses to provide managed building services in any part of the State of NSW?
- (10) How many panel members have confirmed they will provide these management services in the Albury region?
- (11) How many panel members have confirmed they will provide these management services in the Dubbo region?
- (12) How many panel members have confirmed they will provide these management services in the Broken Hill region?
- (13) Should a panel member go into receivership or liquidation, does the scheme guarantee that another panel member will complete the management services obligations of the previous member?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The managed builder provider request for tender received submissions from 10 service providers. Four of these businesses submitted successful applications and will be appointed to the panel.
- (2) At this stage it is too early to provide exact numbers of builders who will require this service.
- (3) Each panel member will be required to hold current professional indemnity insurance.
- (4) Panel members are required to have \$5 million of professional indemnity insurance.
- (5) Builders will choose the managed builder provider before a job commences. They can't change providers during a project. However a licensed builder can choose a different provider for their next project.
- (6) No.
- (7) Zero.
- (8) All members of the managed builder program panel are committed to providing cover throughout all of NSW.
- (9) All members of the managed builder program panel are committed to providing coverage throughout NSW.
- (10) All four panel members will provide management services to the Albury region.
- (11) All four panel members will provide management services to the Dubbo region.
- (12) All four panel members will provide management services to the Broken Hill region.
- (13) Yes.

*10564RECREATIONAL FISHING LICENCES—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

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Given the statement at the Cross-Border Forum held in Albury in September 2009 that the issue of reciprocal recognition of recreational fishing licences between NSW and Victoria along the Murray River needed to be resolved as a cross-border priority:

- (1) What progress has been achieved in resolving this matter?
- (2) Has there been any progress on the proposal to enable NSW recreational fishing licences, or the equivalent Victoria licence, to be valid for recreational fishing anywhere along the Murray River?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) NSW is continuing to work with Victoria looking at the issues associated with reciprocal recognition of payment of recreational fishing fees. It is important to note that there are numerous administrative differences between the New South Wales and Victorian recreational fishing fee systems as well as potential implications for recreational fishing trust revenue that need to be addressed before any serious proposal can be taken further forward.

I am advised that the Department of Primary Industries Victoria is now proposing a joint working group to further investigate the options and issues for mutual recognition, including the potential for limited reciprocity.

*10565CUTTAGEE LAKE FISH STOCKS—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) What scientific data and studies have been undertaken at Cuttagee Lake into fish stocks in the past 10 years?
- (2) Will the Minister agree to provide additional resources into the science behind fisheries in this lake and others throughout the region?

Answer—

- (1) There have been no specific studies done in Cuttagee Lake in the past 10 years. However, Industry & Investment NSW has been working for several years on Wallaga Lake, a neighbouring lake to Cuttagee Lake, doing fishery-independent surveys of the fish stocks. Comprehensive recreational surveys have also been done in the nearby Tuross Lake and these surveys will be repeated in the next few years. There has also been work on black bream done in Coila and Brou Lakes. Comprehensive mapping of the aquatic habitats of Cuttagee Lakes - upon which its fish stocks depend - is available on the Industry & Investment NSW web site.
- (2) The NSW Government is surveying fish stocks in the southern lakes of NSW appropriately and will continue to do so in order to monitor these important natural resources.

*10566EFFECTS OF LANDFILL ON WATER QUALITY—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Will the Government undertake a study into the effects of landfill on water quality for nearby adjoining residents who are dependent on tank water for domestic purposes?
- (2) Has such a study ever been undertaken in NSW?
- (3) Will the Minister assist residents near the proposed waste facility at Wolumla on the Far South Coast connect to water through the main?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) There is no reason to believe that rainwater quality would be affected and a study is not considered warranted.

To protect rainwater quality, NSW Health recommends maintenance of roof catchments and the installation of first flush diverters on all rainwater tanks. This reduces the risk of contamination associated with roof water collection (such as bird droppings, leaves and dust) and the impact of that contamination on water quality. This advice was provided to concerned residents and is available on the web: <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/publichealth/environment/water/rainwater.asp>

- (2) No.
- (3) Connection to town supply is a matter for the local council and hence for the portfolio of the Minister for Local Government.

*10567PENRITH DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTRE—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Education and Training representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, Minister for Volunteering, and Minister for Youth—

In light of the demands on the Penrith Disability Resource Centre, will the Minister agree to fund an

additional two advocates for people with disability in the Nepean Region?

Answer—

Ageing, Disability and Home Care and Penrith Disability Resource Centre are monitoring the demand for advocacy services in the Nepean area. Information provided by Penrith Disability Resource Centre is informing Ageing, Disability and Home Care's planning process for expansion of services for this area.

*10568 TRAUMA SERVICES—LISMORE BASE HOSPITAL—Mr Thomas George asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) How much of the money allocated through ITIM for trauma services has been spent in rural NSW?
- (2) Which area health services have received that money?
- (3) Specifically, what positions in trauma have been funded in rural NSW in the last five years with money allocated either through ITIM or directly through the area health service with NSW State Government money?
- (4) Does the Minister have a mechanism for ensuring that money allocated to trauma services actually ever reaches the target for which the targeted funding is provided?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) The NSW Institute of Trauma and Injury Management was established in 2002 to provide clinical leadership in trauma care to support the development of trauma services across NSW, and does not provide funding to trauma services.

(3) A total of \$1.1 million in enhancements has been committed by the NSW Department of Health to support trauma coordination in rural areas since 2009-10.

(4) The NSW Institute of Trauma and Injury Management, in collaboration with the Critical Care Health Priority Taskforce monitor the ongoing availability of the funded service enhancements and clinical staffing positions. Additionally, formal notification to NSW Health, that the enhancements have been achieved, is required for release of funds to the Area Health Service.

*10569 BULLYING AT STATE HIGH SCHOOLS—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) What advice is given by the department to parents who complain about bullying at State High Schools?
- (2) Is the advice reportedly given by the Member for Wyong to the parents of a student to "leave the school" sanctioned by the Department of Education?
- (3) What action has the Minister taken to disassociate the department from the reported comment by the Member for Wyong?

Answer—

- (1) The Department of Education and Training does not tolerate bullying in schools and has strong policies and procedures in place to deal with bullying. This includes the requirement that all schools have an Anti-bullying Plan, as part of the school's Discipline Policy that includes specific strategies to counter bullying. This policy and plan equip schools, teachers, students and parents with specific strategies to identify, report and deal with bullying behaviours.

Every school is required to develop and implement their Anti-bullying Plans through consultation with parents, caregivers, students and the community. The Plan must clearly identify both the behaviours that are unacceptable and the strategies for dealing with bullying. Schools have a responsibility to provide parents, caregivers and students with clear information on both strategies to promote appropriate behaviour and on the consequences for inappropriate behaviour. The school must provide students, parents, caregivers and teachers with clear procedures to report bullying.

When complaints about incidents of bullying are made they are managed according to the school's Anti-bullying Plan.

Complaints about the way a bullying incident has been managed at the school level are dealt with according to the Department's Complaints Handling Policy and associated Complaints Handling Guidelines.

If the complaint is about the way the principal has dealt with the bullying incident, the School Education Director who supervises the principal deals with the complaint according to the Department's Complaints Handling Policy and associated Complaints Handling Guidelines.

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(2) and (3) I am unaware of any discussions held and am therefore unable to comment.

*10570F3 SPEEDING INFRINGEMENTS—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

For each of the past three years, how many speeding infringements have been issued on the F3 Freeway:

- (a) by police;
- (b) by fixed speed cameras?

Answer—

I am advised:

Please see the answer tabled in response to Question 9812.

*10571BULLYING AT WADALBA COMMUNITY SCHOOL—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) How many complaints have been lodged with the Minister about bullying at Wadalba Community School?
- (2) Have parents from the school made representations to the Minister or her office about allegations of bullying at the school?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) Correspondence has been received regarding this issue.

*10572RED GUM NATIONAL PARKS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Will the Minister confirm reports from the Riverina area that the National Parks and Wildlife Service recently purchased five utility vehicles and several items of heavy machinery to be used in the newly formed Red Gum National Parks?
- (2) What specific items of equipment and how many of each of these items were purchased by NPWS for use in the new National Parks?
- (3) From which businesses and in which towns were these vehicles/equipment purchased?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) Two items of heavy machinery have been purchased and a lease order for five utilities has been placed with State Fleet.
- (2) The two purchased items of heavy plant are a Terex Positrak and an Isuzu truck.
- (3) The five leased vehicles are being procured, as required under the standard Government supply contract, through State Fleet. The Isuzu truck was purchased through Wagga Wagga Motors in Wagga Wagga. The Terek Positrak was purchased from ASV Sales & Service Pty Ltd in Wyong, as this machine could not be sourced in the Riverina.

*10574BETHUNGRA DAM—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Given that a recommendation has now been made to the NSW Land and Property Management Authority to strengthen the Bethungra Dam wall, will the Minister approve this project in line with the recommendation?
- (2) When will this work commence, and what is its scheduled completion date?
- (3) What is the estimated cost of this project?
- (4) What was the estimated cost of the alternative of lowering the dam wall by 14 metres?

Answer—

- (1) Options to ensure the safety of the dam wall, which include strengthening the dam wall, lowering the dam wall, or alternatively removal of the dam altogether, remain under investigation. Personally, I have been in favour of retaining Bethungra Dam, particularly since the devastating bush fires of January 2006 when Bethungra Dam proved to be a valuable source of water. I look forward to making an informed decision on the preferred option once the investigation has been completed and all relevant and critical information has been gathered and fully assessed.

- (2) Works will commence when all investigations have been completed and a decision has been made on the preferred option to take the matter forward. Due to the complexities of the project it is not possible to give a starting date and a completion date at this time.
- (3) Unknown at this point. The project will be costed once the preferred option to address the safety issue with the dam wall has been determined.
- (4) The cost of proceeding with any lowering of the wall has not been determined.

*10575IMM AND SAC EVENTS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) How many IMMs were recorded in Hornsby Hospital in 2008 and 2009?"
- (2) How many SAC 1, 2 and 3 events occurred in 2008 and 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) The NSW Department of Health does not routinely report the requested data at facility level. However the NSW Department of Health and the Clinical Excellence Commission work together to produce bi-annual reports of statewide clinical incident notifications and associated risks from the Incident Information Management System. The reports provide valuable insights into the nature and number of clinical incident notifications occurring in the Health system, and a platform for sustainable clinical improvements. Of note the majority of reported incidents do not result in adverse patient outcomes.

The bi-annual reports are available on the Clinical Excellence Commission website at

<http://www.cec.health.nsw.gov.au/programs/patient-safety.html>

I refer the Member to the publicly available information.

*10576COMPUTER ROLL OUT FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Education and Training—

What is the update on the computer roll out in the Hornsby electorate for teachers and students as at 31 May 2010?

Answer—

A total of 194 laptop computers have been provided for high school teachers and 1,643 for high school students in the Hornsby electorate as at 31 May 2010.

Additionally, Clarke Road School for Specific Purposes has chosen to receive flexible funding in lieu of 19 student laptops.

*10577CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELEVISION—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) When was closed-circuit television installed into Hornsby Hospital?
- (2) Which areas are included in CCTV?
- (3) How many days has CCTV been non-functioning over this time?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) This question is best directed to the Minister for Health.

*10578PEOPLE FIRST PROGRAM—INDEPENDENT REVIEW—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

- (1) Who has the Department of Services, Technology and Administration engaged to undertake an independent review of the savings, benefits and avoided costs achieved by the People First program since 2006-07?
- (2) When is this report due to be released?
- (3) Does the review extend to consider or review the direct and indirect program costs?

Answer—

- (1) The Department of Services, Technology and Administration has engaged Ernst and Young.
- (2) The report will be released as soon as possible after the independent review has been completed which is expected later this year.
- (3) Yes.

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*10579PROPOSED NEW DWELLINGS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

Between now and 2031, how many new dwellings are estimated to be built in the Ku-ring-gai Council area from or on:

- (a) the SAN site;
- (b) dual occupancies;
- (c) SEPP Seniors Living;
- (d) the Masada Lindfield site;
- (e) reclassified council-owned sites;
- (f) new single dwellings;
- (g) the previously deferred sites at Lindfield and Turramurra;
- (h) isolated sites with site areas less than 1,200 square metres;
- (i) strata/company/community title properties where there are no development plans currently known of through discussions with landowners;
- (j) sub-station sites and service stations?

Answer—

- (a) There is a recent approval for the development of up to 500 dwellings.
- (b) to (j) The timing and extent of development for these sites will be largely determined by the market.

*10581DNA TESTING—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In the light of there being one pathologist to 270 police officers in NSW for DNA testing, with other States having a much higher ratio of pathologists, when will the low ratio of pathologists to police in NSW be addressed?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government has invested \$25.7 million over four years in DNA advancement initiatives such as robotics to further improve DNA analytical capacity. There is no plan at present to increase the ratio of forensic biologists to police officers.

*10582PEDESTRIAN OVERBRIDGE—GEORGE STREET, HORNSBY—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Regarding the pedestrian overbridge in George Street, Hornsby:

- (1) Was there a "full load" and "high vehicle" risk assessment done after the temporary repair?
- (2) Was there a risk assessment done before the engineer's report?
- (3) Is the Minister aware that the bridge does not meet RTA standards?
- (4) Will the Minister ensure that early warning signs are installed regarding height issues above George Street?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) I am advised George Street, Hornsby is approved for general access vehicles, which have a legal height limit of 4.3 metres. However, George Street is not approved for over height vehicle usage and as a result, no risk assessment has been undertaken.

Minimum clearance as specified in current Australian Standard 5100 for new pedestrian bridges is 5.5 metres. The George Street bridge was constructed in 1982 and predates these current design standards. I understand 4.9 metre clearance signs are already installed on this structure.

*10583FRIDGE BUYBACK PROGRAM—Mr Geoff Provost asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

In relation to the NSW Climate Change Fund for the Fridge Buyback program in metropolitan Sydney and Wollongong and given your advice that the scheme will expand to a number of regional centres including the Tweed (Question 6988):

When will the collection and rebate program be extended to regional residents of the State, in particular the Tweed?

Answer—

I am advised that timing for extension of the program to regional areas has not yet been determined. The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water is currently considering the logistical arrangements that may be necessary to expand the program.

*10584NSW IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2009-2013—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

In relation to the NSW Partnership Agreement on Homelessness—NSW Implementation Plan 2009-2013:

- (1) Has a detailed proposal for Year 2 been provided and if so how much funding has been allocated for Year 2?
- (2) How much funding has been allocated to the Tweed Local Government Area for Year 2?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) The NSW Government is currently negotiating with the Australian Government, the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness: NSW Implementation Plan Years 2- 4.

*10585HOMELESS RATES IN THE TWEED—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

In relation to homeless rates in the Tweed and given that the Tweed has the second highest homeless rate in NSW of 67 per 10,000 homeless as opposed to Sydney with 39 per 10,000 and Hunter and Illawarra with a rate of 34 per 10,000:

During Year 1, how much of the \$69 million funding for homelessness (NSW Implementation Plan 2009-2013) was allocated to Tweed Heads and how much to Sydney/Hunter/Illawarra?

Answer—

This information is available on Housing NSW's website (www.housing.nsw.gov.au).

*10586CARBON SAVINGS—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) How much carbon will be saved each year by each specific project under the Renewable Energy Development Program since July 2007 (please list)?
- (2) How much carbon does the Capital Wind Farm at Bungendore save each year?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) The Renewable Energy Development Program provides funding for commercialising emerging renewable energy technologies. The greenhouse gas savings for the individual projects are not able to be released as the information is commercial-in-confidence, however the total savings for the six projects being funded under this program are estimated at 100,000 tonnes a year.
- (2) Capital Wind Farm will save approximately 390,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases each year.

*10588ECOSYSTEMS AT CAMDEN AND YABBRA—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Why did the department pay \$1.7 million to protect 80 hectares at Camden, and yet fine Forests NSW only \$1,200 for destroying 1.7 hectares at Yabba State Forest?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that under these figures, ecosystems at Camden are worth 30 times more than at Yabba?
- (3) Did the department pay too much for the site at Camden?
- (4) Was the fine at Yabba inadequate?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Developer levies from the north-west and south-west growth centres were used to fund the \$1.7 million purchase of biodiversity credits created at a biobank site at Douglas Park, near Picton. This payment was for in perpetuity active management of the site as well as the lost opportunity costs to the landowner associated with entering the biobanking agreement. The management costs for the property have been calculated to ensure the maintenance and improvement of the biodiversity values of the site including the management of weeds, feral animals and fencing. The lost opportunity costs

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reflect high land values in Western Sydney. The distribution of developer levies is administered by the Growth Centres Offset Program of the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW).

DECCW separately issued Forests NSW with four Penalty Notices under s113 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 for contravention of the conditions of its Threatened Species Licence, totalling \$1,200.

- (2) It is not appropriate to compare the costs of Biobanking credits and the penalty notice issued to Forests NSW.
- (3) No.
- (4) The decision to issue the Penalty Notice was appropriate. The value of the penalty notice is set by legislation.

***10589 ASTHMA-RELATED DEATHS**—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What has the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health done about NSW having one of the largest increases in asthma-related deaths in the 70+ years age group between 2005 and 2006?

Answer—

I am advised:

Hospitalisation rates for asthma are regularly reported in the Population Health Division Report: The health of the people of New South Wales - Report of the Chief Health Officer. Sydney, NSW Department of Health, available at: www.health.nsw.gov.au/publichealth/chorep

Local public health units in Area Health Services undertake surveillance and monitoring in relation to the incidence of illnesses such as asthma, and work to protect the health of the population.

As part of the Government's Caring Together Health Action Plan, a four year \$22 million Severe Chronic Disease Management Program is being rolled out across NSW so that people with chronic conditions can receive more health care services at home and avoid unnecessary admissions to hospital.

The NSW Department of Health provides funding grants to the Asthma Foundation of over \$400,000 per annum. Information on initiatives to promote asthma management, awareness and research is available on the Asthma Foundation website at: www.asthmansw.org.au

***10590 CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECKS**—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Have criminal records checks been completed for all employees in the NSW Health System who, as a condition of employment, require such checks, including those employees of the Health Care Complaints Commission?

Answer—

I am advised:

In 1997, the NSW Department of Health issued a policy requiring criminal record checking of all existing employees of the NSW Health System, and thereafter all new employees joining the NSW Health System. Current NSW Health policy still requires criminal record checking of new employees to NSW Health.

With respect to Health Care Complaints Commission (HCCC) employees, since 13 December 2007, the Independent Commission Against Corruption has administered the HCCC's recruitment, staffing and payroll functions.

The ICAC has conducted criminal record checks on all potential Commission employees, both permanent and temporary. The ICAC also conducts criminal record checks on conciliators recruited by the Commission for the purposes of conciliations organised by the Commission's Health Conciliation Registry.

***10591 BURNOUT OFFENCES**—Mr Greg Smith asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

How many offences have been committed due to "burnout" offences in the following years:

- (a) 2006;
- (b) 2007;

- (c) 2008;
- (d) 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Police Force commenced legal proceedings for 'burnout' offences as follows:

- (a) 2,340
- (b) 2,165
- (c) 1,795
- (d) 1,584

*10592AIR QUALITY—BROKE/SINGLETON HUNTER VALLEY—Mr George Souris asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

In relation to a reported blast that occurred on Friday 28 May at the Xstrata/Beltana coal mine at approximately 1.00 pm:

- (1) (a) Did the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECC) supervise this blast?
(b) If not, what report has been given to the department relating to the blast?
- (2) Which coal mining company was responsible for the blast?
- (3) What are the conditions in relation to blasting and air quality contained within the licence?
- (4) (a) Was the fallout from the blast within the licence conditions of the coal mining company?
(b) If not, what action is being taken?
- (5) What was the chemical make-up of that toxic looking cloud?
- (6) What were the prevailing weather conditions at the time?
- (7) Where is it anticipated that the majority of the particulates in the cloud would have landed?
- (8) Is there any further information that the Minister can provide to inform the local community?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) (a) No. The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) does not supervise day-to-day activities on mine sites.
(b) DECCW received an incident report from the company.
- (2) Bulga Coal Management Pty Limited.
- (3) Bulga Coal holds Environment Protection Licence 563. The licence limits the overpressure and ground vibration that may be caused by blasting and also contains operating conditions that require all activities, including blasting, to be carried out in a competent manner.
- (4) (a) The licence does not specify a limit for dust fallout from blasting. Dust monitors, required as a condition of development consents or licence conditions, monitor the cumulative dust levels from all mining and ambient sources.
(b) The blast did not breach Bulga Coal's licence conditions.
- (5) No samples of the blast plume were collected or analysed.
- (6) At the time of the blast, there was a light northerly breeze.
- (7) It is anticipated that the majority of particulates would have landed on the mine site.
- (8) Ammonium nitrate and fuel oil is the most commonly used explosive at Hunter Valley mines. In some circumstances, a blast will release nitrogen dioxide. This gas gives the blast plume an orange-red colour.

Mines establish exclusion zones around blast sites to exclude the public if there is any potential safety risk. In this instance, the orange plume was observed from approximately 1.5 kilometres from the blast site.

*10593POLICE NUMBERS AT SOUTH WEST ROCKS—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

- (1) How many police officers are currently stationed at South West Rocks?
- (2) How many police officers will be stationed at South West Rocks following the opening of the new police station at Kempsey?
- (3) Are there any plans to close the police station at South West Rocks?

Answer—

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The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) Two.
- (2) Two.
- (3) No.

*10594 STRAWBERRY ROAD BUS STOP—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Given the dangerous pickup/drop off point for school children at Strawberry Road, Upper Warrell Creek Road intersection, will the Minister reconsider the bus stop for safety issues and move it to the purpose built bus shelter on Strawberry Road?
- (2) What impact does Busways have on the decision?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) I am advised that the contracted bus operator, Busways North Coast, considers the bus stop on Strawberry Road as not suitable for use, as its buses cannot turn around in the space provided in one continuous movement.

I understand that a more suitable pickup point on the existing bus route has been identified by representatives from Busways North Coast and Nambucca Shire Council and it is currently being considered by Council's Traffic Committee.

*10595 ALLYN RIVER ROAD, ALLYNBROOK—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What is the total cost of the damage to Allyn River Road following the floods in June 2007?
- (2) Why has it taken so long to repair the road?
- (3) Is the natural disaster funding from the NSW State Government?
- (4) Is the 3-year delay in delivering the natural disaster funding for this road a normal occurrence?
- (5) What is the estimated timetable for these repairs by the RTA/NSW Government/Dungog Shire Council?
- (6) When was the last safety report undertaken on this section of road?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The estimated cost of the repairs currently being undertaken on the embankment on Allyn River Road is \$365,125. Other flood damage repairs on Allyn River Road were completed in 2008 at a cost of \$821,760.

(2) to (5) Allyn River Road is a local road and the responsibility for maintenance and improvements, including the programming of repairs caused by natural disasters are matters for Dungog Shire Council.

The NSW Government provides funding assistance to councils for declared natural disaster events. Councils are responsible for undertaking the repairs once the funding is approved. Dungog Shire Council submitted a funding request for the embankment repairs on Allyn River Road on 3 February 2010, and this request was approved by the Roads and Traffic Authority on 5 February 2010.

The Roads and Traffic Authority understands that Council started repair work on the embankment on Allyn River Road on 24 May 2010.

(6) Allyn River Road is a local road and this is therefore a matter for Dungog Shire Council.

*10596 1995 NATIONAL COMPETITION POLICY—Mr Richard Torbay asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

- (1) In regard to the 1995 National Competition Policy, has the Minister and his department engaged in any anti-competitive and discriminatory practices to exclude private e-learning providers delivering RSA and RCG courses in NSW?
- (2) Have any private sector submissions for accreditation for any e-learning course for RSA or RSG been approved by the Minister or his department?

Answer—

- (1) No.
- (2) No.

*10597 UNFLUED GAS HEATERS—Mr Richard Torbay asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) When will the report about the affects of unflued gas heaters in school classrooms be published?
- (2) How many schools in the Northern Tablelands electorate currently use unflued gas heaters in classrooms?
- (3) What steps are being taken to address health concerns arising from the use of unflued gas heaters in classrooms?

Answer—

- (1) The Woolcock Institute of Medical Research study to investigate the possible health risks that may arise from the use of unflued gas heaters in NSW Government schools is expected to be published in August, 2010. The timing of publication is a matter between the Institute and the academic journal to which the report has been submitted. The Department of Education and Training is contractually bound not to release the report prior to publication.
- (2) Unflued gas heaters are the standard space heating equipment used in most Department of Education and Training schools. Schools in the Northern Tablelands electorate would be expected to have unflued gas heaters.
- (3) The installation of unflued gas heaters in schools has been stopped pending the finalisation of the Woolcock Institute study. Alternative heating options will be determined on a case by case basis for any current construction projects under the Building the Education Revolution program.

The NSW Government has committed \$15 million to begin replacing unflued gas heaters at schools in the coldest areas of the State. This process will involve consultation with stakeholders to determine which schools should be prioritised for the replacement program.

*10598CHEMOTHERAPY SERVICES—Mr John Turner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Are there any plans to provide chemotherapy services for public patients at the Forster Private Hospital?
- (2) If so, when will those services be available for public patients?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) Forster Private Hospital is preparing a submission to NSW Health for approval to provide chemotherapy services on site. It is likely that these services would be for private patients in the first instance.

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*10599LAND FOR FUTURE ROAD PURPOSES—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Has the Roads and Traffic Authority advised that land situated near the Voyager Motel at Minchinbury is not available for sale because it is required for "future road purposes"?
- (2) What plans does the RTA have for this parcel of land?
- (3) Are these plans, referred to by the RTA, in any published proposals by the organisation?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The land may be required for future upgrade of the Great Western Highway and may be required for a service road.
- (3) Future publication is being considered.

*10600OPERATIONS PERFORMED IN HOSPITALS—Mr Richard Amery asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Of all operations performed in New South Wales, what percentage are performed in:

- (a) public hospitals;
- (b) private hospitals?

Answer—

I am advised:

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- (a) 41.6%
- (b) 58.4%

NB: The percentages are based on 2008-09 NSW data as published by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

*10601 **HEAVY PLANT CERTIFICATIONS**—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport—

Following the Cross-Border forum held in Albury in September 2009 what progress has been made on the proposal to remove licensing requirements for four types of loadshifting machinery which require certification in NSW but not in Victoria?

Answer—

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

*10602 **HOME WARRANTY INSURANCE MANAGED SERVICE PROVIDERS**—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

In respect of the proposed home warranty insurance scheme due to commence on 1 July 2010:

- (1) How many members or businesses will be on the proposed panel of managed service providers?
- (2) How many licensed builders do you expect will require the assistance of a managed service provider in order to obtain home warranty insurance?
- (3) Will the Government require that each panel member/business has professional indemnity insurance?
- (4) What level of professional indemnity insurance will be required of a member/business on this panel?
- (5) Can a licensed builder commence a residential building project with one managed service provider and then, unilaterally, end that arrangement and carry on the same project with a different managed service provider?
- (6) Will the Government guarantee payment to a managed service provider who undertakes a project with a builder referred by the Government or SICorp?
- (7) Under the rules governing this panel, for how many building inspections on a particular building project can the panel member/business demand payment in advance?
- (8) Will panel members/business be able to choose the geographical areas of NSW in which they will work?
- (9) Can the Government or SICorp compel panel members/businesses to provide managed building services in any part of the state of NSW?
- (10) How many panel members have confirmed they will provide these management services in the Albury region?
- (11) How many panel members have confirmed they will provide these management services in the Dubbo region?
- (12) How many panel members have confirmed they will provide these management services in the Broken Hill region?
- (13) Should a panel member go into receivership or liquidation, does the scheme guarantee that another panel member will complete the management services obligations of the previous member?

Answer—

I am advised:

Please see Answer to Written Question Legislative Assembly 10563.

*10603 **BUILDING INSPECTIONS**—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for the Arts—

Over the 2008 to 2009 financial year, what was the average waiting time between a consumer requesting that a Fair Trading building officer attend their building site for a building inspection and that inspection taking place?

Answer—

It is assumed that the question is referring to Fair Trading's processes for resolving building disputes.

When a consumer lodges a complaint regarding building work, Fair Trading initiates a mediation process in an attempt to resolve the issue.

Where initial mediation by Fair Trading does not result in resolution of a building complaint, the matter is then referred for inspection and onsite mediation.

There is a 2 day guarantee of service in place requiring inspectors to contact the parties to the dispute to organise a site inspection.

For 2008-2009, 98% of home owners, builders and tradespersons were contacted within 48 hours to arrange an initial site inspection and/or onsite mediation.

Fair Trading has a 20 working day target for undertaking a site inspection.

The average time for a site visit to occur in 2008-2009 financial year was 29 working days.

New initiatives allowing traders and individual lot owners within strata schemes to initiate the dispute process led to the higher than desired time frames for completing site inspections in this period.

Following the resolution of some implementation issues, the average number of working days to undertake site visits reduced significantly and the average for 2009-2010 was 16 working days.

***10604 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT PLAN—BUS CORRIDORS—**Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport—

In relation to Premier Keneally's Metropolitan Transport Plan (released 21 February 2010) promise to complete nine bus corridors:

- (1) What are the nine remaining bus corridors the Government will complete?
- (2) How much will each corridor cost?
- (3) What is the completion date for each corridor?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) On 21 February 2010 it was announced that the NSW Government will provide 1,000 new buses for extra services in Sydney, Wollongong, Newcastle and the Central Coast. These buses will be used to complete the strategic corridor network by 2014.

Road infrastructure, like bus lanes, and technology solutions, such as on board bus priority systems that change traffic lights from red to green, will improve bus speeds and reliability. Patronage and traffic modelling will determine the timing, service levels and cost of implementing services on strategic corridors.

The Metropolitan Transport Plan includes \$2.9 billion of improvements to bus services over ten years.

***10605 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT PLAN—NEW BUSES—**Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport—

In relation to Premier Keneally's Metropolitan Transport Plan (released 21 February 2010) promise to deliver 1,000 new buses:

- (1) What is the total cost of the project?
- (2) What types of buses are being purchased as part of the order?
- (3) Has an order been placed?
- (4) If so, which company was chosen?
- (5) Will the buses be fitted with GPS technology?
- (6) When will the first of the 78 buses on order be on our roads?
- (7) When will the project be completed?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Under the Metropolitan Transport Plan the Government will invest \$2.9 billion over 10 years to improve bus services in Sydney, Wollongong, Newcastle and the Central Coast. The improvements will include 1000 new buses, bus priority measures such as GPS traffic light priority and new bus depots for the State Transit Authority and private bus operators.
- (2) The buses purchased will be in line with the bus contract agreed bus specification for metropolitan Sydney, which is a standard two door, low floor accessible, air-conditioned route bus. For buses to be used in the Outer Metropolitan Contact areas, one door buses will be accepted. These buses will also meet the latest environmental emission standards.
- (3) Transport NSW has granted conditional approval to purchase the first 200 of the new 1000 buses.
- (4) Bus operators were granted funding approvals to purchase bus chassis from Volvo, Mercedes Benz,

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IVECO and MAN; and bus bodies from Custom Coaches, Volgren and Bustech.

- (5) Global Positioning System technology is fitted to the State Transit Authority fleet and is integrated with the development of the Public Transport Information and Priority System (PTIPS).
- (6) The first buses purchased under the 1,000 bus initiative are expected to be in service by late 2010.
- (7) The 1,000 buses are expected to be introduced progressively over 10 years.

*10606 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT PLAN—PRIVATE BUS DEPOTS—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport—

In relation to Premier Keneally's Metropolitan Transport Plan (released 21 February 2010) promise for new State Transit Authority and private bus depots:

- (1) How many new bus depots (STA and private) will be delivered?
- (2) What is the name and location of each new bus depot (STA and private)?
- (3) What is the cost of each new bus depot?
- (4) When will each new depot be completed?
- (5) What is the total cost of the project?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Based on current and anticipated bus fleet requirements, it is estimated that approximately 15 new depots or depot upgrades will be required across metropolitan and outer metropolitan Sydney over the next 10 years.
- (2) Based on land use and population projections, it is anticipated that:
 - the South West Growth Centre will require 3 new depots;
 - the North West Growth Centre will require 2 new depots;
 - Western and South Western Sydney will require 7 new depots or upgraded depots;
 - Southern Sydney will require 1 new depot; and
 - the Central Coast and Illawarra will require 1 new depot each.
- (3) Land acquisition costs for bus depots can vary considerably depending on location and whether the land is a new land release or meaning an urban renewal site.
- (4) and (5) The proposed depots will be planned and constructed as demand arises and in accordance with budget allocations in the Metropolitan Transport Plan's 10-year funding guarantee.

*10607 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT PLAN—BUS PRIORITY MEASURES—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport—

In relation to Premier Keneally's Metropolitan Transport Plan (released 21 February 2010) promise for bus priority measures such as GPS traffic light priority:

- (1) Have all STA and private buses been fitted with GPS technology?
- (2) If not, why not and how many more buses need to be fitted?
- (3) How many sets of traffic lights will be fitted with bus priority technology as part of this project?
- (4) How much is the total cost of this project?
- (5) When will the project be fully complete?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) Since February 2010 all State Transit buses have been fitted with GPS traffic light priority technology. The Public Transport Information Priority System is anticipated to roll out to private bus operators in the future.
- (3) 791 traffic lights have been enabled for bus priority on State Transit Authority operated routes.
- (4) The total budgeted cost for this project is \$50 million, including recurrent costs up to 2012.
- (5) The rollout of Public Transport Information Priority System incorporating GPS technology will be completed in coming years following the rollout of upgraded equipment to the private bus fleet.

*10608 BOTTLESHOP LICENCES—Mr Steve Cansdell asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

- (1) How many bottleshop licences were granted in the Coffs/Clarence Local Area Command in
 - (a) 2008;

- (b) 2009;
- (c) 2010 to date?
- (2) How many bottleshop licences were granted in the Clarence electorate in:
 - (a) 2008;
 - (b) 2009;
 - (c) 2010 to date?
- (3) Why is there a freeze on hotel liquor licences in some areas of NSW and not bottleshop licences?

Answer—

- (1) As Communities NSW does not catalogue liquor licences using Police Local Area Command boundaries, the following answers relate to packaged liquor licences for the Clarence Valley local government area.
 - (a) Nil.
 - (b) One.
 - (c) Nil.
- (2)
 - (a) See answer above.
 - (b) See answer above.
 - (c) See answer above.
- (3) The Parliament has enacted legislation to apply a short-term freeze to specified liquor licence applications for parts of the City of Sydney. The Parliament has not seen fit to apply a freeze to other parts of NSW.

*10609NPWS STAFF CUTS—Mr Steve Cansdell asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

In relation to NPWS staff cuts:

- (1) What were the staff numbers for NPWS in the Clarence electorate in:
 - (a) 2008;
 - (b) 2009;
 - (c) 2010 to date?
- (2) Would NPWS staff cuts translate into RFS volunteers being called in more often to fight fires in national parks and State forests?
- (3) How many NPWS staff were available to fight fires in the Clarence electorate in:
 - (a) 2008;
 - (b) 2009;
 - (c) 2010-2011 bushfire season?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) (a) 41
 - (b) 40
 - (c) 40
- (2) No.
- (3) Staff from across the National Parks and Wildlife Service are available to be deployed to fight fires in the Clarence electorate as appropriate. The National Parks and Wildlife Service has a combined fire fighting contingent of approximately 400 incident management personnel and 900 fire fighters, of which approximately 550 are trained and equipped to undertake remote area fire fighting.

*10610CLEAN COAL TECHNOLOGY—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for State and Regional Development, Minister for Mineral and Forest Resources, Minister for Major Events, Minister for the Central Coast—

Given your advice a number of experimental trials are being undertaken to determine the potential to adapt the technology to NSW coal and power station conditions and capturing up to 3,000 tonnes of CO₂ a year (Question 8862):

- (1) What is the nature of each of the trials being undertaken to determine the potential to adapt clean coal technology to NSW coal and power station conditions?
- (2) Which companies have been engaged to undertake each experimental trial?

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- (3) What is the location and budgeted cost of experimental trials?
(4) What is the tonnage of CO₂ released each year by NSW coal powered electricity generators?

Answer—

- (1) The trial mentioned is known as a Delta Post-Combustion Capture (PCC) Pilot Plant. The pilot plant is designed to capture up to 3,000 tonnes per annum of carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the power station and began operation in 2008. The trial is focussing on assessing the performance of an ammonia based PCC pilot plant, using a NSW black coal power station and has investigated the potential to adapt the processes to Australian conditions. The trial is expected to be completed by the end of 2010.
- (2) The construction of the pilot plant and operation of the trials have been conducted by Delta Electricity and CSIRO.
- (3) The trial is located at the Delta Electricity's Munmorah site. It is a \$7million project jointly funded by Delta Electricity and CSIRO. It forms part of the Commonwealth's Asia Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate Initiative (APP).
- (4) I am advised that according to the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory, by Economic Sector - Electricity and Gas Supply for NSW - Carbon Dioxide equivalent emissions for 2008 were 63.78 million tonnes.

(Source - <http://www.ageis.greenhouse.gov.au/ANZSIC.aspx> - accessed 24 June 2010)

*10611 RENEWABLE ENERGY—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

Given your advice the NSW Government's investment in renewable energy will include dedicated go-to people who will work side-by-side with renewable energy investors to assist the development of projects from concept stage to commissioning and generation (Question 8702):

- (1) How many "go-to people" have been employed as part of the Government's investment in renewable energy?
(2) When were they appointed and what factors determined their appointment?
(3) (a) Did they receive formal training?
(b) If so, what is the nature of that training?
(4) Which Government department employs the "go-to people" and at what cost to taxpayers?
(5) What progress has been achieved by the Government's "go-to people"?

Answer—

I am advised that:

A State-wide Coordinator and six regionally-based Renewable Energy Coordinators have been appointed. Five Renewable Energy Coordinators commenced on 1 February 2010, the sixth commenced on 1 March 2010. The State-wide Coordinator was appointed on 1 February 2010. All appointees were merit selected in accordance with normal government protocols.

The Coordinators have all undertaken extensive training relevant to their positions.

The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water employs the Renewable Energy Coordinators and State-wide Coordinator from within its existing budget allocation.

The Coordinators are continuing to facilitate investment in renewable energy and assist NSW transition to a low carbon economy. They have also built strong networks with key stakeholders in their respective communities and developed a comprehensive knowledge of wind power issues relevant to the program and precincts.

*10612 IN-HOME DISPLAYS OF ELECTRICITY SMART METERS—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

Given your advice the NSW Government recognises in-home displays have the potential to provide significant information and education benefits to consumers regarding their electricity consumption (Question 8533):

- (1) What incentives does the NSW Government provide to encourage the installation of electricity smart meters with in-home displays?
(2) As at 1 June 2010, how many smart meters with in-home displays have been installed in New South Wales?
(3) Is the Government aware electricity retailers are not aggressively promoting in-home displays?

- (4) Has the Government liaised with the Victorian Government to investigate why electricity retailers have refused to promote in-home displays?

Answer—

- (1) Electricity smart meters are supported by the NSW Government, for the potential benefits they can provide to both consumers and electricity businesses. Smart meters, as well as conventional time-of-use interval meters, enable customers to choose time-of-use electricity tariffs, which can help them to save money by reducing electricity consumption or shifting consumption to lower cost times.

In-home displays provide consumers with real-time and historical information on their electricity consumption and costs, which can assist with managing their electricity usage patterns. In-home displays can be provided as a part of a smart meter package, or they can be purchased and fitted by the consumer independently of a smart meter or time-of-use meter. Other options for consumers to receive energy usage information are available, including internet services.

The NSW Government encourages NSW electricity retailers to offer a range of tariff/service options to consumers, which may include the provision of an in-home display, but such options are ultimately matters for the retailer and their customers.

- (2) There are approximately 2,000 in house displays which have been installed by the network businesses in conjunction with smart and interval meters. However, as various types of in-home displays can be purchased by consumers from sources other than retailers or networks, the NSW Government does not have information on the total number of in-home displays located in NSW.
- (3) All NSW electricity distribution businesses are conducting trials of new metering options to consumers, including the provision of in-home displays, in order to determine the costs and benefits of such measures. The NSW Government supports these trials, and receives regular updates via the NSW Smart Meter Infrastructure Forum and the Ministerial Council on Energy's Smart Meter Working Group. There are around a dozen licensed retailers in NSW who supply residential and small business customers, and any arrangements or supply agreements between retailers and their customers involving the supply of in-home displays are commercial matters between those parties.
- (4) The NSW Government maintains close contact with all Australian jurisdictions, including Victoria, around the introduction of smart meters, through the national Smart Meter Working Group.

*10613 OCEAN OUTFALLS—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

In relation to Ocean Outfalls at Diamond Bay, Diamond Bay South and Vacluse:

- (1) Given your advice planning for Stage Two will start after Stage One is complete, and that this should be in early 2011 (Question 9965):
- (2) Which month in early 2011 is the projected completion date?
- (3) What is the expected completion date of detailed concept design?

Answer—

I am advised by Sydney Water:

- (1) to (3) Stage One is expected to be complete by the end of December 2010.

Planning for Stage Two is expected to start in January 2011. The proposed improvement strategy should be identified by December 2011. Detailed concept design, community and stakeholder consultation and environmental impact assessment should be complete by June 2013.

*10614 ELECTION CAMPAIGN FUNDING AND EXPENSES—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In relation to election campaign funding and expenses and given your advice the NSW Government is currently considering the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters' recommendations (Question 9810):

What is the timeframe for the implementation of those recommendations made by the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters?

Answer—

I am advised that the timeframe for implementation of the reforms will be addressed in the Government's response to the Committee's report.

*10615 SUICIDE PREVENTION AT THE GAP—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

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Given your advice Department of Planning funding under the Metropolitan Greenspace Program was provided to improve the physical appearance of Gap Park including a new entry, ramp, signage, and bushland restoration, in line with the program's criteria (Question 7357):

In addition to funding provided under the Metropolitan Greenspace Program, will the Government provide funding specifically directed towards suicide prevention measures to assist with the Gap Park Masterplan?

Answer—

I am advised:

In relation to the Government's approach to helping people at risk of suicide, the Member is referred to the answer provided in response to Question 7357.

*10616 CHILDREN'S COURT—ADMISSION OF EVIDENCE—Ms Pru Goward asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

- (1) How many cases before the Children's Court have seen the admission of evidence under the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 Section 106A subsection 1 in:
 - (a) 2007;
 - (b) 2008;
 - (c) 2009;
 - (d) year to date?
- (2) When evidence has been admitted to the Children's Court under the aforementioned Act, section and subsection, how many cases have then seen a care application for a child or young person granted by the Children's Court in:
 - (a) 2007;
 - (b) 2008;
 - (c) 2009;
 - (d) year to date?
- (3) When evidence has been admitted to the Children's Court under the aforementioned Act, section and subsection, how many cases have then seen a care application for a child or young person rejected by the Children's Court in:
 - (a) 2007;
 - (b) 2008;
 - (c) 2009;
 - (d) year to date?
- (4) In cases when evidence has been admitted to the Children's Court under the aforementioned Act, section and subsection, in how many instances has the parent, or primary care-giver (or their legal representative) provided rebuttal evidence to this under the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 Section 106A subsection 3 in:
 - (a) 2007;
 - (b) 2008;
 - (c) 2009;
 - (d) year to date?
- (5) In cases when rebuttal evidence has been provided under the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 Section 106A subsection 3, how many cases have then seen a care applications for a child or young persons granted by the Children's Court in:
 - (a) 2007;
 - (b) 2008;
 - (c) 2009;
 - (d) year to date?
- (6) In cases when rebuttal evidence has been provided under the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 Section 106A subsection 3, how many cases have then seen a care applications for a child or young persons rejected by the Children's Court in:
 - (a) 2007;
 - (b) 2008;
 - (c) 2009;
 - (d) year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Children's Court does not collect these statistics.

*10617 LIFTS AT BOWRAL STATION—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport—

Given your advice that since installation in December 2007, the lifts have been unavailable for passenger service 28 times (Question 9863):

- (1) Does the Minister think it is acceptable that the lifts at Bowral Station have been unavailable for passenger service 28 times since their installation in December 2007, a rate of almost one breakdown per month?
- (2) Does the Government fix these lifts using its own resources or through use of a contractor?
- (3) If the Government employs a contractor to maintain the lifts:
 - (a) Has the same contractor been used since the initial installation of the lifts and if so who is the contractor or contractors?
 - (b) If this is not the case, how many contractors have been responsible for the maintenance of the lifts since their installation?
 - (c) If only one contractor has been responsible, have they faced any financial penalties in relation to the repeated mechanical failures of the lifts?
- (4) Is the Minister able to give a guarantee that, outside of regular maintenance, these lifts will not experience mechanical failure or break down again?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) I am advised that due to an error in the retrieval of data, previous advice on this matter from RailCorp in response to Question 9863 incorrectly advised that there were 28 lift failures at Bowral since the lifts were installed in 2007, when in fact there were 23.

I am further advised that the average availability of the two lifts at Bowral Station (since coming into operation in December 2007) has been 98.25%. This is above the industry standard of 96%.

I understand that since their installation, the lifts at Bowral have been maintained under a comprehensive maintenance contract by Liftronic Pty Ltd. It should be noted that 62.5% of the breakdowns of both the CityRail lifts at Bowral are the result of misuse (including vandalism).

*10619 FAMILY AND CASEWORKER MEETINGS—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

Of families that have received a face to face visit or meeting with a caseworker, what is the average and median number of reports that were received in relation to a family prior to a visit in:

- (a) 2006;
- (b) 2007;
- (c) 2008;
- (d) 2009;
- (e) year to date?

Answer—

This level of information is not extracted for statistical reporting purposes.

*10620 DRUNK AND DISORDERLY—BRISBANE WATER LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

Given advice that provisions of the Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2000 empower police to detain intoxicated persons found in a public place behaving in a disorderly manner likely to cause harm to themselves or another person or to damage property (Question 9546):

How many people in the Brisbane Water Local Area Command have been detained under the provisions of the Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2000 in the last 12 months?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me police records indicate that in the 12 months to the end of May 2010, 146 people were detained in the Brisbane Water Local Area Command under the section of the Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2002 relating to the detention of intoxicated persons.

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*10621 DRUNK AND DISORDERLY—TUGGERAH LAKES AREA COMMAND—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

Given advice that provisions of the Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2000 empower police to detain intoxicated persons found in a public place behaving in a disorderly manner likely to cause harm to themselves or another person or to damage property (Question 9546):

How many people in the Tuggerah Lakes Local Area Command have been detained under the provisions of the Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2000 in the last 12 months?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me police records indicate that in the 12 months to the end of May 2010, 79 people were detained in the Tuggerah Lakes Local Area Command under the section of the Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2002 relating to the detention of intoxicated persons.

*10622 EMERGENCY WARD—GOSFORD HOSPITAL—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

How many people presented to Gosford Hospital emergency ward in:

- (a) 2007;
- (b) 2008;
- (c) 2009;
- (d) to 30 April 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) 49,428
- (b) 49,737
- (c) 52,768
- (d) 18,446 (to 30 April 2010)

*10623 PROPOSED ORCHARD HILLS WASTE FACILITY—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) In relation to the proposed Orchard Hills Waste Facility, is the Minister aware that Justice Paul Stein's judgement in *Vacik Pty Ltd v Penrith City Council* (1992) NSWLEC 8 (24 February 1992) refused a similar proposal for this site?
- (2) Will the Minister also refuse the proponent's application of a commercial dump being located on this site and commit to the rehabilitation of the site to a rural character?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) As with any development proposal, there is an assessment process to go through. I will only make a decision on the proposal once the public exhibition has occurred and all submissions received have been scrutinised by my Department as part of the assessment of the proposal.

*10624 CARDINAL FREEMAN RETIREMENT VILLAGE—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of concerns by residents and some professional staff about the proposal to redevelop Cardinal Freeman Retirement Village at Ashfield?
- (2) What is the Minister's response to the issues relating to:
 - (a) density;
 - (b) floor space ratio;
 - (c) building height (particularly the 5 storey proposal);
 - (d) traffic safety;
 - (e) heritage considerations?
- (3) What impact will there be on heritage curtilage related to the heritage buildings including Glenworth House and the chapel?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) I am aware of the proposal to redevelop the Cardinal Freeman Village and the issues raised by residents.

The Department will fully assess issues relating to density, floor space ratio, building height, traffic safety, heritage and the concerns raised by residents before any decision is made.

*10625“TOWARDS AN INTEGRATED STRATEGIC PLAN”—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Does the Minister support the findings of the document "Towards an Integrated Strategic Plan"?
 (2) What steps is the Minister taking (if any) to ensure that an agreed strategic plan is developed for the Bays Precinct?
 (3) What is the time line for preparation of the strategic plan?

Answer—

The first stage of the consultation process for Bays Precinct involved gathering ideas and information from the community and industry to assist in preparing draft planning principles for the area, in particular Glebe Island, White Bay and White Bay Power Station. The document "Towards an Integrated Strategic Plan" was developed by the community as part of this process.

The NSW Government Bays Precinct Taskforce will now consider the feedback from the consultation process and advise Government on potential planning principles for the area. These principles will be exhibited later this year for community feedback before being finalised to guide future planning processes, such as master planning for the precinct.

*10628NURSING STAFF EXPERIENCE—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) Following revelations a patient was tasered during a recent incident at the Mental Health Intensive Care Unit (MHICU) at Hornsby Hospital, do 80 per cent of nurses working in this unit have less than 2 years experience in mental health?
 (2) What is the experience of each of the nursing staff in this Mental Health Intensive Care Unit?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) This is incorrect.
 (2) All enrolled nurses in the Unit have worked in a variety of mental health settings, including Mental Health Intensive Care/High Dependency Units, with lengths of service ranging from three to 22 years. 83% of the enrolled nurses worked in another Mental Health Intensive Care Unit prior to commencing work with the Hornsby Mental Health Intensive Care Unit.

Aside from one new nursing graduate, all registered nurses working in the Mental Health Intensive Care Unit have extensive mental health experience across community and inpatient settings ranging from three to 45 years. 61% of registered nurses worked in another Mental Health Intensive Care Unit prior to commencing work with the Hornsby Mental Health Intensive Care Unit.

*10630SCRIPTURE IN SCHOOLS—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Minister for Education and Training—

Given the NSW Board of Studies official note as part of the science curriculum has informed a number of schools that teach "scripture in schools" that these schools (seeking registration or renewal) could not present creation and intelligent design to students as scientific, and that teachers had to declare that "creation and intelligent design" are neither scientific or evidence-based:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm this directive to Christian-based schools?
 (2) Can the Minister explain and clarify the department's position on evolution as a proven science?
 (3) Can the Minister explain and clarify the department's position on creationism and intelligent design?
 (4) Can the Minister explain why not all scientists are evolutionists?
 (5) Can the Minister clarify why presenting "origins" from a Biblical perspective has never been an issue with the Board of Studies during previous school inspections on those undertaking the registration process?

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- (6) Does the Department of Education and the Minister support limiting parental choice on this matter and in doing so deprive citizens of their rights under section 116 of the Australian Constitution which guarantees the "... freedom of an individual or community in public or private to manifest religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance"?

Answer—

- (1) The Board's Official Notice to schools did not contain such a directive.
- (2) In NSW, all registered and accredited non-government schools must comply with the requirements of the Education Act 1990, including the curriculum requirements. In relation to the teaching of science this requires all accredited schools to address all essential content in the NSW Board of Studies syllabuses. Evolution is essential content in the Board's Years 7-10 Science syllabus and the Board's Years 11 and 12 Biology and Earth and Environmental Studies syllabuses.
- (3) All schools are required to deliver programs of study that comply with the requirements of Board syllabuses. For schools that are accredited the courses must also satisfy the prescribed hours for the School Certificate and cover all of the essential content of the Board's syllabuses.

Beyond the prescribed study hours schools have discretion to offer courses beyond the Board's curriculum. If individual schools choose to teach material not approved or endorsed by the Board, it must be made clear to students that this material is additional to and not part of the relevant Board syllabus and will not be tested in any public examination conducted by the Board. Students should understand that such material, therefore, would not be considered relevant in any response they write for School Certificate tests or Higher School Certificate examinations. Such material is not to be set as part of school-based assessment of Board syllabuses that contributes to the School Certificate and Higher School Certificate assessment.

The teaching of any religious, ideological or philosophical beliefs that are not in conflict with these constraints and are not otherwise contrary to the requirements of the Education Act is a matter for the school and the school community.

- (4) This question falls outside the responsibilities of the Minister for Education and Training.
- (5) The Board's position on such matters has not changed. The answer to the preceding question (3) refers.
- (6) The Board's position does not entail any of the consequences contained in the question.

*10631 BULK WATER CHARGES—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

In relation to Water and the Review of Bulk Water charges for State Water Corporation by IPART:

- (1) Will the Minister reject IPART's recommendation that will see in the Gwydir Valley proposed increases of 85% in high security charges and 35% in general security charges over the next four years?
- (2) Does the Minister acknowledge IPART recommendations actually exceed State Water recommendations on pricing?
- (3) Why has IPART changed from the agreed long run average IQQM forecast tool to a consumption forecasting model that seeks to adopt a 15 or 20 year rolling average consumption model?
- (4) On what basis does the Office of Water acknowledge IPART volatility allowance when recommending pricing structures?
- (5) Why are irrigators paying the weighted average cost of capital through pricing, therefore referring a dividend to Government, when WACC is not applied to virtually all other Government assets?
- (6) Is the Government committed to maintaining a viable irrigation industry in NSW?
- (7) If so what strategies is the Government employing to minimise the cost of bulk water delivery charges to irrigators?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) and (2) The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal is the independent regulator of bulk water prices in NSW.

The independent regulator's final determination will enable State Water to operate dams and other infrastructure as well as construct several environmental projects. The independent regulator considered matters of affordability after the release of its draft determination. As a result some new prices recommended in the draft Determination were adjusted downwards in the final Determination. This means that the final determination collects less revenue by State Water from users as a result.

- (3) This is a matter for the independent regulator, IPART.

(4) The NSW Office of Water's revenue from water management charges has been impacted by low water use as a result of drought conditions. Revenue fell by 19 percent below the level forecast by IPART when it set charges in 2006 for the current four year determination. In its submission to IPART the Office proposed that tariffs be set to reflect a higher proportion of fixed charges and a lower proportion of usage charges to better reflect the cost structure of the Office's water management activities.

(5) The National Water Initiative, of which NSW is a signatory, requires the recovery of upper bound costs for bulk water delivery. This is achieved through the application of a weighted average cost of capital on the value of State Water's regulatory asset base.

(6) and (7) The independent regulator's process involves an independent scrutiny of State Water's costs to ensure that only prudent and efficient costs are passed on to users. In addition, State Water's costs are allocated to both users and Government, depending on their nature. In addition, the independent regulator has responded to stakeholder concerns about the affordability of price increases in the Peel, North Coast and South Coast Valleys by limiting annual increases in these valleys to 10%.

*10632 BULK WATER CHARGES—IPART—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

- (1) Did, at the end of the last round of bulk water charges, the Office of Water and State Water Corporation say they were at full cost recovery?
- (2) If so, why are potential charges in the next round significantly higher than expected across the Border Rivers, Gwydir, Namoi, Peel and Macquarie Rivers?
- (3) Is IPART doing anything in the area of pricing for bulk water charges?
- (4) Will the Office of Water seek to engage the irrigation industry in determining "fair pricing" for bulk water charges?
- (5) What dividends are expected from State Water to be returned to the State Government?

Answer—

- (1) IPART sets the Office's water management charges and based on IPART's 2006 pricing determination sought to achieve full cost recovery by the end of the determination period in most valleys. However, this did not occur.

In the case of State Water, full cost recovery was attained in all valleys with the exception of the North Coast, Peel and Hunter valleys, and South Coast.

- (2) IPART is required to make price determinations according to its pricing principles. These principles include cost reflectivity. Therefore it must assess the likely cost of providing water management services. Costs for water management services are not static. The demands for intense water management increase during extended periods of low rainfall. In conjunction with commitments under the national water reform agenda for the Murray-Darling Basin, this means costs are expected to increase in the upcoming determination period.

The major contributing factors with regard to changes in State Water charges are the reduction in forecast income compared with the 2006 determination and the revision of forecasts from 5500GL in average annual sales to 4600GL.

It should be noted IPART has responded to stakeholder concerns about the affordability of price increases in the Peel, North Coast and South Coast Valleys by limiting annual increases in these valleys to 10%.

- (3) The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal is the independent regulator of bulk water prices in NSW.
- (4) IPART sets bulk water prices. The Office of Water is required to provide IPART with a detailed account of its costs over the determination period. IPART then undertakes a public process in which the irrigation industry and other users may provide advice to IPART on what they believe to be a fair price.
- (5) State Water Dividends are reported in their annual reports.

*10633 PEOPLE DETAINED—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

How many people in Sutherland Shire have been detained under the provisions of the Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2000 in the last 12 months?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me police records indicate that in the 12 months to the end of May 2010, approximately 6684 people were detained in the Sutherland and Miranda Local Area Commands under various provisions of the Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2002. It should be

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noted that this is a combined figure which may contain some duplication due to overlap between categories.

*10635 CLIENTS OF DOCS IN CRONULLA ELECTORATE—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

How many clients of DoCS are located in the electorate of Cronulla?

Answer—

Data on Community Services clients are not available by electorate.

*10636 RESPITE SERVICES—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Minister for Education and Training representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, Minister for Volunteering, and Minister for Youth—

How many clients access respite services in the following regions:

- (a) Dubbo;
- (b) Broken Hill;
- (c) Wagga Wagga;
- (d) Albury;
- (e) Tamworth;
- (f) Orange?

Answer—

1,458 clients accessed respite services in the Western Region, ADHC during the period 1 July 2009 to 31 March 2010 including centre based respite, flexible respite and Home and Community Care respite.

*10637 OVERSEAS STUDENTS IN APARTMENTS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for the Arts—

Following reports of Chinese and Thai overseas students being misled and deceived into overcrowded apartments where they have no tenancy rights, and rely on others for building and apartment access:

- (1) What education programs and information does the Office of Fair Trading provide in languages other than English about tenancy laws and rights in Australia?
- (2) What education programs and information does the Office of Fair Trading provide in other languages about tenancy laws and rights in Australia specifically for overseas students?
- (3) What action has been taken to ensure that universities and colleges offering places to overseas students provide accurate information and support to these students about tenancy rights and living in Australia?
- (4) What education programs and information does the Office of Fair Trading provide in Chinese, Indonesian and Thai languages and in media used by these communities about tenancy laws and rights in Australia?
- (5) What further action will the Government take to provide information and educate overseas students about tenancy laws and rights in Australia?

Answer—

NSW Fair Trading's Think Smart Program focuses on building long-term relationships with community organisations and multilingual media, which are pivotal in delivering information and education to people of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. The program has 37 partners consisting of 16 community organisations, 10 ethno-specific community organisations, 2 educational providers, 1 international students committee and 8 multilingual media organisations.

NSW Fair Trading has tenancy publications and resources available in a range of community languages, and undertakes a range of initiatives for international students. The table below outlines these publications, resources and initiatives.

TENANCY INFORMATION IN OTHER LANGUAGES

Name of publication	Languages
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Renting - what you need to know fact sheet	Available in 30 languages - (Arabic, Assyrian, Bahasa (Indonesian), Bosnian, Chinese - Traditional, Chinese - Simplified, Croatian, Dari, Dinka, Farsi, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Hindi, Polish, Portuguese, Pushto, Macedonian, Russian, Samoan, Serbian, Spanish, Tagalog (Filipino), Tamil, Thai, Tongan, Turkish and Vietnamese)
Fair Trading - what we can do for you brochure	Available in 30 languages - Arabic, Assyrian, Bahasa (Indonesian), Bosnian, Chinese - Traditional, Chinese - Simplified, Croatian, Dari, Dinka, Farsi, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Hindi, Polish, Portuguese, Pushto, Macedonian, Russian, Samoan, Serbian, Spanish, Tagalog (Filipino), Tamil, Thai, Lao, Turkish and Vietnamese)
Name of Resource	Languages
Our Story Audio CD	Arabic, Cantonese, Mandarin and Vietnamese
Our Story DVD	Arabic, Cantonese, Mandarin and Vietnamese
Our Story brochure	Arabic, Cantonese, Mandarin and Vietnamese
Renting - what you need to know Audio CD	Arabic, Dinka, Juba, Karen, Kirundi, Somali, Swahili, Tetum and Tongan
Your renting rights audio CD	Arabic, Cantonese, Indonesian, Korean and Vietnamese
Landlords (DL brochure)	Arabic, Chinese, Croatian, Greek, Italian, Macedonian and Vietnamese
Website information - html page	Languages
Renting a home	Arabic, Chinese, Italian, Greek, Spanish, Macedonian and Vietnamese

OTHER INITIATIVES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Consumer guide for international students booklet	English
Renting, Shopping, Money: A teaching resource on consumer issues for migrants	English
Australian New Express Daily (Chinese newspaper)	Fortnightly article in Chinese
iStudent Magazine for International Students	Monthly article in English
Information sessions, seminars and information stalls	International Students orientation week

Over the next twelve months, NSW Fair Trading will develop an educational awareness campaign on consumer and tenancy rights targeting overseas students.

The Consumer guide for international students booklet will be available in various languages and distributed to international students during orientation week and to student advisers from various universities and educational providers for overseas students.

Advice on recent changes to tenancy legislation will be translated into various community languages and widely distributed to international students, advisers and other educational service providers. This will enable them to keep up-to-date on the new laws and provide them with better awareness of consumer rights and responsibilities.

Fair Trading will increase delivery of information to international students through various initiatives with business colleges and English language centres. Fair Trading will also work with multilingual media and language radio programs in delivering consumer and tenancy rights messages targeting international students.

*10638 PADDINGTON, CENTENNIAL PARK, MOORE PARK TRAFFIC MEASURES—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

With respect to the City of Sydney's request for Roads and Traffic Authority agreement to implement traffic measures from the Paddington and Centennial Park Pedestrian, Cycling and Traffic Calming (PCTC) Plan:

What assessment has the Government made of the identified measures and what action has been taken to:

- (a) provide a right turn from Flinders Street into Oxford Street;
- (b) reduce through traffic on South Dowling Street between Oxford Street and Flinders Street;
- (c) introduce traffic management changes in Victoria Street at Oxford Street and in South Dowling

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Street at Flinders Street to remove traffic from South Dowling Street;

- (d) improve pedestrian safety at the intersection of Flinders Street into Oxford Street;
- (e) provide a signalised crossing in Oxford Street on the eastern side of South Dowling Street;
- (f) introduce a pedestrian refuge or crossing in South Dowling Street near Napier Street;
- (g) install additional signalised crossings at the Drivers Triangle area;
- (h) install additional signalised crossings at the Lang Road, Queen Street, Moore Park Road, Oxford Street intersection adjacent to Centennial Park;
- (i) apply 40 kph speed limits in City of Sydney roads in Paddington, Moore Park and Centennial Park;
- (j) provide additional pedestrian crossing facilities in Anzac Parade near Gregory Avenue;
- (k) provide red arrow protection for pedestrians crossing the eastern leg of the Oxford Street and Darlinghurst Road intersection?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) has previously investigated the proposal for a right turn from Flinders Street into Oxford Street. The proposal was untenable due to safety concerns involving pedestrian and vehicle conflicts, as well as the limited capacity of this intersection.
- (b) South Dowling Street between Oxford Street and Flinders Street is a State road. I understand that in early 2006, the Local Member met with the former Minister for Roads, where it was agreed to remove the clearways and permit kerbside parking on South Dowling Street, between Flinders Street and Oxford Street. This reduced the 4 lane carriageway to a single lane in each direction. This has reduced traffic volumes and acts as traffic calming.
- (c) Vehicles exiting Victoria Street are permitted to turn right and left into Oxford Street or proceed straight into South Dowling Street. Oxford Street westbound, is at full capacity and any additional traffic, displaced from South Dowling Street, will exacerbate traffic congestion. All elements of the road network are interconnected. Alterations to traffic flow on South Dowling Street would have an immediate adverse impact on surrounding streets.
- (d) In 2006, an additional pedestrian crossing was provided on the eastern leg of Oxford Street. In conjunction with this improvement, a single pedestrian phase was provided for all three pedestrian crossings, eliminating pedestrian/vehicle conflicts.
- (e) Due to the high vehicle volumes and limited capacity at the intersection of Oxford and South Dowling Streets, the addition of a pedestrian crossing on the eastern leg would result in a decreased level of service for all legs of this intersection. This would result in extensive queuing, particularly on South Dowling Street, between Flinders Street and Oxford Street.
- (f) As a State Road, South Dowling Street is a major arterial link and principal traffic carrying route within Sydney, and as such a pedestrian refuge is inappropriate at this location. In 2005 the RTA investigated the signalisation of South Dowling and Napier Streets, and decided not to proceed with the installation due to community opposition.
- (g) Drivers Triangle is an area isolated by the three high volume roads that surround it. There is a single pedestrian access between Flinders Street, the eastern side of South Dowling Street and the southern side of Moore Park Road, linking to Anzac Parade. Effective pedestrian links along other desire lines do not require access to Drivers Triangle. The RTA has advised that encouraging additional pedestrians onto Drivers Triangle is unnecessary, potentially dangerous and would have an immediate detrimental effect on the traffic flow pattern.
- (h) The traffic lights at the intersection of Lang Road, Queen Street, Moore Park Road and Oxford Street are operating at capacity. The RTA has advised that additional pedestrian facilities at this location would cause these lights to fail, resulting in extensive delays, queuing and localised congestion.
- (i) Speed limits in NSW, as in other parts of Australia, are determined by a number of factors including the road geometry, surrounding conditions, road usage, adjacent development, vehicle types and volumes, crash history and the number of access points along the route. The RTA regularly reviews speed limits and monitors for changes in these factors.

The RTA is currently reviewing the remaining local roads in these areas to assess their suitability for a 40 km/h speed limit. The RTA is working with the council to ensure that the road environments are appropriate for a 40 km/h speed limit.

- (j) Temporary traffic lights were installed in Anzac Parade at Gregory Avenue for the 2000 Sydney Olympics. The lights were decommissioned and removed at the completion of the Paralympics. It was considered to be unsuitable for permanent installation, due to the close proximity and restricted sight distance from the Eastern Distributor exit ramp onto Anzac Parade.

- (k) Pedestrian protection has been provided for all pedestrian crossings at the intersection of Oxford Street and Darlinghurst Road.

*10639 IMPACT OF COAL MINING IN THE GARDENS OF STONE ON DRINKING WATER—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

With regard to mining operations in the Gardens of Stone:

- (1) What are the Government's most recent measurements for average and maximum levels of nickel and manganese in Lithgow's reticulated water supply?
- (2) By what percentage do measured levels of nickel and manganese in Lithgow's reticulated water supply exceed Australian Drinking Water Guidelines?
- (3) Has the Government carried out any risk assessment of the impact on public health of elevated nickel and manganese levels in Lithgow's water supply?
- (4) What steps is the Government taking to reduce levels of nickel and manganese in effluent from the Clarence Colliery that are entering Farmers Creek and Lithgow's water supply?
- (5) What impact have mining operations in the Gardens of Stone had on water quality in the Cocks River and in the Warragamba Dam?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) This is a matter for NSW Health and Lithgow City Council.
- (3) This is a matter for the Minister for Health.
- (4) Pre-treatment of the water from the Clarence Colliery is carried out to reduce iron and manganese levels before the water is discharged to Farmers Creek Dam.
- (5) This is a matter for the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment.

*10640 UNFLUED GAS HEATERS IN SYDNEY ELECTORATE SCHOOLS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Education and Training—

With respect to the decision to no longer install unflued gas heaters in new classrooms:

- (1) Which schools in the Sydney electorate have unflued gas heaters, and how many unflued heaters are there?
- (2) What assessment has the Government made of specific safety and health impacts of these heaters in these schools?
- (3) What action has the Government taken to address any concerns identified about heaters in these schools?
- (4) What action does the Government propose to ensure safety and prevent health problems from these heaters in these schools?

Answer—

- (1) Unflued gas heaters are the standard space heating equipment used in most Department of Education and Training schools. Schools in the Sydney electorate would be expected to have unflued gas heaters.
- (2) and (3) The Department of Education and Training and NSW Health jointly sponsored research by the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research into any possible health risks that may arise from the use of the low NO_x unflued gas heaters in NSW Government schools. Pending the finalisation of this study, the installation of unflued gas heaters in schools has been stopped.
- (4) The Department maintains unflued gas heaters annually in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and issues regular advice to schools about the proper ventilation required when the heaters are in use. The NSW Government has committed \$15 million to begin replacing unflued gas heaters at schools in the coldest areas of the State where providing that level of ventilation may be impractical.

*10641 MOTORCYCLIST AND SCOOTER SAFETY—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Noting that the number of motorcycles registered between 2003 and 2008 increased by 50 per cent along with the number of riders and passengers killed or injured, and the assessment of motorcycle safety programs in "A Survey of Motorcycle Safety Programs Across Australasia" by N Haworth, K Greig and D Wishart (Journal of the Australasian College of Road Safety 20(4) November 2009):

- (1) What assessment has the Government made of this analysis of road safety programs targeting motorcycle and scooter riders and what action has been taken to:
 - (a) improve and provide refresher courses for mature riders about basic skills and hazard

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- perception;
- (b) review licensing and testing and all education and safety programs to include specific information about scooters;
 - (c) provide education about visibility and motorcyclists positioning themselves on the road where other users can see them;
 - (d) provide information and education about the level of protection from different brands and types of protective clothing, including specific information for scooter riders;
 - (e) advocate for and develop a national rating system for helmets and protective clothing;
 - (f) educate riders and clubs about post-crash action, first aid officers and rules about protective clothing;
 - (g) introduce a loss-of-control crash program similar to the successful Victorian Motorcycle Blackspot Program;
 - (h) update motorcycle-friendly road design standards and educate road managers about design and maintenance that is safer for riders;
 - (i) establish and promote a Road Hazard Reporting Line that includes motorcycle specific concerns;
 - (j) undertake motorcycle-oriented road safety audits;
 - (k) run drink riding education campaigns;
 - (l) operate enforcement programs targeting unlicensed riders and unregistered motorcycles;
 - (m) expand education programs on hazard perception and emergency braking for motorcyclists;
 - (n) identify and promote motorcycles with better braking technology; and
 - (o) develop programs for better motorcycle maintenance?
- (2) What structured guidance material or packages have been developed to inform and help address safety for motorcycle and scooter riders?
 - (3) What consultation, collaboration and joint projects have been carried out with motorcycle organisations and groups to ensure that safety program messages and media are effective?
 - (4) What action will the Government take to address these concerns based on the evidence of this 2009 assessment of safety programs?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1)

(a) to (f) The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) analyses crash data, and reviews research papers and action plans (interstate and international) to define the key strategies to improve the safety of motorcycle and scooter riders in NSW. The NSW Government is already implementing many of the strategies outlined in the paper identified in the Journal of the Australasian College of Road Safety.

The RTA produces a range of educational material and has produced a number of education campaigns in relation to visibility and positioning, protective clothing and equipment as well as helmet safety and first aid. This information is also available from the RTA website.

The NSW Rider Training Scheme has been specifically reviewed to address scooters. Special licensing arrangements include a conditional rider licence to ride a scooter with an engine capacity not exceeding 160 millilitres

(g) The RTA maintains its Blackspot Program which includes consideration of the requirements of all road users, including motorcycle riders.

(h) The RTA is conducting research in regard to motorcycle riders and pillions impacting roadside barriers. The project is exploring how to reduce the injuries to motorcyclists impacting safety barrier systems.

(i) The RTA currently has two telephone numbers: 131 700 Incident Reporting and 132 701 Traffic Information. These are suitable for all road users, including motorcyclists for reporting traffic incidents or road conditions and obtaining basic traffic information.

(j) Road safety audits are regularly undertaken and consider all road users including motorcyclists.

(k) The RTA actively promotes the dangers of drink driving, including motorcycle specific campaigns such as "Alcohol and riding do not mix".

(l) The RTA funds the NSW Police Force's Enhanced Enforcement Program. This program targets high risk road safety behaviours of riders such as speeding, drink riding and non-helmet use, as well as unlicensed vehicles and riders.

(m) to (o) The RTA provides a wide range of educational programs and materials on hazard perception, emergency braking and motorcycle maintenance. The motorcycle riders' handbook

contains more information relating specifically to hazard perception (responding to hazards and examples of situations that require a response) and braking techniques. Developments in motorcycle technology that have the potential to improve safety, such as anti-lock brakes and traction control are being constantly monitored.

(2) The RTA has recently updated the motorcycle section of the NSW Centre for Road Safety website to provide a range of information on motorcycle safety. The website provides information on how to purchase approved motorcycle helmets and a range of safe riding tips. The website is available at:

<http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety/motorcyclesafety/index.html>

The RTA also produces a number of structured guidance materials aimed at motorcyclists and scooter riders.

(3) The RTA consults with the Motorcycle Council of NSW in the development of key campaigns and on the design of communication materials. The RTA Motorcycle Helmet Evaluation Program was developed in consultation with a variety of stakeholders including the Motorcycle Council of NSW, the NRMA, the Transport Accident Commission, the University of NSW and helmet suppliers.

The RTA has distributed "Safer Motorcycle Helmets" brochures through motor registries, rider learning centres and helmet retailers in NSW. The NRMA has joined the program and plans to distribute the brochures through out its branches. The Transport Accident Commission is in the process of joining the program and is also planning to distribute the brochure in Victoria.

(4) The NSW Government recently announced a \$170 million Road Toll Response Package and the RTA will continue to research and implement strategies to reduce any death or injury on our roads.

*10642CYCLING EDUCATION—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

With respect to advice received in relation to education about road safety and cycling (Question 9497):

- (1) How many bicycle education programs were provided in NSW schools during 2009, and how many are planned for 2010?
- (2) How many bicycle education programs were provided in NSW schools in the Sydney electorate during 2009, and how many are planned for 2010?
- (3) What bicycle education and safety programs did the RTA fund in 2009, and how many are planned for 2010?
- (4) What bicycle education and safety programs did the RTA fund in the Sydney electorate in 2009, and how many are planned for 2010?
- (5) What cycling education material was provided to bicycle centres and shops during 2009, and what is planned for 2010?
- (6) What cycling education material was provided to bicycle centres and shops in the Sydney electorate in 2009, and how many are planned for 2010?
- (7) What cycling education material and training was provided to bus drivers, and what is planned for 2010?
- (8) What cycling education material and training was provided to taxi drivers, and what is planned for 2010?
- (9) What cycling education messages are provided via registration stickers and what assessment has been made of the effectiveness of this medium?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) The nature of the road safety education program is determined by each school.

The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) provides schools with a range of educational resources that provide teaching and learning experiences for students to explore the safety issues related to safety on wheels including cycling. Additional brochures communicate key safety advice and the law to parents and students. The RTA also promotes safe cycling through an annual promotion to all NSW schools in NSW Bike Week.

(3) The RTA continues to fund the NSW Road Safety Education Program to primary and high schools state-wide. This program, funds road safety education consultants in each school sector. These consultants conduct professional development programs for teachers on a range of road safety issues including safety on wheels and helmet use.

In 2009, the RTA promoted bicycle safety resources to every school in Sydney and wider NSW in Bike Week, and provided seed funding to 44 events across NSW. In addition the RTA placed advertisements in

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local newspapers to promote the local events. In 2010, the RTA will continue to coordinate NSW Bike Week and provide seed funding to communities to hold cycling events.

In 2009, the RTA provided funding for a cycling event organised jointly by Randwick, Woollahra and Waverley Councils. The RTA has not received any applications from any community group in the Sydney Electorate in 2010.

(5) In 2009 the RTA drafted a "Bike riding skills manual" which has been developed to support the delivery of bicycle education and vehicle control skills. Draft copies of this manual have been provided to the ten Community and Road Safety Centres operated in various locations including South Sydney.

Cycling education materials are also made available to the wider community through the RTA website, motor registries and key cycling organisations. Localised cycling education campaigns using RTA cycling education materials are undertaken by Local Government Road Safety Officers particularly during NSW Bike Week.

In March 2009, the RTA produced "A handbook for bicycle riders". In November 2009, the RTA produced an educational brochure for cyclists riding in groups; "Riding in Groups - A guide to riding safely on our roads". The brochure was developed in consultation with Bicycle NSW, Cycling NSW, the NSW Police Force and the RTA. The brochures were distributed to Bicycle NSW, bicycle users groups, Cycling NSW networks, as well as to the Road Freight industries through the Road Freight Advisory Council. In addition, RTA cycling education materials were distributed at cycling events such as the "Spring Cycle, MS Sydney to the Gong" and other smaller community cycling events such as "Ride for Life" at Centennial Park.

In 2010, the RTA has distributed the recently released "NSW BikePlan" to all councils, bicycle shops and bicycle groups, and interested individuals. The RTA will continue to distribute its cycling education brochures at all opportunities such as major or community cycling events. All RTA cycling education materials can be obtained through the RTA distributor by calling 1800 06 06 07.

(6) From 1 January 2009 to 4 June 2010, RTA cycling education materials distributed in the Sydney Electorate include:

- "A handbook for bicycle riders";
- "Riding in Groups - A guide to riding safely on our roads";
- "Cycling to Work";
- "Powered by People Not Petrol" poster;
- "Powered by People Not Petrol" postcard;
- Bicycle maintenance poster;
- Sydney and Parramatta cycleways map;
- "Share and be aware - Travelling together safely";
- "Safe Riding - a guide to safe cycling";
- Promotional cycleways postcard.

The Government will continue to encourage new cycling education materials based on community concerns and needs, as well as promoting specific cycling safety messages.

(7) State Transit's induction training for trainee bus drivers includes awareness information on bicycle riders as road users, and has been provided since 2009. This training is reinforced after 4 months.

State Transit is currently developing a topic "Cyclists and City driving" as part of the "Skills Development" training program provided for all existing bus drivers. The "Cyclists and City driving" training is planned to commence in late July 2010, and drivers will be targeted to complete this training annually. The new training will include various aspects of driving near bicycle riders, including awareness of their presence, overtaking, use of the road by bicycle riders including bus lanes, and safety for bicycle riders in relation to the on-road operation of buses.

In addition, the RTA regularly conducts an "Introduction to Traffic Management" course. It is an intensive week long residential course. The course covers subjects such as bicycle strategy, bicycle planning and good design practice for bicycle infrastructure. The course is designed for RTA officers as well as officers from other agencies and councils.

(8) The RTA motor registries distribute RTA brochures such as "Sharing the road" which contain messages about cycling safety. Variable Message Signs across the road network also communicate a "Watch out for bicycles" message. The RTA is currently investigating further opportunities for publishing messages direct to taxi drivers in relevant industry publications.

(9) The inside of the registration label provides a space for the reinforcement of key road safety messages

to passengers. The effectiveness of this communication strategy has not been independently evaluated.

*10643 TRAFFIC LIGHTING CHARGES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In light of increased traffic lighting charges of 49% from 1 July 2010 and 40% last year:

- (1) Why are RTA payments under the Traffic Route Lighting Subsidy Scheme only increased by the CPI?
- (2) Why are councils primarily responsible for providing lighting on many main roads?
- (3) Is this situation being reviewed?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) An annual Consumer Price Index increase has been the fairest and simplest way to implement an annual payment adjustment system for the Traffic Route Lighting Subsidy Scheme.

The provision and maintenance of street lighting is generally a matter for local councils. Section 80A of the Transport Administration Act 1988 makes provision for financial assistance by the Roads and Traffic Authority to councils to support the provision of an enhanced standard of lighting on important traffic routes with the aim of reducing night time road accidents.

The Roads and Traffic Authority currently assumes responsibility for street lighting on freeways, controlled access roads, tunnels, major bridges and some exceptional intersections in rural areas.

*10644 PEDESTRIAN CROSSING TIMES AT TRAFFIC LIGHTS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What is the standard allowable time for pedestrian crossing at traffic lights on 6 lane roads?
- (2) Was the setting of this standard based on any trials involving elderly people, wheelchair-bound people or people with prams?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) The total crossing times at signalised pedestrian crossings are dependent not only on the number of lanes but also on the total width of the crossing, including the median and varied lane widths.

The Roads and Traffic Authority uses national guidelines of 1.2 metres per second to determine the minimum time at each location, which takes into account the elderly, the mobility impaired and children.

*10646 GRIFFITH SHED FOR MEN—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

In relation to Portion 560 Kalinda Road Griffith, which is currently occupied by the Griffith Shed for Men:

- (1) Why has a licence agreement for occupation of this land for community purposes, prepared by and agreed to by the Trustees for this portion of land, been rejected by the Minister on two occasions?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that the Griffith Shed for Men have already invested a significant amount of time and money into repairing the building on this portion of land?

Answer—

- (1) The site of interest to the Griffith Shed for Men comprises Crown land reserved for the purpose of School for Sub-normal Children. The Reserve is managed by a community Trust Board made up of representatives from Griffith Post School Options and Ningana Enterprises Incorporated.

With assistance from senior officers of the Land and Property Management Authority the Reserve Trust has been in ongoing and lengthy negotiations with the Griffith Shed for Men group (the group) with a view to coming to agreement on the terms and conditions of a Licence Agreement that will give authority to the group's use and occupation of the site.

I am pleased that the Reserve Trust has been able to accommodate the needs of the group. I am also pleased to advise that agreement between all parties on the terms and conditions of the Licence

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Agreement has recently been reached and it is expected that Ministerial endorsement to the Agreement will be provided once the documentation has been submitted to the Land and Property Management Authority by the Reserve Trust.

(2) Yes.

*10647 ASSAULTS IN JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTRES—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Juvenile Justice—

- (1) How many incidents of assaults on staff of the Department of Juvenile Justice have occurred in Juvenile Justice Centres per 1,000 admissions in:
 - (a) 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007;
 - (b) 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008;
 - (c) 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009;
 - (d) 1 July 2009 to present?
- (2) How many incidents of assaults on detainees of Juvenile Justice Centres have occurred in NSW Juvenile Justice Centres between:
 - (a) 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007;
 - (b) 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008;
 - (c) 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009;
 - (d) 1 July 2009 to present?

Answer—

(1) and (2) (a) to (c) This data is publically available in the Annual Reports.

(1) and (2) (d) This data will be publically available in the forthcoming Annual Report.

*10648 POPULATION TO POLICE RATIOS—Mr Greg Piper asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

What are the population to police ratios for all local area commands in the state?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that an accurate estimate of police to population ratio by Local Area Command is impossible to obtain for a number of reasons, including the time delay of population data obtained by Census and the fact that population estimate areas used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics do not coincide with Local Area Command boundaries.

Research conducted by both the NSW Police Force and the Bureau of Crime Statistics & Research also shows little relationship between population growth and crime rates. The complexity of providing an effective modern policing service for the evolving needs of the community requires a more flexible and complex approach to officer allocation than a simple ratio of police to population.

*10649 DROP-IN CENTRE AND CRISIS ACCOMMODATION—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

In relation to Tweed Heads having the highest number of caravan residents in the NSW coastal area and given that the Census Report from 2006 considered caravan residents as homeless, making Tweed Heads the highest homeless town in the State with a rate of 125/10,000 with no crisis accommodation except for St Joseph's Youth Services (persons 16-25) accommodation and On-Track Tweed Crisis Accommodation:

Has the Minister considered allocating urgent funding to Tweed Heads for a drop-in centre and crisis accommodation for all persons homeless and marginalised?

Answer—

The NSW Homelessness Action Plan was launched in August 2009 and sets the direction for statewide reform of the homelessness service system to achieve better outcomes for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The NSW Homelessness Action Plan incorporates the National Partnership on Homelessness NSW Implementation Plan which includes a commitment of \$284 million over four years.

Through the NSW Homelessness Action Plan, the NSW Government is increasing the focus of the service system on prevention and long-term accommodation and support, rather than short term crisis intervention.

For example, in the Richmond/Tweed area \$713,000 has been made available to provide support to 350 people whose tenancies are at risk to help prevent them from becoming homeless.

*10650 LITIGATION CLAIMS AGAINST TWEED HOSPITAL—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What is the total number of litigation claims that have been made against the Tweed Hospital in the following years:

- (a) 2007;
- (b) 2008;
- (c) 2009;
- (d) year to date?

Answer—

I am advised that claims against North Coast Area Health Service in respect to Tweed Hospital are as follows:

- (a) 3
- (b) 1
- (c) 1
- (d) 0

NB: It should be noted that claims lodged in particular year may relate to incidents occurring in prior years.

*10651 LIQUOR LICENCES IN TWEED LGA—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

- (1) What is the total number of liquor licences in the Tweed LGA for licensed clubs for the following period:
 - (a) as at 30 June 2009;
 - (b) year to date?
- (2) What is the total number of liquor licences in the Tweed LGA for licensed hotels for the following period:
 - (a) as at 30 June 2009;
 - (b) year to date?
- (3) What is the total number of liquor licences in the Tweed LGA for licensed bottle shops for the following period:
 - (a) as at 30 June 2009;
 - (b) year to date?
- (4) What is the total number of liquor licences in the Tweed electorate for licensed restaurants for the following period:
 - (a) as at 30 June 2009;
 - (b) year to date?

Answer—

- (1) The number of club licences is as follows:
 - (a) 19
 - (b) 19
- (2) The number of hotel licences is as follows:
 - (a) 22
 - (b) 22
- (3) The number of packaged liquor licences is as follows:
 - (a) 28
 - (b) 28
- (4) The number of on-premises licences is as follows:
 - (a) 68
 - (b) 74

*10652 CUMBERLAND PLAIN WOODLAND—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Under biodiversity certification, what is the minimum diameter that a piece of wood must have in order for it to be counted as a fallen log?
- (2) Do "red flag" restrictions apply to land zoned for urban use?

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- (3) Under what conditions would a "red flag" area on land zoned for urban use not be developed?
- (4) Can Class A or High Management Viability forest be "off-set" with a lower grade of forest?
- (5) Why does the Draft Sydney Growth Centres Strategic Assessment Report say that only 10,703 hectares of Cumberland Plain Woodlands remains, when the draft Cumberland Plain Woodland Recovery Plan claims that 24,972 hectares of Cumberland Plain Woodland remains?
- (6) Will all Class Cmi, TX and TXR Cumberland Woodland in the North West and South West Growth Centres be cleared, and if so, how will it be off-set?
- (7) What is the link between the A, B, C, SA, Cmi, TX and TXR classifications used in the NPWS document "Native Vegetation Maps of the Cumberland Plain", and the High Management, Moderate Management and Low Management Viability classifications used in the Draft Sydney Growth Centres Strategic Assessment Report?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) At least 10 centimetres in diameter, and 0.5 metres in length.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) A red flag area on land zoned for urban use could not be developed when:
 - (a) the area is ecologically viable;
 - (b) the contribution to regional biodiversity value is high; and
 - (c) it is feasible to protect this area.

The specific details of this test can be found in the draft methodology currently on exhibition.

- (4) Theoretically, a forest in good condition could be offset by the conservation and active management of a forest in poorer condition, but only if the full impact is offset. In practice, the offsetting of good condition environments with areas in poor condition would require relatively large areas and expensive management actions.
- (5) The Draft Sydney Growth Centres Strategic Assessment Report states that there are 10,703 hectares of Cumberland Plain Woodland and Shale Gravel Transition Forest as defined by the Australian Government's Threatened Species Scientific Committee in December 2009 for the purposes of the Australian Government Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. The draft Cumberland Plain Recovery Plan stated that there are 24,972 hectares of Cumberland Plain Woodland as defined by the NSW Scientific Committee for the purposes of the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995. As detailed in the answer to Question on Notice No. 9887, this figure will be amended in the final recovery plan to be consistent with the NSW Scientific Committee's December 2009 determination, which lists Cumberland Plain Woodland as critically endangered.
- (6) No.
- (7) There is no direct link between the A, B and SA classifications and the management viability classifications. The Strategic Assessment excludes classes C, Cmi, TX and TXR as they do not satisfy the Australian Government's definition of Cumberland Plain Woodland and Shale Gravel Transition Forest.

*10653 CUMBERLAND PLAIN WOODLAND—NORTH WEST GROWTH CENTRE—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) How many hectares of the following classes of Cumberland Plain Woodland under the "Native Vegetation Maps" are planned for clearance in the North West Growth Centre:
 - (a) Class A;
 - (b) Class B;
 - (c) Class C;
 - (d) Class SA;
 - (e) Class Cmi;
 - (f) Class TX;
 - (g) Class TXR?
- (2) How many hectares of the following classes of Cumberland Plain Woodland under the Draft Sydney Growth Centres Strategic Assessment Report are planned for clearance in the North West Growth Centre:
 - (a) High Management Viability;
 - (b) Moderate Management Viability;

(c) Low Management Viability?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) The critically endangered community Cumberland Plain Woodland listed under the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 comprises classes A, B, C and SA only. Classes Cmi, TX, TXR and TXU retain a subset of the attributes of Cumberland Plain Woodland but do not satisfy the requirements of the listed community.
 - (a) 435 (predominantly highly fragmented, small patches of vegetation with low ecological viability).
 - (b) 104 (predominantly highly fragmented, small patches of vegetation with low ecological viability).
 - (c) 0.
 - (d) 0.
 - (e) 1 (which does not satisfy the requirements of the listed community).
 - (f) 280 (which does not satisfy the requirements of the listed community).
 - (g) 364 (which does not satisfy the requirements of the listed community).
- (2) The critically endangered Cumberland Plain Shale Woodland and Shale Gravel Transition Forest found in the North West Growth Centres is a listed community under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. This vegetation community includes some areas of Shale Gravel Transition Forest listed under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 as these areas satisfy the requirements of the Commonwealth listing. The categories in the question were developed for the Strategic Assessment of the Commonwealth listed community.
 - (a) 4.
 - (b) 278.
 - (c) 332.

Most vegetation to be cleared within the Growth Centres has low ecological and management viability. The majority of larger, more viable remnants of vegetation are being protected.

*10654 CUMBERLAND PLAIN WOODLAND—SOUTH WEST GROWTH CENTRE—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) How many hectares of the following classes of Cumberland Plain Woodland under the "Native Vegetation Maps" are planned for clearance in the South West Growth Centre:
 - (a) Class A;
 - (b) Class B;
 - (c) Class C;
 - (d) Class SA;
 - (e) Class Cmi;
 - (f) Class TX;
 - (g) Class TXR?
- (2) How many hectares of the following classes of Cumberland Plain Woodland under the Draft Sydney Growth Centres Strategic Assessment Report are planned for clearance in the South West Growth Centre:
 - (a) High Management Viability;
 - (b) Moderate Management Viability;
 - (c) Low Management Viability?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) The critically endangered community Cumberland Plain Woodland listed under the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 comprises classes A, B, C and SA only. Classes Cmi, TX, TXR and TXU retain a subset of the attributes of Cumberland Plain Woodland but do not satisfy the requirements of the listed community.
 - (a) 434 (predominantly highly fragmented, small patches of vegetation with low ecological viability).
 - (b) 340 (predominantly highly fragmented, small patches of vegetation with low ecological viability).

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- (c) 0.
- (d) 0.
- (e) 28 (which does not satisfy the requirements of the listed community).
- (f) 1,152 (which does not satisfy the requirements of the listed community).
- (g) 705 (which does not satisfy the requirements of the listed community).
- (2) The critically endangered Cumberland Plain Shale Woodland and Shale Gravel Transition Forest found in the South West Growth Centres is a listed community under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. This vegetation community excludes some areas of Cumberland Plain Woodland listed under the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 because these areas do not satisfy the requirements of the Commonwealth listing. The categories in the question were developed for the Strategic Assessment of the Commonwealth listed community.
 - (a) 24.
 - (b) 172.
 - (c) 378.

Most vegetation to be cleared within the Growth Centres has low ecological and management viability. The majority of larger, more viable remnants of vegetation are being protected.

*10655 STRATEGIES IN PLACE FOR WINTER—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

For NSW public hospitals:

- (1) What strategies are in place for winter?
- (2) How many additional beds (if any) will be made available as part of the strategies?
- (3) How many additional "headcount" of doctor, nursing and allied health staff (if any) will be engaged for winter?
- (4) Are there any plans to cancel any elective surgery as a result of the strategies?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (4) As in previous years, all health services adjust their service profiles to meet seasonal demands on our hospitals. These adjustments include provision of additional community services to support appropriate discharge of patients, expansion of acute inpatient capacity, provision of surge bed capability to meet peaks in demand and updating of influenza planning. In addition, as announced in the recent State Budget, a significant increase in both acute and subacute inpatient beds is now underway across NSW. Health services adjust their medical, nursing and allied health staffing in accordance with seasonal demand changes. There are no plans to cancel planned surgery during the winter period as a result of these strategies.

*10656 COMMUNICATION PROBLEMS—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Why are there "communication problems" in the health system, including the lack of communication between practitioner and patient and between practitioners?
- (2) What is the Government doing to address lack of communication between practitioner and patient and between practitioners?
- (3) How is the Government measuring success in terms of any initiative it has developed to address lack of communication between practitioner and patient and between practitioners?

Answer—

The Government's Caring Together reforms aim to ensure that we have a patient centred system.

A total of \$485 million over four years has been allocated to implement reforms to the acute care system and improve patient safety and quality of care.

Clinical Support Officers have been employed to free up doctors and nurses from administrative duties so they can focus on direct patient care.

Programs such as Essentials of Care, Take the Lead and the Clinical Leadership Program have a strong focus on improved communication.

Improved clinical handover guidelines, known as "The Key Principles for Safe and Effective Handover" are being implemented in Area Health Services.

Hospitals are also implementing multidisciplinary ward rounds which aim to enhance the care of patients

by improving communication between all clinicians involved in their health care.

Between the Flags is a world first program to improve patient safety and improve communication between clinicians about the condition of a patient.

*10657HEALTH CARE COMPLAINTS COMMISSION—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In 2008-09, why was there a 7.4% rise on the previous year in the number of complaints to the Health Care Complaints Commission?

Answer—

I am advised:

Section 8 of the Commission's 2008-2009 Annual Report provides a detailed analysis of trends in complaints received by the Commission.

Other reasons as to the increase may include:

- The ready availability of extensive information about the role and functions of the Commission on the Commission's website.
- The impact of the promotion and outreach activities conducted by the Commission.
- Increasing public confidence in the independence, fairness and effectiveness of the Health Care Complaints Commission in the performance of its complaint-handling functions.

*10658SALINITY AND THE MURRAY RIVER—Mr John Williams asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

Noting that the Minister has stated that the Salt Interception Scheme on the Billabong Creek north of Walla Walla is releasing 3 megalitres of water into the Billabong from a ground water supply to offset salt levels in the Murray River:

If this is providing salinity reduction in the Murray River, why doesn't the Billabong Creek, even with the 3 megalitres impact, create a continuous flow to the Murray River instead of only filling water holes?

Answer—

This question should be referred to my colleague, the Hon Phillip Costa MP, Minister for Water.

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*10659PATIENT SURVEY—Mr Richard Amery asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Has the performance of Mount Druitt Hospital been rated highly by patients in a recent survey?
- (2) What are the details of the survey?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Yes. The results of the NSW Department of Health Patient Satisfaction survey for Mount Druitt Hospital in 2009 included an overall rating of 94% percent for the care received at the good, very good and excellent level. There were 43% of overnight patients who rated overall care as "excellent" which is higher than at any other major public hospital in NSW.
- (2) The NSW Department of Health Patient Satisfaction survey has been undertaken since 2007, to gain information from users of health care services regarding their experience with the services provided, and to provide measures that will identify improvement opportunities and enable benchmarking activities to improve healthcare services to the people of NSW. Full details and results of the survey are published by the NSW Bureau of Health Information in their report "Insights into Care" which is available at www.bhi.nsw.gov.au

*10660HOME WARRANTY INSURANCE STAFF—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

- (1) In respect of the home warranty insurance scheme due to commence on 1 July 2010, have all proposed staff been appointed?
- (2) At which location or locations will the staff be based?

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Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Two staff have been appointed and three positions are currently undergoing recruitment. A further five positions will be recruited in the coming months.
- (2) All of the Government's home warranty insurance staff will be located within the NSW Self Insurance Branch of NSW Treasury.

*10661 HOME WARRANTY INSURANCE PREMIUMS—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

- (1) Has the Government or SICorp completed the schedule of premiums for the new home warranty insurance scheme?
- (2) When and where will this be available to builders and consumers?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Government's current delivery timetable will have premiums available to builders and consumers by 1 August 2010. The information will be available on the home warranty insurance scheme website www.homewarranty.nsw.gov.au

*10662 NEW PROPERTY FEE/TAX—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

Following the Government's recent announcement of a new property fee/tax:

- (1) What is the estimate of the number of properties likely to be affected by this new tax in the Albury Local Government Area?
- (2) What is the estimate of the number of properties likely to be affected by this new tax in the Greater Hume Shire Local Government Area?
- (3) What is the estimate of the number of properties likely to be affected in the Corowa Shire Local Government Area?
- (4) What is the estimate of the number of properties likely to be affected in the Tumbarumba Shire Local Government Area?
- (5) Given that this new fee/tax will be based on current property valuations by the Valuer-General's office, what is Treasury's estimate of fees to be receipted from the above Local Government areas under this new tax?

Answer—

I am advised that the administration of property transfers falls within the portfolio of the Minister for Lands.

*10663 OVER-FISHING OF SHARKS—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) What measures has the Government implemented to discourage the over-fishing of sharks?
- (2) Has the Government considered introducing legislation similar to that in Hawaii that bans the possession of shark fins?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) The NSW Government is committed to ensuring the conservation and sustainable management of shark populations in NSW waters.

In NSW, sharks are mainly harvested by appropriately endorsed fishers within the Ocean Trap and Line Fishery. This fishery and each other major commercial fishery in NSW has undergone a comprehensive environmental assessment in accordance with the requirements of NSW and Commonwealth environmental law.

It is widely acknowledged that the life history of many shark species make them vulnerable to overfishing if responsible management arrangements are not adopted.

Current management arrangements restricting the harvest of sharks in the NSW Ocean Trap and Line Fishery include an annual total commercial catch limit and a weekly trip limit.

Additionally, the number of operators in the Ocean Trap and Line Fishery is limited and there are restrictions on the type of gear that can be used, including the number of hooks and the mandatory

use of circle hooks on all set lines, which seek to increase the post release survival of incidentally caught fish and other species.

There are also a range of closures and other restrictions that are applicable to the Ocean Trap and Line Fishery, including a restriction that prohibits the finning of sharks, at sea, in all NSW waters.

Management arrangements are reviewed regularly based on information and advice from Industry & Investment NSW scientists, including information obtained through the commercial shark fishing scientific observer program and commercial catch and effort information.

In May 2004 the Australian Government released the National Plan of Action for the Conservation & Management of Sharks. The NSW Government has committed to this Plan and to implementing management arrangements and actions identified within the Plan which ensure shark catches are sustainable and that unutilised incidental catches, waste and discards are minimised.

Imposing a blanket prohibition on the possession of fins could lead to wasteful practice of discarding shark fins from sharks already harvested. It is preferable to encourage the sale of all parts of any sharks harvested to ensure the maximum possible economic benefit is achieved from a limited sustainable harvest level.

***10664 FORMER DALWOOD ASSESSMENT STAFF**—Mr Mike Baird asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Will the former Dalwood assessment staff all keep their jobs in the transition to the new service?
- (2) What are stakeholders views of the process driven by the Expert Advisory Panel into the remodelling of the service?
- (3) Would the Government consider retaining the old service if an alternate model cannot be agreed?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Clinical Staff currently employed by Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service have been offered the opportunity to transfer to the Child Development Unit at Westmead but have elected to remain employees of Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service.
- (2) Stakeholders and community members are represented on the Expert Advisory Panel. Stakeholders and community members have contributed the work of the Expert Advisory Panel.
- (3) The Expert Advisory Panel will be providing advice to the Ministers of Health and Education in July 2010 regarding an improved service for rural and remote students with complex reading difficulties.

***10665 NSW STATE GAMING MACHINE TAX**—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

How have the following proceeds from the NSW State Gaming Machine Tax been spent each year:

- (a) 2004 - \$435 million;
- (b) 2005 - \$500 million;
- (c) 2006 - \$569 million;
- (d) 2007 - \$661 million;
- (e) 2008 - \$609 million?

Answer—

I am advised:

A component of the revenue collected from club gaming machine tax arrangements is directed to health related services. Information regarding the appropriation for health related services (from both club and hotel gaming tax arrangements) is outlined in the Appropriation Bills. The remainder of the revenue goes into consolidated revenue and is directed into schools, transport and hospitals.

***10666 METRO BUSES—REMOVAL OF PARKING**—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Is Sydney Buses aware of any concerns due to the removal of parking from Spit Road outside The Garrison Retirement Village due to the Metro Buses?
- (2) What action has been taken to address these concerns?

Answer—

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(1) and (2) I am advised that State Transit considered the concerns of The Garrison Retirement Village and agreed to the conversion of some of the bus zone area into a 15 minute parking zone adjacent to The Garrison, for pick-ups and drop-offs. I understand the Roads and Traffic Authority installed the parking zone on 16 June 2010 and State Transit notified The Garrison on 17 June 2010.

*10667 FUNDING FOR BEAR COTTAGE—Mr Mike Baird asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Will the Minister honour the Government's commitment to allocate ongoing funding for Bear Cottage?

Answer—

The Government has established the Sydney Children's Hospitals Network (Randwick and Westmead).

It will be responsible for services provided by the two specialist children's hospitals in the metropolitan areas and this includes the services provided by Bear Cottage.

*10668 TOURIST JET BOATS ON SYDNEY HARBOUR—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to Tourist Jet Boats on Sydney Harbour and given your advice it is a condition of operation of Commercial Adventure Vessels on Sydney Harbour that operators require any Master who is engaged to navigate the CAV to sign a copy of the Code of Conduct for the Operation of Commercial Adventure Vessels on Sydney Harbour and lodge it with NSW Maritime before they undertake CAV operations involving irregular manoeuvres (Question 9966):

- (1) How many Codes of Conduct have been lodged with NSW Maritime since January 2009?
- (2) What is the exact wording of each Code of Conduct?

Answer—

- (1) Since January 2009 17 signed Code of Conduct for the Operation of Commercial Adventure Vessels on Sydney Harbour have been lodged with NSW Maritime.
- (2) I refer the member to the NSW Maritime website.

*10669 EMERGENCY WARD—WYONG HOSPITAL—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

How many people presented to Wyong Hospital emergency ward in:

- (a) 2007;
- (b) 2008;
- (c) 2009;
- (d) to 30 April 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) 46,978
- (b) 50,079
- (c) 52,436
- (d) 17,610 (to 30 April 2010).

*10670 SMOKING INFRINGEMENT NOTICES—GOSFORD HOSPITAL—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to the enforcement of offences under the Smoke-Free Environment Act 2000, Section 7:

How many infringements were issued for the offence of smoking in a smoke-free area at Gosford Hospital in:

- (a) financial year ending 2007;
- (b) financial year ending 2008;
- (c) financial year ending 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

No infringements have been issued from fines issued for the offence of smoking in a smoke-free area in all NSW public hospitals for the periods in question. NSW Health has in place a comprehensive program for promoting and monitoring compliance with the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 and the Public

Health (Tobacco) Act 2008 in relation to tobacco sales to minors, tobacco point of sale and smoke-free environments. An educative approach is supported by appropriate regulatory activity.

*10671 SMOKING INFRINGEMENT NOTICES—WYONG HOSPITAL—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to the enforcement of offences under the Smoke-Free Environment Act 2000, Section 7:

How many infringements were issued for the offence of smoking in a smoke-free area at Wyong Hospital in:

- (a) financial year ending 2007;
- (b) financial year ending 2008;
- (c) financial year ending 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

No infringements have been issued from fines issued for the offence of smoking in a smoke-free area in all NSW public hospitals for the periods in question. NSW Health has in place a comprehensive program for promoting and monitoring compliance with the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 and the Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2008 in relation to tobacco sales to minors, tobacco point of sale and smoke-free environments. An educative approach is supported by appropriate regulatory activity.

*10672 READING PROGRAMS—BROOKVALE PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) Will all the reading programs offered at Brookvale Public School be continued into and throughout 2011?
- (2) Is the Minister aware parents at Brookvale Public School are concerned that reading/literacy programs for children (particularly children with learning difficulties) will be reduced or removed in 2011?
- (3) What assurances can the Minister give concerned parents?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) There are no plans to reduce any reading or literacy programs currently provided at Brookvale Public School.

Brookvale Public School has a number of regional programs serving the school and the region. This includes support classes in both reading and language and a full time equivalent Early School Support Program position.

*10673 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) On what date or dates did the Member for Charlestown write to you in relation to the proposed Department of Housing development at 3 James Street, Tingira Heights NSW?
- (2) What concerns, if any, has the Member for Charlestown raised with you regarding the said development?
- (3) What is your response to the concerns expressed by:
 - (a) the Member for Charlestown;
 - (b) residents?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) Representations from the Member of Charlestown have been received in relation to the development at 3 James Street, Tingira Heights.

- (3) The Member for Charlestown and residents have been advised that the:

- number of dwellings will be reduced;
- buildings will be completed in full brick with mono pitched roofs;
- four car parking spaces will be provided.

*10674 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

In relation to the Department of Housing proposed development at Lot 2 and 11, 3 James Street, Tingira Heights (DP1054508):

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- (1) Is the Minister aware Michelle Bisson, Development Planner, Development Assessment and Compliance officer of the local council advised Housing NSW on 30 November 2009 that, inter alia, "Council does not accept your statement that 'the development has been designed in consultation with the Council'. Council would not accept the proposal in its current form"?
- (2) How does the Minister justify development on this land that council would refuse?
- (3) If development proceeds, will the Minister ensure the Department of Housing complies with local planning instruments?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Council zoned the land for residential development. The approved development complies with the Affordable Rental Housing - State Environmental Planning Policy.
- (3) The construction of the approved development will adhere to all the relevant planning approval conditions and regulations.

*10675RED GUM NATIONAL PARKS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

With reference to the establishment of the new Red Gum National Park in the Riverina:

- (1) Including this park how many national parks are there in NSW that are administered by the National Parks and Wildlife Service?
- (2) Will the Minister provide me with a list of the income earned (entry and camping fees and other charges to the public) by each national park, by year, from 2000 to the current date?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) As of 23 June 2010, the National Parks and Wildlife Service manages 800 parks and reserves.
- (2) The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water's (DECCW) revenue by park is not available. Details on annual and day passes and camping fees are available in the departmental annual reports.

*10676UNFLUED GAS HEATERS IN SCHOOLS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Education and Training—

Given that the parents of children attending Sutton Public School have expressed their concerns about NSW Department of Health's 2005 advice to non-government schools to replace unflued gas heating not being applied to public schools, and current research in South Australian schools shows that replacing unflued gas heating with flued heaters has resulted in a significant decrease of asthma in the school population:

- (1) How many children attending Sutton Public School have been diagnosed with asthma?
- (2) How many complaints have been made to the Principal of Sutton Public School, the Regional Office or to the School Education Director about the use of unflued gas heaters at this school?
- (3) Will the Minister as a matter of urgency replace unflued gas heaters in NSW public schools, particularly in situations such as Sutton Public School where, I am informed, it is not possible to provide cross ventilation in classroom by opening a window or door on each side of the room?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) The NSW Department of Education and Training is currently awaiting the finalisation of a research report by the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research into the possible health effects that may arise from the use of low emission unflued gas heaters in schools.

The NSW Government has committed \$15 million to begin replacing unflued gas heaters in government schools in the coldest areas of the State. This program is being developed in response to the difficulty encountered by these schools in providing adequate ventilation while keeping the classroom warm. The program will be developed following consultation with stakeholders to determine which schools should be prioritised for the replacement program.

*10677SYDNEY DESALINATION PLANT—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

Given that the Sydney Desalination Plant Pty Ltd (SDP) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Sydney Water Corporation and that as this company's parent entity, Sydney Water Corporation, is a NSW statutory owned Corporation, SDP is unable to borrow from the market in its own name and that the NSW Treasury Corporation raises borrowings on its behalf:

- (1) Has NSW Treasury Corporation's borrowings on behalf of Sydney Desalination Plant Pty Ltd been underwritten by any external financial institutions?
- (2) If so what are the names of these institutions?
- (3) What is the extent of the borrowings on behalf of SDP?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) SDP borrowings are shown in their annual report.

Questions concerning TCorp should be directed to the Treasurer.

***10678WORKERS COMPENSATION**—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

- (1) Following an industrial accident, covered under workers compensation, what is the threshold for claims below which the workers compensation premium for businesses is not increased as a penalty for claiming?
- (2) On what date was this threshold last reviewed?
- (3) Is a review of this threshold planned and if so on what date will it commence?

Answer—

An employer's basic tariff premium is calculated by multiplying their wages by the WorkCover Industry Classification rate of the applicable industry class or classes.

Employers with a basic tariff premium greater than \$10,000 and wages greater than \$300,000 also have their own claims taken into account when calculating their final premium. This threshold has been in place since December 2005 and was last reviewed as part of the 2005 Premium Review.

WorkCover regularly reviews the various components of the New South Wales workers compensation premium system to ensure it continues to be fair and affordable for all employers.

***10679COOTAMUNDRA ONCOLOGY**—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Given that the community in Cootamundra have assessed that there is a great need for the opening of a Remote Oncology Unit at the hospital and they have already raised more than \$50,000 for this purpose:

- (1) How many patients from the Cootamundra Shire currently receive oncology treatment at locations outside of this local government area?
- (2) Where is the nearest oncology unit to Cootamundra located and what is the travelling distance?
- (3) What is the cost of providing transport to patients from the Cootamundra area to travel to this oncology unit?
- (4) Has a Remote Oncology Unit been identified as necessary in the Cootamundra Health Plan, produced by Greater Southern Area Health Service?
- (5) If so, what priority has been allocated to the provision of this facility?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (5) Patients living within the Cootamundra Shire that require oncology treatment would be treated outside their local government area. The nearest oncology unit to Cootamundra is at Young Health Service which is approximately 50kms from Cootamundra.

Patients that require transport assistance can contact the Cootamundra Community Transport Service. This service is managed by the Cootamundra Home and Community Care Centre. Greater Southern Area Health Service provides financial assistance for non-emergency health related transport of approximately \$20,000 annually.

Though a remote oncology unit is not a feature of the Cootamundra Health Plan, GSAHS will continue to consult the community on the future provision of cancer services to patients living in the Cootamundra area.

***10680SYDNEY DESALINATION PLANT**—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

- (1) On what date will the NSW Government release its 2010 Metropolitan Water Plan?
- (2) What will be the criteria for the operation of the Sydney Desalination Plant once its mandated two-year continuous running period has been completed?
- (3) Has the Government been able to assess the annual running costs of the Sydney Desalination Plant at

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full capacity, and when idling, and if so what are these costs?

- (4) By requesting a retail license for Sydney Desalination Plant Pty Ltd to sell water to customers other than Sydney Water, is the Minister preparing for privatisation of the desalination plant?

Answer—

- (1) The 2010 Metropolitan Water Plan will be released in August 2010.
- (2) The criteria for operating the desalination plant beyond its two year proving period will be outlined in the 2010 Metropolitan Water Plan.
- (3) Sydney Water has advised that it will assess the costs of operating the desalination plant during its two year proving period.
- (4) The Government will not be privatising the Sydney Desalination Plant.

*10682 CHARGES AND PROSECUTIONS—DAMAGE TO PROPERTY—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

- (1) How many people have been charged and prosecuted for damaging or defacing property in the Hornsby electorate/Kuring-gai Local Area Command since February 2009?
- (2) Do police in the command hold a database of photographs of "tags" and other identifying marks in relation to graffiti?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) In the period from February 2009 to May 2010, 84 people were issued with court attendance notices for property damage offences in the Kuring-gai Local Area Command.
- (2) The Command works closely with the Hornsby Chamber of Commerce to tackle graffiti and has access to its "Target a Tag" database.

*10683 TEACHERS' AIDES—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) How many Teachers' Aides (full-time and part-time and casual) were employed in total in the Hornsby electorate in 2009 and 2010?
- (2) For each school in the electorate, how many Teachers' Aides were employed in any capacity in 2009 and 2010?
- (3) (a) Are Teachers' Aides moved from school to school over a school year?
(b) If so, why?

Answer—

- (1) The title of Teachers Aide was changed to School Learning Support Officer in August 2008. The number of School Learning Support Officers (full-time and part-time and casual) employed in total in the Hornsby electorate in 2009 and 2010 up until the end of May 2010 were:

Year	Total number of School Learning Support Officers in Hornsby Electorate (FTE)
2009	33.88
2010	30.01*

- (2) For each school in the Hornsby electorate, the number of School Learning Support Officers employed in any capacity in 2009 and 2010 were:

School	2009 (FTE)	2010 (FTE)*
Asquith Public School	2.08	1.69
Berowra Public School	0.77	1.22
Brooklyn Public School	0.07	0.05
Cowan Public School	0.34	0.55
Galston Public School	0.63	0.18
Middle Dural Public School	0.23	0.05
Mount Colah Public School	0.24	0.22
Mount Kuring-gai Public School	0.49	0.33
Hornsby Heights Public School	0.56	0.28
Normanhurst West Public School	0.75	0.82
Hornsby North Public School	2.56	2.49
Wideview Public School	0.29	0.27

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John Purchase Public School	2.95	3.22
Hornsby South Public School	1.65	1.48
Clarke Road School	10.56	10.22
Gibberagong Environmental Education Centre	0	0
Asquith Girls High School	0.57	0.39
Asquith Boys High School	3.06	2.34
Galston High School	1.57	1.58
Cherrybrook Technology High School	4.51	2.63

(3) (a) and (b) Under the current procedures for filling vacant school administrative and support staff positions, including School Learning and Support Officer positions, permanent staff can apply for transfer at any time during a school year. If a suitable vacancy is available, a School Learning Support Officer may receive a transfer to a permanent position in another school over a school year.

*10684 UNFLUED GAS HEATERS—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Education and Training—

How many schools in the Sutherland Shire currently use unflued gas heating in classrooms?

Answer—

Unflued gas heaters have been the standard space heating equipment used in most Department of Education and Training schools. Schools in the Sutherland Shire would be expected to have unflued gas heaters.

*10685 SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC HOUSING—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

Given your advice Environmental sustainability in Housing NSW 2008/09 - 2013/14 contains 43 actions to improve the environmental sustainability of social housing and reduce energy and water consumption in Housing NSW properties (Question 9081):

- (1) What environmental sustainability requirements have been incorporated into the Asset design guidelines to minimise ongoing maintenance, improve longevity and reuse of materials?
- (2) How many Housing NSW properties in the Sydney electorate have been retrofitted with:
 - (a) solar hot water systems and photovoltaic cells;
 - (b) rain water tanks;
 - (c) water saving fixtures;
 - (d) gas hot water systems;
 - (e) insulation?
- (3) How many Housing NSW properties in the Sydney electorate have a minimum 4.5 star energy and water rating?
- (4) What education programs has Housing NSW undertaken with tenants, staff, contractors, community housing providers, Aboriginal housing providers and other partners to reduce their environmental footprint, and what programs are planned?
- (5) How many tenants have participated in these programs?
- (6) In 2006, what proportion of materials used for maintenance, construction and upgrades of Housing NSW properties was recycled and what was the comparable figure for last year?
- (7) What proportion of electricity used by Housing NSW comes from renewable energy sources?
- (8) What reduction has Housing NSW assessed in office and housing energy and water use as a result of the Environmental Sustainability in Housing NSW policy?
- (9) What further action does the Government propose to increase environmental sustainability in Housing NSW properties?

Answer—

(1) Information regarding Housing NSW's Design Requirements is contained on the Housing NSW website.

(2)

- (a) Over 2,300 solar and heat pump hot water systems have been retrofitted in Housing NSW properties across NSW since July 2009. Housing NSW's solar hot water heater retrofit program includes cottages, townhouses and villas. Approximately 200 photovoltaic systems have been retrofitted in Housing NSW properties as part of the Blacktown Solar Cities Project.

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- (b) Rainwater tanks are being installed in new properties in accordance with Housing NSW's Design Requirements.
 - (c) Approximately 120,000 dwellings have been retrofitted with water saving devices in Housing NSW dwellings since 2006.
 - (d) Gas hot water systems are being retrofitted in cottages, townhouses and villas which are connected to natural gas as existing electric storage hot water systems require replacement.
 - (e) Over 8000 properties across NSW have been retrofitted with ceiling insulation. The ceiling insulation retrofit program is being prioritised to properties located in hot and cold climatic areas.
- (3) Data on the energy and water ratings for all Housing NSW properties in the Sydney Electorate is not available.
- (4) and (5) In 2009, Housing NSW delivered eight environmental education workshops for social housing residents. Housing NSW is also working with a number of Councils to deliver a \$1.75 million Environmental Trust Grant, which includes environmental education programs for social housing residents. There are approximately 140 community gardens operating through the Community Greening Program and around 3,400 residents participated in garden events last year.
- Housing NSW has conducted several environmental seminars, staff inductions, and a Green Office Survey for staff.
- Housing NSW promotes energy and environmental saving techniques in its tenant newsletter.
- Housing NSW contractors are required to comply with contractual requirements in relation to environmental sustainability such as the preparation of environmental and waste management plans.
- (6) Data on the proportion of recycled materials used for maintenance, construction and upgrades of Housing NSW is not available.
- (7) A minimum of 12% of Housing NSW's electricity use comes from renewable energy sources.
- (8)
- (a) Housing NSW has conducted energy assessments of large office buildings. 7 out of 12 office buildings achieved a NABERS rating of 4.5 stars or above and Housing NSW continues to conduct energy audits as a basis for improving office energy efficiency.
 - (b) Housing NSW has commenced a program to retrofit energy efficient hot water systems and ceiling insulation across NSW. Over 2,300 solar and heat pump hot water systems have been installed since July 2009 which has saved tenants approximately \$130 per year on their energy bills and reduced greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 4,000 tonnes per annum. Over 8,000 dwellings have been retrofitted with ceiling insulation which has resulted in tenant energy savings of approximately \$90 per annum and a total reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of approximately 4,000 tonnes. Since 2006, Housing NSW has also retrofitted water saving devices into approximately 120,000 homes saving households an average of 21kL annually.
- (9) Housing NSW is:
- continuing its program to replace electric storage hot water systems with solar and gas systems;
 - working with the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water to deliver free home energy assessments to social housing households through the Home Power Savings Program;
 - conducting a pilot of energy efficient lighting in common areas of multi-unit housing complexes;
 - currently constructing two 5 star Greenstar multi-unit residential projects at Lilyfield and Redfern.

*10686 HOUSING AND ACCOMMODATION SUPPORT INITIATIVE (HASI)—Ms Clover Moore asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Noting positive evaluation of the Housing and Accommodation Support Initiative (HASI), reports from the Mental Health Council of Australia that HASI does not meet existing needs, and the Ombudsman's report on the Joint Guarantee of Service calling for expansion of the HASI program:

- (1) What assessment has the Government made of demand for HASI places?
- (2) How does the provision of HASI places compare with identified needs?
- (3) How does the current provision of HASI places compare with predicted future needs?
- (4) What plans does the Government have to provide additional HASI places?
- (5) What plans does the Government have to provide additional HASI places in the inner city where many homeless people with a mental illness sleep rough?

- (6) How will the Government ensure sufficient HASI places to support the significant number of long-term homeless people sleeping rough in Woolloomooloo?

Answer—

I am advised:

NSW Health invests almost \$35 million to operate the award winning Housing and Accommodation Support Initiative (HASI).

There are currently 1096 packages in the HASI program. Projection of future demand for HASI services is being included in the updated version of the NSW Health's Mental Health Clinical Care and Prevention Planning Model (v 2.0).

As announced in the 2008/09 State Budget, \$21 million was allocated over five years to implement a 100 place HASI model specifically for Aboriginal people (HASI 5A). HASI 5A is being rolled out in 3 stages. Stages 1 and 2 are complete.

Final locations of the new Stage 3 HASI 5A packages are still being determined. Location of the packages is being determined using demographic data, targeting areas of need, and considering current services and housing availability.

The Homelessness Intervention Project was established in September 2008 to specifically target chronically homeless people by linking them to housing and support. The project is a partnership between Housing NSW, Community Services, and NSW Health and comprises two initiatives (which commenced in January 2010). One of these initiatives, the Homelessness Intervention Team, is a 12 month project aimed at urgently housing and supporting 20 chronically homeless people in inner Sydney.

*10687HEALTH REFORM IMPACTS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

With respect to the NSW Government's agreement with the Commonwealth Government about changes to health and hospital funding and services:

- (1) What will be the impact of this agreement on health services in the inner city?
- (2) What assessment has the Government made of the unique health needs of the inner city, particularly for the large number of homeless people sleeping rough who also have a mental illness, physical health and/or drug concerns?
- (3) What assessment has the Government made of the unique health needs of the inner city around the CBD, particularly given the large numbers of workers, overseas students, tourists and visitors who come into the city every day?
- (4) How will the NSW Government ensure that there is a strong network of health service providers based on the specific needs of the inner city?
- (5) How will the Government ensure that non-Government health services are integrated into the new arrangements?
- (6) When does the Government expect that the new administrative arrangements will begin?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (6) Planning has already commenced in NSW and nationally to implement the full range of initiatives outlined in the National Health and Hospitals Reform Network Agreement agreed to by COAG (with the exception of Western Australia) in April 2010.

Allocation of the additional Commonwealth funding (\$1.2 billion over the next four years) to public hospital and health services across NSW will be determined as part of the detailed planning process. The funding will be used to reduce waiting times for people attending emergency departments and those requiring elective surgery, and generally to improve access to hospital inpatient care by increasing the number of acute and subacute beds.

All stakeholders, including local communities, agencies and clinicians, are being or will be given an opportunity to provide input to decisions about the number, size and location of the proposed Local Hospital Networks which are to be established under State legislation, and the hospitals to be included in each Network, and the number, size and location of the proposed Medicare Locals (independent primary health care organisations to be established under Commonwealth legislation). Local needs and existing health services which include non-government health services will be taken into account in all of these decisions.

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The NSW and Commonwealth governments will work cooperatively to ensure, wherever possible, that the Local Hospital Networks and Medicare Locals have common geographic boundaries. These boundaries will be resolved by 31 December 2010, with other national, state and local governance arrangements being progressively introduced to allow the establishment of both Local Hospital Networks and Medical Locals in NSW during 2011.

*10688COST OF DESALINATION PLANT—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

What was the total final cost of constructing the desalination plant and related infrastructure and bringing it to a fully operational state?

Answer—

I am advised Sydney Water Board approved a budget of \$1,896 million prior to construction. Sydney's award winning wind-powered desalination plant was delivered on time and under budget.

*10689POLICE EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

(1) In the last 2 years have any police officers received employment benefits or rewards by way of holidays to Queensland or any other destinations?

(2) If so, are these rewards related in any way to their performance in issuing infringement notices?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that it does not provide incentives or rewards in the form of holidays to its officers.

*10690PREPARATION OF TENDER DOCUMENTATION—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—

Given your advice the preparation of tender documentation is a matter for the proponent (Question 9829), did any senior manager in NSW Maritime assist in preparing tender documentation for the successful Joe Elias Company bid for the Maritime site at Blackwattle Bay?

Answer—

I am advised all senior managers currently employed by NSW Maritime and who are currently at work have been asked in writing whether they assisted in the preparation of tender documentation. All have replied in writing stating they did not assist in the preparation of tender documentation.

Should the honourable member provide me with any information that might constitute corrupt conduct by any senior manager at NSW Maritime I will take prompt and appropriate action.

*10691DATA ON PM2.5—Mr Greg Piper asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

What data on PM2.5 is obtained for the Lake Macquarie area and is this information accurate and complete?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) operates a regional air quality monitoring site at Wallsend, on the border of the Newcastle and Lake Macquarie local government areas.

This site collects air quality data for both PM10 (particles with an equivalent aerodynamic size of 10 microns or less) and PM2.5 (2.5 microns or less).

The data on PM2.5 for the area is reported as 24 hour averages, in micrograms per cubic metre of air sampled.

The locations of DECCW's air monitoring stations are selected in accordance with the requirements of the National Environment Protection (Ambient Air Quality) Measure and appropriate Australian standards to ensure that data collected is representative of air quality in that regional location.

Both the PM2.5 and PM10 monitors run continuously. Quality assurance checks on the data are made before the information is published on the DECCW website.

*10693SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION FOR PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) What supported accommodation is available to people with mental illness living in the Tweed electorate?
- (2) What is the total number of beds at the above listed supported accommodation in the Tweed electorate?
- (3) What is the current occupancy of the above listed supported accommodation in the Tweed electorate?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Health resources are not allocated by electorate. The stand alone supported accommodation facility located in the Tweed is "On Track House", Sunshine Avenue, Tweed Heads.

The North Coast Area Health Service (NCAHS) works in partnership with the Non-Government Organisations; Mission Australia, New Horizons Enterprises Limited and On Track Community Programs in the provision of Housing and Support Initiative (HASI) packages in the NCAHS Tweed/Byron Network.

- (2) On Track House is a seven-bed supported accommodation facility. There are twenty four HASI packages provided in the Tweed/Byron area.
- (3) Average occupancy is 95% to 100%. On 15 June 2010 all seven places at On Track House were occupied. All HASI packages are being utilised within the NCAHS Tweed/Byron Network.

*10694PARKING OFFENCES IN SCHOOL ZONES—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

What is the total number of parking offences in school zones in the Tweed electorate for the following years:

- (a) 2008;
- (b) 2009;
- (c) year to date?

Answer—

I am advised that the Member's question should be redirected to the Treasurer.

*10695OLD NORTHERN ROAD, CASTLE HILL—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

What safety improvements will the Government make on the section of Old Northern Road near Parsonage Road and Francis Street, Castle Hill, where an elderly pedestrian was recently knocked down and killed trying to cross the road?

Answer—

I am advised the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) has investigated the section of Old Northern Road in the vicinity of Parsonage Road and Francis Street, including an analysis of the crash data for the periods between 2004 and 2008.

I understand that the RTA has liaised with the NSW Police Force requesting additional enforcement around this location to ensure drivers are not speeding.

I am further advised that the RTA will continue to work with the local Road Safety Officer at the Hills Shire Council to develop and deliver behavioural safety campaigns to address the primary crash profiles and trends within the Hills Local Government Area.

*10696KATOOMBA HOSPITAL—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) How will the Federal Government's new health reforms affect Katoomba Hospital?
- (2) What local area will Katoomba Hospital be attached to in the future?
- (3) Will Katoomba Hospital's budget be increased as a result of the reforms?
- (4) If so, by how much?
- (5) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

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- (1) to (5) Planning has already commenced in NSW and nationally to implement the full range of initiatives outlined in the National Health and Hospitals Reform Network Agreement agreed to by COAG (with the exception of Western Australia) in April 2010.

Allocation of the additional Commonwealth funding of \$1.2 billion over the next four years to public hospitals and health services across the state will be determined as part of the detailed planning process. The money will be used to reduce waiting times for people attending emergency departments and those requiring elective surgery, and generally to improve access to hospital inpatient care by increasing the number of acute and subacute beds.

Decisions about the number, size and location of the proposed Local Hospital Networks, and the hospitals to be included in each Network, will be informed by consultations with clinicians and members of the community. Accordingly, a decision has not yet been made about the Local Hospital Network that will encompass Katoomba Hospital. As a smaller facility, it will be linked to other facilities within its Local Hospital Network.

*10697PROPOSED CBD METRO—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

- (1) How much did the Government spend acquiring property for the proposed CBD Metro?
- (2) Now it has decided not to proceed with the CBD Metro, does the Government intend to sell the properties back to the private sector or continue to hold them?
- (3) If the Government does intend to sell the properties:
 - (a) Will the sales be by tender or by auction?
 - (b) When will the sales process start?
 - (c) How much does the Government expect to raise from the sale of the properties?
 - (d) Will the money be used to start work on the North West Rail Link?
- (4) (a) If the Government does not intend to sell the properties, will it seek tenants for them?
(b) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

A total of \$134 million has been spent to end of May 2010, which includes property purchases and all property acquisition related costs.

It is intended that the properties will be retained in Government ownership for use in relation to future transport projects.

The Government will seek tenants where circumstances specific to each site make that appropriate.

*10698CONSULTATION FORUMS—LOCAL HOSPITAL NETWORKS—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

With respect to the Director-General's consultation forums on the NSW Health Department's plans for Local Hospital Networks as outlined in the National Health and Hospitals Network Agreement:

- (1) Who was invited to the forums?
- (2) How much notice was given for the specific dates and locations of the forums?
- (3) To what extent have local community members who are not employees or office holders within a NSW Area Health Service been included in the forums?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) An invitation to attend local forums was extended to staff in each Area Health Service. Area Health Advisory Councils (which have been charged with the responsibility for facilitating the involvement of health consumers, local community members and clinicians in the development of policies, plans and strategies for the provision of health services) have also been closely involved in the development and conduct of the consultation forums. Area Health Services have also extended invitations directly to other stakeholders such as community representatives.
- (2) The period of notice has differed for each forum as invitations could only be sent once advice on suitable locations and the availability of the Director-General, Chief Executives and the Chairs of each of the Area Health Advisory Councils was confirmed. Videoconferencing has been arranged where feasible to facilitate broader participation and reduce travel requirements.

- (3) All interested parties are able to contribute to the consultation process through the NSW Health internet site. Presentations delivered at the forums can be viewed and comments can be submitted through an electronic feedback form.

*10699 NATIONAL HEALTH REFORM CONSULTATION FORUM—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

With respect to the NSW Health Director-General's June 2010 presentation for the National Health Reform Consultation Forum:

- (1) When will the activity of "determining the efficient price" be completed?
- (2) What is the efficient price detail that is referenced but is missing from the presentation?
- (3) Was the fact that efficient prices are yet to be determined considered when negotiating the National Health Reforms?
- (4) How can you guarantee that NSW will gain adequate funding - particularly the "efficient price" component - when efficient prices are unknown?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Under the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) National Health and Hospitals Network Agreement (April 2010), an Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA) will be established from 1 July 2011 as an independent Commonwealth statutory authority with responsibility for, inter alia, calculating and determining the national efficient price. Over 2011-12, the IHPA will commence development of the national efficient price for admitted patient services and over 2012-13, will advise COAG on the process of transition to the national efficient price.
- (2) The table used in the NSW Health Director-General's presentation is adapted from a table on page 39 of the Commonwealth publication "A National Health and Hospitals Network for Australia's Future" (May, 2010). The asterisk next to "Determine efficient price" referred to the role of the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority in this regard.
- (3) All relevant issues were taken into account in negotiations relating to the national health reforms.
- (4) The COAG National Health and Hospitals Network Agreement commits all jurisdictions to an accelerated work program to develop a nationally consistent activity based funding model that will allow the adoption, from 1 July 2012, of state-specific prices as the basis for Commonwealth payments for certain hospital services. As indicated above, the timetable for transitioning to national efficient prices will be the subject of recommendations to COAG by the IHPA.

The two years between now and 1 July 2012 will be used by all jurisdictions to develop and progressively refine systems for patient classification and clinical coding, as well as clinical costing models. This intensive work will improve the availability and quality of activity and costing data to underpin the IHPA's calculations of state-specific prices, national efficient prices, and block funding to be applied to Commonwealth payments for hospital services.

*10700 EARLY CHILDHOOD HEALTH CENTRE SERVICES—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Why was there a reduction in community services at the Early Childhood Health Centre service at Cutler Parade, North Ryde?
- (2) What is the Government doing to ensure that persons who utilised the Early Childhood Health Centre service at Cutler Parade, North Ryde have access to the community services they previously received from this facility?
- (3) In NSW, in the last 6 months:
 - (a) Have there been any other reductions in services or closures of Early Childhood Health Centre services?
 - (b) What has driven any reductions or closures in Early Childhood Health Centre services?
 - (c) What is the Government doing to ensure that Early Childhood Health Centre services are available to the community?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) There will be no loss of service provision to families living in the North Ryde area. An amalgamation of the Early Childhood Health Centre service at Cutler Parade North Ryde with the Top Ryde and Marsfield Early Childhood Health Centres will provide enhanced service provision and appropriate facilities to clients.

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- (2) Services currently provided at North Ryde Early Childhood Health Centre will be provided from the Marsfield and Top Ryde Early Childhood Health Centres, located within the Ryde local government area. The nurse working at North Ryde will be relocated to the Marsfield Early Childhood Health Centre. Home visits, individual appointments, breastfeeding clinics and parenting groups will continue to be provided.
- (3) Health Services across NSW have advised that for the period in question there have been no closures in Early Childhood Health Centre services.

There may be temporary clinic closure or reduction of Child and Family Health Clinic services in some Health Services from time to time due to:

- Short-term closure of school-based early childhood health clinics during the school holidays due to safety and security risks for staff and clients. (Parents are advised in advance of these closures);
- Temporary closures due to changes in staffing e.g. unplanned leave. (Parents are notified of changes and alternative venues as soon as practicable).

*10701 MONA VALE HOSPITAL AUDIT—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) When was the most recent audit undertaken at Mona Vale Hospital to determine medical equipment in need of replacement?
- (2) Which wards and departments did this audit encompass?
- (3) What were the findings of this audit?
- (4) What measures is the NSW Government taking to ensure that the findings of this audit are addressed?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (4) The Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service undertakes regular assessments/audits of all medical equipment on an 18-month rotational basis. The current assessment /audit at Mona Vale Hospital commenced during June 2010.

The audit encompasses all wards and departments at Mona Vale Hospital.

The most recent findings for June 2010 have yet to be formally reported. However, in past years, the majority of medical equipment is located, safety tested and returned to the individual ward and department.

The Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service maintains a Clinical Technology service available to all the health facilities within the Area Health Service and the team conducts its operations in accordance with the appropriate Australian Standards.

*10702 CAR PARKING FACILITIES—MONA VALE HOSPITAL—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the severe shortage of car parking facilities at and around Mona Vale Hospital for staff, patients and visitors?
- (2) What plans does the NSW Government have to improve car parking facilities for staff, patients and visitors at and around Mona Vale Hospital?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) Mona Vale Hospital has car parking facilities spread over the Mona Vale campus, including 312 parking bays within the Hospital site and 169 spaces in close proximity. Off street parking, bordering the Hospital, is also available to staff, patients and visitors. It is recognised that in periods of peak demand Hospital car parking availability may be limited.

The Northern Beaches Health Service Executive commissioned a report in late 2009 to consider car parking options across Mona Vale Hospital campus. The proposal includes issues such as parking signage and permits, lighting, line marking and traffic flow.

An examination of this report is currently underway by Mona Vale Hospital site management, in conjunction with Pittwater Council.

*10703 LOCAL SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH EATING DISORDERS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Why are no local services provided by the Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service to residents on Sydney's northern beaches suffering from an eating disorder?
- (2) Why are residents on the northern beaches forced to travel over 100 kilometres to Wyong Hospital in order to access treatment for eating disorders?
- (3) What measures is the NSW Government taking to ensure that residents on the northern beaches suffering from an eating disorder have more convenient and appropriate access to treatment?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area Health Service is not aware of any residents that have travelled to receive eating disorder treatment at the Eating Disorders Outpatient Service on the Central Coast.

Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area Health Service has a specialist service for eating disorders at Wyong. The Eating Disorders Outpatient Service on the Central Coast provides support and consultancy to the Northern Beaches Mental Health Service to ensure best practice care of people being treated with an eating disorder. This service has the capacity to provide advice on the management of clients with an eating disorder being treated by other services elsewhere within the Area Health Service.

The Northern Beaches Adolescent Service (NBAS), located at Mona Vale, are a generalist community mental health team that specialises in the provision of mental health services for adolescents. Training for several NBAS staff in the provision of eating disorder treatment has been arranged.

Services currently available from the Northern Beaches Mental Health Service include triage, assessment and referral to appropriate specialised providers. If the service referred to have a waiting list, the Mental Health Clinician provides interim support in consultation with the service provider to whom the person has been referred.

The Eating Disorders Outpatient Service on the Central Coast is available for consultation and can provide specialist support for the Mental Health Clinician during this period.

*10704ALCOHOL-RELATED INJURIES OR ILLNESSES—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) How many people aged between 14 and 25 were admitted to Mona Vale Hospital for alcohol-related injuries or illnesses in:
 - (a) 2008-09;
 - (b) 2009-10 year to date?
- (2) How many people aged between 14 and 25 were admitted to Manly Hospital for alcohol-related injuries or illnesses in:
 - (a) 2008-09;
 - (b) 2009-10 year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) (a) 9
(b) 6
- (2) (a) 34
(b) 41

*10705TRANSFERRING PATIENTS BY NSW AMBULANCE—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) What was the average monthly cost of transferring patients by NSW Ambulance between Mona Vale Hospital and Royal North Shore Hospital in:
 - (a) 2007-08;
 - (b) 2008-09;
 - (c) 2009-10 year to date?
- (2) How many patients were transferred by NSW Ambulance between Mona Vale Hospital and Royal North Shore Hospital in:
 - (a) 2007-08;

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- (b) 2008-09;
- (c) 2009-10 year to date?
- (3) What was the average monthly cost of transferring patients by NSW Ambulance between Manly Hospital and Royal North Shore Hospital in:
 - (a) 2007-08;
 - (b) 2008-09;
 - (c) 2009-10 year to date?
- (4) How many patients were transferred by NSW Ambulance between Manly Hospital and Royal North Shore Hospital in:
 - (a) 2007-08;
 - (b) 2008-09;
 - (c) 2009-10 year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) (a) \$13,586
- (b) \$22,361
- (c) \$18,055 (end April 2010)
- (2) (a) 287
- (b) 372
- (c) 240 (end April 2010).
- (3) (a) \$17,170
- (b) \$20,224
- (c) \$19,588 (end April 2010).
- (4) (a) 408
- (b) 401
- (c) 308 (end April 2010).

*10707 WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE SCHOOLS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) Which schools in the Pittwater electorate are currently unable to accommodate students requiring wheelchair assistance?
- (2) What measures is the NSW Government taking to ensure all schools in the Pittwater electorate are completely wheelchair accessible?

Answer—

- (1) Bilgola Plateau Public School and Elanora Heights Public School.
- (2) All new construction projects undertaken in NSW Government schools incorporate access for people with disabilities.

For existing schools, schools are prioritised for retro-fitting when a student with a disability enrolls to attend the school, or a staff member with a disability is appointed. In all cases, the Department of Education and Training works to ensure that retro-fitting is complete prior to the first planned day of the student or staff member's attendance.

*10708 SMOKE DETECTORS IN SCHOOLS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) Are all schools in the Pittwater electorate fitted with smoke detectors?
- (2) If the answer to question (1) is no:
 - (a) Which schools in the Pittwater electorate have not yet been fitted with smoke detectors?
 - (b) Why have smoke detectors not yet been installed in these schools?
- (3) When will all schools in the Pittwater electorate be fitted with smoke detectors?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) As the primary purpose of smoke alarms and smoke detectors is to alert sleeping people to the possibility of a fire emergency, the Building Code of Australia and the Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Smoke Alarms) Regulation 2006 only require smoke detectors to be fitted

in schools where people sleep, such as schools with dormitories. There are no schools of this sort in the Pittwater electorate.

The Department of Education and Training takes fire safety very seriously. Representatives from the Department of Education and Training meet regularly with the NSW Fire Brigade and specialist companies to review fire safety compliance in schools and TAFE colleges.

Fire safety equipment in schools and TAFE colleges is regularly tested and maintained as part of the Department's maintenance contracts.

All schools and TAFE colleges are required to conduct trial emergency evacuations twice each year as part of their emergency management planning. This ensures that on-site fire safety officers as well as staff and students are familiar with emergency procedures.

***10709**AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Has the NSW Government considered the installation of Automated External Defibrillators on STA buses?
- (2) If the answer to question (1) is yes, what plans does the NSW Government have to begin installing these devices?
- (3) If the answer to question (1) is no, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) The Government currently has no plans to install Automated External Defibrillators on buses. Individual bus operators are responsible for determining how their drivers should respond if a medical situation occurs on a bus.

***10710**STAFFING FREEZE—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) In light of the Department of Premier and Cabinet's circular "Premier's Memorandum 2009-15 Staffing Freeze":
 - (a) How many requests for exemptions to the staffing freeze did NSW Maritime receive from 26 June 2009 to 14 February 2010?
 - (b) How many requests for exemptions did NSW Maritime grant from 26 June 2009 to 14 February 2010?
- (2) In light of the Department of Premier and Cabinet's circular "Premier's Memorandum 2010-05 Staffing Freeze":
 - (a) How many requests for exemptions to the staffing freeze has NSW Maritime received from 14 February 2010 to date?
 - (b) How many requests for exemptions has NSW Maritime granted from 14 February 2010 to date?

Answer—

- (1)
 - (a) Not applicable.
 - (b) NSW Maritime supported 33 exemptions. These included frontline and non frontline roles. They were then subject to the Employment Assessment Committee process. Not applicable.
- (2)
 - (a) Not applicable.
 - (b) NSW Maritime supported 29 exemptions to 11 June 2010. These included frontline and non frontline roles. They were part of the Job Assessment Criteria process.

***10711**STAFFING FREEZE—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In light of the Department of Premier and Cabinet's circular "Premier's Memorandum 2009-15 Staffing Freeze":

- (a) How many requests for exemptions to the staffing freeze did the RTA receive from 26 June 2009 to 14 February 2010?
- (b) How many requests for exemptions did the RTA grant from 26 June 2009 to 14 February 2010?

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Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) and (b) From 26 June 2009 to 14 February 2010 the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) received a total of 1305 requests for exemptions from the recruitment freeze.

Of those requests, 335 exemptions were granted for recruitment to permanent positions directly related to frontline service delivery.

***10712**SPRAY SUPPRESSION DEVICES ON HEAVY VEHICLES—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Regarding the regulations for spray suppression devices on heavy vehicles:

Why is the driver, rather than the owner, of a heavy vehicle fined if the spray suppressors fitted to the heavy vehicle he is driving are defective or not fitted in accordance with the specifications?

Answer—

I am advised that it is a requirement that the driver of a heavy vehicle carry the General B-double Notice 2005. The Notice states that spray suppression devices must be fitted to all axle groups and single axles of a B-double combination, and must comply with the requirements of British Standard AU 200-1984, parts 1 and 2.

Enforcement action may be taken in respect to breaches of the Notice against:

- the driver under clause 19 of the Road Transport (Mass, Loading and Access) Regulation 2005; or
- the registered operator under clause 52 of the Road Transport (Vehicle Registration) Regulation 2007.

***10713**MACDONALD VALLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

When will the Minister heritage list the MacDonald Valley Public School, the oldest working school in this country?

Answer—

No nomination has been received by the Department of Planning to list the MacDonald Valley Public School on the State Heritage Register.

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***10714**LIDDELL SOLAR GENERATOR—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In view of previous answers that indicate that former Premiers have not visited the Liddell Solar Generator, since becoming Premier have you visited the Liddell Solar Generator?

Answer—

I am advised that:

An answer was provided to your previous question on 15 April 2010, which remains current.

***10715**CHILDREN (PROTECTION AND PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY) ACT 1997—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In view of the fact that the computer system used in the Local and Children's Courts cannot provide information on the number of times the Children (Protection and Parental Responsibility) Act has been used, will the Premier take action to institute a system that will allow the information to be obtained and then published?

Answer—

I am advised that, in relation to decisions by courts, data is collected principally about convictions, penalties and final court orders. Data collection in the court system is subject to ongoing review for the purposes of informing the administration of the justice system.

*10716KINGS CROSS TUNNEL FIRE HAZARD—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In relation to the Kings Cross Tunnel fire hazard and given your advice a ventilation and fire safety study was commissioned in 2006, and that the study contained recommendations for the enhancement of existing fire and ventilation services (Question 9808):

- (1) What recommendations were made for the enhancement of existing fire and ventilation services?
- (2) When did work on tunnel repairs begin and what recommendations have already been implemented?
- (3) Given a ventilation and fire safety study was commissioned in 2006, why has it taken the Government this long to move to repair the inadequate fire protection of the tunnel?
- (4) (a) Is the Kings Cross Tunnel fire safety study publicly available?
(b) If so, when was it published and where is it available?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The recommendations made for enhancement of existing fire and ventilation services in the tunnel included a review of trigger levels for activation of tunnel fans, upgrading of the fire panels in the plant room and in the tunnel, installation of a second (additional) fire detection system, occupant warning system, review of functions of emergency phones, upgrading of emergency points, confirming availability of nominated fire extinguishers, provision of a 2 hour fire separation for nominated areas and preparation of emergency response plan.

(2) Work on implementation of the recommended enhancement started almost immediately following the release of the recommendations.

The following recommendations have been implemented:

- Review of trigger levels for activation of tunnel fans.
- Upgrading of the fire panels in the plant room.
- Installation of a second (additional) fire detection system, occupant warning system.
- Confirmation of availability of nominated fire extinguishers.

The following are currently in progress:

- Review of functions of emergency phones.
- Upgrading of emergency points.

Planning and preconstruction activities for fire separation and upgrade of existing fans have been completed.

(3) The recommendations for enhancement of existing services have been implemented progressively since release of the report. A number of the proposed enhancement activities require extensive planning, investigation and analysis, consultation with stakeholders and detailed design before they can be implemented. Planning and investigation activities started almost immediately following release of the recommendations.

(4) (a) and (b) No.

*10717MR BOB ELLIS—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

Given your advice Mr Bob Ellis undertakes "writing projects as required" (Question 6091) and has been paid through Boban Services by the Government since 5 December 2009 (Question 9238):

What was that work and at what cost to taxpayers?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Member is referred to the response to Question on Notice 8333; Mr Ellis' standard fee for general editorial work is \$2,200 per month. The Department's records indicate there has been no significant change to this arrangement.

*10718SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT ACT 2000—SECTIONS 7 AND 8—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

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In relation to the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000:

- (1) How many infringements were issued for Section 7 offences during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (2) How much money was raised from fines paid for Section 7 offences during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (3) How many infringements were issued for Section 8 offences against proprietors during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (4) How much money was raised from fines paid for Section 8 offences during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (5) How many infringements were issued for Section 8 offences against proprietors within the electorate of Ryde during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The legislation does not provide for infringements to be issued under section 7 of the Act; therefore no infringements were issued for the financial years ending 2007, 2008 and 2009.

(2) Nil.

(3) and (5) The legislation does not provide for infringements to be issued to proprietors under section 8 of the Act; therefore no infringements were issued for the financial years ending 2007, 2008 and 2009.

(4) In the financial year 2008 to 2009 \$1,500 in fines were incurred for section 8 offences. No fines were incurred for section 8 offences for the financial years ending 2007 and 2008.

*10719SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT ACT 2000—SECTION 14—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Given that in accordance with section 14 of the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 the Director-General of the Department of Health is given the power to appoint persons as inspectors for the purposes of the Act:

- (1) How many full-time equivalent staff were employed as Environmental Health Officers by the department during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (2) How many full-time equivalent Environmental Health Officers were responsible for issuing one or more infringements under section 7 of the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (3) Is the position of Tobacco Compliance Officer separate from that of Environmental Health Officer within the Department of Health?
- (4) How many full-time equivalent staff were employed as Tobacco Compliance Officers by the department during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?

Answer—

(1) and (4) I am advised that since March 2007 the Department has employed an Investigation Support Officer to assist staff employed by Area Health Services with regulatory activities associated with enforcement of the Smoke Free Environment Act 2000.

Area Health Services have in place arrangements which support the promotion, monitoring and enforcement of the Smoke Free Workplace Policy in public hospitals and other NSW Health facilities. Arrangements supporting the policy may include staff with security, facilities and site management, occupational health and safety, clinical operations and health promotion functions.

(2) I am advised that the legislation does not provide for infringements to be issued under section 7 of the Act; therefore no infringements were issued for the financial years ending 2007, 2008 and 2009.

(3) I am advised that staff who perform activities related to the enforcement of the Smoke Free Environment Act 2000 are not necessarily qualified Environmental Health Officers.

*10720 LOTTIE STEWART HOSPITAL DUNDAS—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to residential aged-care services at Lottie Stewart Hospital Dundas:

- (1) What was the hospital's annual budget for:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (2) How many people received patient care during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (3) How many Huntington's Disease sufferers (or related genetic neurological disease sufferers) used the hospital's services during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (4) How many Huntington's Disease sufferers (or related genetic neurological disease sufferers) residing in the Ryde electorate used the hospital's services during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?

Answer—

- (1) (a) Net cost of service budget 2007: \$5,236,272
 (b) Net cost of service budget 2008: \$5,296,762
 (c) Net cost of service budget 2009: \$5,424,373
- (2) (a) 155
 (b) 149
 (c) 151
- (3) (a) 27
 (b) 25
 (c) 43
- (4) Information is not collected by the electorate.

*10721 LOTTIE STEWART HOSPITAL DUNDAS—FUTURE USE—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to the future use of the Lottie Stewart Hospital site in Dundas after residential aged-care services cease on 30 June 2012:

- (1) Will Wesley Mission retain control over use of the land?
- (2) What were the conditions of Fred Stewart's bequest of the land in relation to future use?
- (3) Were members of the Stewart family consulted in relation to the intention to cease services at the hospital on 30 June 2012?

Answer—

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I am advised:

NSW Health is working towards vacating the Lottie Stewart Hospital site, as requested by Wesley Mission, which owns the 7-hectare property and most of the buildings. NSW Health is not able to comment on the future use of land held by another party.

*10722 LOTTIE STEWART HOSPITAL DUNDAS—CESSATION OF SERVICES—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to Sydney West Area Health Service's (SWAHS) announcement that residential aged-care services at Lottie Stewart Hospital Dundas will cease on 30 June 2012:

- (1) (a) Where will patients from the Bevington Unit for aged care be transferred?
(b) How many patients will be affected?
(c) How many patients from Ryde will be affected?
- (2) (a) Where will patients from the Huntington's Lodge be transferred?
(b) How many patients will be affected?
(v) How many patients from Ryde will be affected?
- (3) (a) Where will patients from the Confused and Disoriented Elderly (CADE) Unit be transferred?
(b) How many patients will be affected?
(c) How many patients from Ryde will be affected?
- (4) (a) Where will Psychogeriatric and long term spinal patients be transferred?
(b) How many patients will be affected?
(c) How many patients from Ryde will be affected?

Answer—

- (1) (a) Patients from the Bevington Unit will be transferred to residential aged care facilities, in the local area surrounding Dundas, after consultation with residents, families and carers.
(b) 26
(c) Out of the residents who were admitted to Lottie Stewart Hospital to the Bevington Ward since June 2006, there has been only one resident who came from Ryde.
- (2) (a) Patients from the Huntington's Lodge will be transferred to facilities within Sydney West Area Health Service.
(b) 15
(c) Out of the residents who were admitted to Lottie Stewart to the Huntington's Lodge since June 2006, there has been only one resident who came from Ryde.
- (3) (a) to (c) The Confused and Disoriented Elderly Unit at Lottie Stewart Hospital has closed. Residents have been relocated to alternative facilities and accommodation.
- (4) (a) Psychogeriatric and long term spinal patients will be transferred to residential aged care facilities, in the local area surrounding Dundas, after consultation with residents, families and carers.
(b) 15 psychogeriatric residents and 7 long term spinal residents will be transferred.
(c) Over the past 4 years, 3 psychogeriatric residents were admitted from Macquarie Hospital at Ryde. These residents now require a different level of care, and therefore will not be returning. Over the past four years no residents with spinal injuries have been admitted from Ryde.

*10723 CLOSURE OF CONCORD HOSPITAL FORESHORE WALK—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to NSW Health's announcement to close the Concord Hospital foreshore walk (passing through Concord Hospital, Yaralla and Thomas Walker estate):

- (1) (a) Has a study been conducted into how many people will be affected by the closure?
(b) If so, approximately how many pedestrians currently use the foreshore walk annually?
(c) How many pedestrians from the Ryde LGA use the foreshore walk annually?
- (2) On what date was the Rivendell adolescent unit opened?
- (3) How many patients does the unit provide services to?
- (4) (a) Did NSW Health consider erecting fences to prevent access from Rivendell adolescent unit to the foreshore walk?

- (b) If so, what was the cost?
- (5) (a) Did NSW Health consider introducing shared use arrangement to allow both hospital patients and local residents to continue to use the foreshore walk?
- (b) If so, what was the cost?

Answer—

NSW Health made no such announcement.

*10724LOTTIE STEWART HOSPITAL DUNDAS—DISASTER RELIEF CENTRE—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to Sydney West Area Health Service's (SWAHS) announcement that residential aged-care services at Lottie Stewart Hospital Dundas will cease on 30 June 2012 as the hospital has served as a disaster relief centre since it was opened in 1948:

- (1) Will the disaster relief centre be relocated, and if so, where?
- (2) How many disaster relief centres exist within the Sydney-West Area Health Service district?
- (3) (a) How many disaster relief centres exist for the use of residents living in Ryde?
- (b) Where are these located?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) All Health Services have internal plans for external emergencies and the Sydney West Area Health Service (SWAHS) Health Plan nominates Lottie Stewart Hospital as a relocation site for aged care facilities in the area should they need to be evacuated.

Until closure, SWAHS will continue to use Lottie Stewart Hospital if there is a need to evacuate from a residential aged care facility if there are no other arrangements in place by the agencies. SWAHS is working collaboratively with residential aged care providers to ensure that relocation plans are in place.

All public hospitals across Sydney West Area Health Service have plans in place should disaster relief be required. Evacuation centres that do not require medical services are managed under the State DISPLAN (Disaster Plan) and are the responsibility of the Department of Community Services.

*10725LOTTIE STEWART HOSPITAL DUNDAS—MEDIA RELEASE—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to Sydney West Area Health Service's (SWAHS) announcement that residential aged-care services at Lottie Stewart Hospital Dundas will cease on 30 June 2012 and the media release stating "A working party will oversee the transition of services":

- (1)
- (a) On what date was the working party formed?
- (b) How many members does the working party consist of?
- (c) What is the projected budget of the working party during:
- (i) financial year ending 2009;
- (ii) financial year ending 2010;
- (iii) financial year ending 2011?
- (2)
- (a) On what date did the Service Transition Officer commence employment?
- (b) Is the Service Transition Officer a member of the working party?
- (c) How many full-time equivalent staff worked on the transition of services from Lottie Stewart during:
- (i) 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2009
- (ii) 1 January 2010 to 1 June 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) (a) 17 December 2008.
- (b) There are 12 members of the working party which is made up of representatives of Lottie Stewart Hospital, Sydney West Area Health Service and NSW Health.

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- (c) The costs of the working party are met from within existing resources of Lottie Stewart Hospital, Sydney West Area Health Service and NSW Health.
- (2) (a) to (c) The Service Transition Officer commenced employment in June 2008. This position is not a member of the working party.

A range of staff from NSW Health, Sydney West Area Health Service and Lottie Stewart Hospital are working to ensure the continuity of care for patients of Lottie Stewart Hospital.

*10726 PUBLIC HEALTH (TOBACCO) ACT 2008—SMOKING IN A CAR—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to the offence introduced on 1 July 2009 under the Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2008 for smoking in a car with a child under 16 years of age in the vehicle:

- (1) How many infringements have been issued statewide between 1 July 2009 and 1 June 2010?
- (2) How many infringements have been issued within the electorate of Ryde between 1 July and 1 June 2010?
- (3) What is the total revenue generated from the payment of fines between 1 July 2009 and 1 June 2010?
- (4) Of the total number of on-the-spot infringements issued, how many were challenged before a magistrate?
- (5) Of the total number of on-the-spot infringements issued within the electorate of Ryde between 1 July 2009 and 1 June 2010, how many were challenged before a magistrate?
- (6) How many \$1,100 penalties did magistrates issue between 1 July 2009 and 1 June 2010 issue statewide?
- (7) How many \$1,100 penalties did magistrates issue between 1 July 2009 and 1 June 2010 issue for offence committed within the electorate of Ryde?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2008 introduced a new offence from 1 July 2009 of smoking in a car with a child under 16 years of age present. A \$250 on-the-spot fine applies to the driver and any passenger who breaks the law and this is enforced by NSW Police. The maximum penalty for smoking in a car with a child under 16 years of age present is \$1,100.
260 infringements for the offence of smoking in a car with a child under 16 years of age present were issued statewide between 1 July 2009 and 1 June 2010.
- (2) Infringements data for the offence of smoking in a car with a child under 16 years of age present is not maintained by electorate.
- (3) Total revenue generated from the payment of on-the-spot fines for the offence of smoking in a car with a child under 16 years of age present between 1 July 2009 and 1 June 2010 was \$22,250.
- (4) Two (between 1 July 2009 and 1 June 2010).
- (5) Infringements data for the offence of smoking in a car with a child under 16 years of age present is not maintained by electorate.
- (6) and (7) This information is not available to NSW Health and is a matter for the Attorney-General.

*10727 SMOKE-FREE ZONE CAMPAIGN—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to the Cancer Council NSW smoke free zone campaign:

- (1) How much money was spent on this campaign during financial year ending 2009?
- (2) How were the findings of the "Report on the Environmental Tobacco Smoke and Children Project 2001-2005" utilised in this campaign?
- (3) How many households received written material as part of this campaign during financial year ending 2009?
- (4) Were persons issued with infringements for smoking in a car with a child under 16 years in the vehicle specifically targeted with this information campaign?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The NSW Department of Health did not provide funding to the Cancer Council NSW for the "Car and home: smoke free zone" education campaign during financial year ending 2009.
- (2) The "Report on the Environmental Tobacco Smoke and Children Project 2001-2005" found that there was a 55.7% increase in the number of smoke-free homes in NSW where there are smokers and

children aged 0-6 years and a 41.8% increase in smoke-free cars owned by smokers with children aged 0-6 years.

The report identified culturally and linguistically diverse communities as a priority group for the "Car and home: smoke free zone" education campaign due to their high smoking rates and the potential for children to be at risk from exposure to environmental tobacco smoke. Subsequently, campaign activity in 2005-06 and 2006-07 focused on culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

- (3) The NSW Department of Health did not provide funding to the Cancer Council NSW for the "Car and home: smoke free zone" education campaign during 2008-09.

In previous years, brochures and other resources such as posters and stickers were distributed to the general population (including Aboriginal communities) through local Area Health Service staff and regional Cancer Council NSW offices.

- (4) The offence under the Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2008 of smoking in a car with a child under 16 years of age present was introduced in 2009, after the completion of the "Car and home: smoke free zone" education campaign. The Act imposes a \$250 on-the-spot fine to the driver and any passenger who breaks the law and this is enforced by NSW Police.

In June 2009, the NSW Department of Health commenced a significant communications campaign to help to ensure community awareness of the new offence and enhance compliance with the legislation.

The "Smoke-free Cars" campaign was broadcast on radio, billboard and digital media, and through major newspapers. To help ensure a high level of community awareness of the new smoking in cars offence, correspondence with government agencies including the NSW Department of Education and Training and non-government organisations such as the Cancer Council NSW enabled information to be distributed through a variety of channels.

*10728LOTTIE STEWART HOSPITAL DUNDAS—HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE UNIT—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to residential aged-care services at Lottie Stewart Hospital Dundas:

- (1) What was the hospital's annual budget for its Huntington's Disease Unit during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (2) What was the hospital's annual budget for its Huntington's Disease Outreach service during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (3) What was the bed capacity in the Huntington's Disease Unit during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (4) How many patients used the Huntington's Disease Outreach service during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (5) How many patients from Ryde used the Huntington's Disease Outreach service during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?

Answer—

I am advised by the Chief Executive of Sydney West Area Health Service that:

- (1) The budget listed below does not include allied health, social work and specialist medical practitioner input, all of which are provided by the Huntington Disease Outreach Service based at Westmead Hospital.
 - (a) \$1,015,267
 - (b) \$1,073,240
 - (c) \$1,103,129

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- (2) Lottie Stewart Hospital does not have a specific budget for this service. The staff of the Huntington Disease Outreach Service are employed by Westmead Hospital (Sydney West Area Health Service).
- (3) (a) 15 permanent beds and 2 respite beds.
(b) 15 permanent beds and 2 respite beds.
(c) 15 permanent beds and 2 respite beds.
- (4) (a) 280
(b) 337
(c) 338
- (5) The Hospital database only contains addresses of current patients. The Huntington Disease Outreach Service currently assists four people with Huntington Disease from Ryde.

*10729 LOTTIE STEWART HOSPITAL DUNDAS—AGED-CARE SERVICES—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to residential aged-care services at Lottie Stewart Hospital Dundas:

- (1) How many full-time equivalent staff were employed at the hospital during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (2) How many full-time equivalent nurses were employed at the hospital during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (3) How many full-time equivalent doctors were employed at the hospital during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) (a) 130 FTE
(b) 129 FTE
(c) 128 FTE
- (2) (a) 82 FTE
(b) 80 FTE
(c) 80 FTE
- (3) There are no doctors employed at Lottie Stewart Hospital. However, visiting General Practitioners provide medical services to their patients within the Hospital.

*10730 QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED TO BECOME A CASEWORKER—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

- (1) What qualifications are generally required of someone seeking employment to become a caseworker?
- (2) What percentage of caseworkers currently have a tertiary qualification or equivalent?
- (3) Can the Minister provide reasons as to why some caseworkers do not have a tertiary qualification or equivalent?
- (4) If having a tertiary qualification or equivalent is not absolutely required of someone seeking to become a caseworker, what other attributes or qualifications are sought from the candidate?

Answer—

- (1) A social work or other related degree is required to become a generalist caseworker and this has been a mandatory requirement for the caseworker role since 2004.
- (2) A specific percentage is not available. However, the majority of generalist caseworkers have a tertiary qualification or higher.
- (3) and (4) Those caseworkers that may not have a tertiary qualification or degree fall broadly into two categories, they are:
 - Aboriginal caseworkers who are granted exemption pursuant to s14(d) of the Anti-

discrimination Act 1977 (NSW);

- Existing experienced caseworkers who were employed prior to 2004 when the degree minimum entry requirement was introduced.

Information relating to qualifications, skills and experience required to become a caseworker is available at www.community.nsw.gov.au

*10731 PARENTLINE WEBSITE—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

- (1) How many hits has the <http://www.parentline.org.au/> website had since its inception to date?
- (2) Apart from hosting fees and domain name registration charge, how much has the website cost in terms of design and other costs?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) Parent Line is an advice service operated by Catholic Care and funded by the NSW Government.

Community Services do not provide specific funding for the website.

*10732 PARENTS CHARGED—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

- (1) How many parents were charged with abuse of a child or young person under the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1997, section 227 in:
 - (a) 2006;
 - (b) 2007;
 - (c) 2008;
 - (d) 2009;
 - (e) year to date?
- (2) How many parents were charged with abuse of a child or young person under the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1997, section 228 in:
 - (a) 2006;
 - (b) 2007;
 - (c) 2008;
 - (d) 2009;
 - (e) year to date?

Answer—

The Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) analyses NSW recorded crime statistics. I suggest the Honourable Member's questions are more appropriately addressed to either the Attorney General, within whose portfolio the Bureau resides, or to the Minister for Community Services, whose portfolio administers the nominated legislation.

*10733 EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES—Mrs Shelley Hancock asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

I refer to the former Premier Morris Iemma's document entitled "NSW Election 2007 - South Coast" and refer to page 13:

- (1) To date, how much has the Government allocated in early intervention services for families with young children on the South Coast over the past three years?
- (2) Has the Government rolled-out the entire \$2.4 million as promised by the former Premier?
- (3) How many additional caseworker positions have been created in the Nowra Department of Community Services office?
- (4) How many Department of Community Services caseworker positions were based in the Nowra office as at:
 - (a) 31 January 2006;
 - (b) 31 January 2007;
 - (c) 31 January 2008;
 - (d) 31 January 2009;
 - (e) 31 January 2010?
- (5) To date, has the Government increased frontline positions in Nowra an additional 80 per cent as promised?

Answer—

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(1) and (2) Mission Australia, Nowra is the lead agency for Brighter Futures in the Shoalhaven. The Shoalhaven Brighter Futures Early Intervention program commenced in 2006 with annual funding of \$608,000 with CPI increases the funding is now \$886,351 per annum.

(3) 17.

(4) 31 January 2006 - 21

- (a) 31 January 2007 - 38
- (b) 31 January 2008 - 38
- (c) 31 January 2009 - 38
- (d) 31 January 2010 - 38

(5) Yes.

*10734CROOKHAVEN HEADS LIGHTHOUSE—Mrs Shelley Hancock asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

I refer to the Minister's response dated 4 June 2008 to my representations regarding Crookhaven Heads Lighthouse:

- (1) What is the outcome of this assessment conducted by the Department of Lands into the maintenance of the states' lighthouses?
- (2) Given the push by the local community to undertake urgent works at the site in conjunction with the Community Partnerships Program through the soon to be completed South Coast Correctional Centre, will the Department of Lands set aside appropriate funding?
- (3) Is the Department of Lands considering upgrades to the Crookhaven Heads Lighthouse?
- (4) If yes, when will the works take place and at what cost?

Answer—

- (1) The outcome of the assessment conducted by the then Department of Lands (now the Land and Property Management Authority) provided a broad identification of the scope of maintenance works needed for the respective lighthouses.
- (2) I recently announced funding of up to \$100,000 toward restoration of the former Crookhaven Heads Lighthouse. The Land and Property Management Authority (LPMA) will work in conjunction with the local community to identify further resources needed and mechanisms available to restore and maintain the site.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) The commencement of any restoration works will be considered once the scope of works has been accurately defined and a strategy to secure the structure from future acts of vandalism has been developed with community partners.

*10735NATIONAL AQUATIC AND RECREATIONAL SIGNAGE STYLE MANUAL—Mrs Shelley Hancock asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister for Major Events—

I refer to the National Aquatic and Recreational Signage Style Manual, third edition, endorsed by the Australian Water Safety Council, Surf Life Saving Australia and Royal Life Saving:

- (1) Has the State Government adopted standard signage as noted in the abovementioned manual?
- (2) What is the Government doing to ensure safety on NSW beaches and waterways?
- (3) Has the State Government conducted an audit of their compliance with the standards set out by the National Aquatic and Recreational Signage Style Manual?
- (4) Will the Government adopt the standard signage as outlined in the National Aquatic and Recreational Signage Style Manual?

Answer—

- (1) This matter falls under the administration of the Minister for Local Government.
- (2) The NSW Government provides annual funding of some \$2.2 million per annum to peak water safety organisations for water safety and rescue services. This funding comprises \$1.7 million to Surf Life Saving NSW, \$500,000 to Royal Life Saving Society NSW, and \$30,000 to Austswim. The Government also has provided \$10 million over the past five years (2005-06 to 2009-10) and committed \$8 million over the next four years (from 2010-11) for the Surf Club Facility

Development Program to ensure the facilities at surf lifesaving clubs can provide water safety and rescue services.

Other Government agencies also provide funding support and/or programs for water safety initiatives, including the NSW Saltwater Recreational Fishing Trust and Maritime NSW.

- (3) This matter falls under the administration of the Minister for Local Government.
- (4) This matter falls under the administration of the Minister for Local Government.

*10736 PRINCES HIGHWAY—Mrs Shelley Hancock asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Special Minister of State—

In relation to the Princes Highway

- (1) Did the Government receive a budget submission from the Roads and Traffic Authority for the South Nowra duplication?
- (2) If so, how much did the RTA request?
- (3) Did the Government receive a budget submission from the Roads and Traffic Authority for the Gerringong to Bomaderry Princes Highway duplication?
- (4) If so how much did the RTA request?
- (5) Did the Government receive a budget submission from the RTA concerning any other section of the Princes Highway?
- (6) If so, which section?

Answer—

As part of the Budget process, the Minister for Roads submits a list of projects which complies with the agency's capital expenditure authorisation limits.

I am advised the South Nowra duplication project allocation is \$5.5 million in 2010-11 (refer to 2010-11 Budget Paper No. 4, page 4 - 51).

As at the June 2010 Budget, the Gerringong to Bomaderry project had been split into three separate projects. The 2010-11 allocation for all three projects totals \$28 million. Two of the three will move to pre-construction phase in 2010-11.

In the June 2010 Budget, there are four other Major Works listed on the Princes Highway with a combined 2010-11 allocation of \$10.3 million; namely, Lawrence Hargrave Drive Intersection upgrade [\$3.3 million], Victoria Creek realignment [\$3 million], Dignams Creek Realignment [\$1 million], and Bega Bypass [\$3 million].

*10737 SHOALHAVEN DENTAL CLINIC—Mrs Shelley Hancock asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Concerning the Shoalhaven Dental Clinic based in Lawrence Avenue, Nowra:

- (1) Has recruitment begun for the Dentist position recently vacated at the Shoalhaven Dental Clinic based in Nowra?
- (2) Has the position been filled?
- (3) How many dentists currently operate at the Nowra facility?
- (4) How many dentist positions are currently funded for the Nowra facility?
- (5) How many assistant positions are currently funded for the Nowra facility?
- (6) How many patients are currently waiting for procedures at the Nowra facility?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) No.
- (3) One dental officer and two dental therapists
- (4) Two dental officers, two dental therapists
- (5) Five dental assistants
- (6) No patients awaiting treatment have been assessed as requiring emergency dental treatment.

*10738 PRINCES HIGHWAY SPEED LIMIT AT TERMEIL—Mrs Shelley Hancock asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

I refer to the response to my representations from the former Minister for Transport and Roads concerning the speed limit on the Princes Highway at Termeil/Bawley Point (M10/1453):

- (1) Has the RTA completed the review of the speed limit on the Princes Highway at Termeil?

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- (2) If yes, what was the result?
- (3) If no, when does the RTA intend on completing the speed limit review?
- (4) Has the RTA obtained clarification from Shoalhaven City Council regarding conditions on recent Development Applications?
- (5) What methods will the RTA utilise to reduce conflict at the access points to the service station and general store on the Princes Highway at Termeil, and at the adjacent intersections of Bawley Point Road and the Old Princes Highway?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) to (4) The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) has started the speed zone review on the Princes Highway at Termeil. The RTA has requested clarification from Shoalhaven City Council about conditions on recent development applications to ensure the speed zone review is relevant. Speed zone reviews include an assessment of land use and therefore the review cannot be finalised until the details from the council are received.

(5) The speed limit review is being completed in line with a broader investigation into safe access on this section of the Princes Highway. Every development application received by the RTA that affects the Princes Highway is assessed to ensure safe and efficient access.

*10739NSW ELECTION 2007—SOUTH COAST—Mrs Shelley Hancock asked the Minister for Education and Training—

I refer to the former Premier Morris Iemma's document entitled "NSW Election 2007 - South Coast" and refer to page 11:

- (1) To date, has the Government delivered security fences at:
 - (a) Nowra Public School;
 - (b) Shoalhaven High School;
 - (c) Albion Park Public School;
 - (d) Bomaderry Public School;
 - (e) Havenlee School;
 - (f) Illaroo Road Public School;
 - (g) Kiama High School;
 - (h) Kiama Public School;
 - (i) Minamurra Public School;
 - (j) North Nowra Public School?
- (2) Does the Government have any plans to install security fences at any other schools across the South Coast and Kiama electorates?
- (3) To date, has the Government constructed new classrooms at Cambewarra Public School?
- (4) To date, has the Government constructed a new gymnasium at Kiama High School?
- (5) To date, has the Government upgraded science laboratories at Nowra High School?
- (6) To date, has the Government upgraded toilet facilities at Bomaderry High School?

Answer—

- (1) (a) A project to install security fencing at Nowra Public School is currently underway. This project is expected to be completed in July 2010.
(b) to (j) Security fences have been constructed at these schools.
- (2) A project to provide a security fence at Mount Terry Public School in the Kiama electorate has been approved as part of the 2010/11 Security Fencing Program.
- (3) New classrooms at Cambewarra Public School were completed on 30 June 2008.
- (4) A project to construct a new gymnasium at Kiama High School is currently at tender call stage.
- (5) Upgrade to the science laboratories at Nowra High School was completed on 12 November 2009.
- (6) A project to upgrade toilet facilities at Bomaderry High School was completed in May 2010.

*10740NSW ELECTION 2007— SOUTH COAST—Mrs Shelley Hancock asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

I refer to the former Premier Morris Iemma's document entitled "NSW Election 2007 South Coast" and refer to page 12:

- (1) To date, has the Government delivered on its commitment to refurbish Kiama Police Station?
- (2) If yes, did the refurbishment include:
 - (a) lighting?

- (b) CCTV?
- (c) fencing?
- (d) electrical upgrades?
- (3) If yes, what other upgrades were undertaken?
- (4) If no, does the Government still plan on undertaking a refurbishment to the Kiama Police Station and if so, when?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that the Kiama police station was refurbished in April/May 2008. The refurbishment included a lighting upgrade; repairs to existing fencing; electrical repairs; building a new gun room; converting the old gun room into a storeroom; installing additional lights in the foyer; replacement of doors and awnings; internal painting; and provision of some additional furniture.

*10742DOCS CASEWORKER POSITIONS—Mrs Shelley Hancock asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

How many DOCS caseworker positions were there at Coniston in the following years:

- (a) 2006-07;
- (b) 2007-08;
- (c) 2008-09;
- (d) 2009-10

Answer—

- (a) 2006-07 - NA
- (b) 2007-08 - 44
- (c) 2008-09 - 66
- (d) 2009-10 - 67

Note: Coniston is a new Community Services Centre, created as part of the Enhanced Service Delivery roll-out in 2007-2008.

*10743UNQUALIFIED TEACHERS—Mrs Shelley Hancock asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) How many schools within the South Coast electorate have classes being taught by unqualified teachers?
- (2) Which schools within the South Coast electorate have unqualified teachers fronting classes?
- (3) Are any students across the South Coast electorate forced to learn by "do-it-yourself" measures such as websites?
- (4) How many HSC classes within the South Coast electorate currently have unqualified teachers or no permanent teacher?

Answer—

Please refer to the answer to Legislative Assembly Written Question 10129.

*10744SCHOOL ZONES DRAGONS TEETH—Mrs Shelley Hancock asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Regarding the school zones Dragons Teeth initiative:

- (1) How many schools zones across the South Coast have been painted with Dragons Teeth?
- (2) When will school zones within the South Coast electorate receive Dragons Teeth?
- (3) Which electorates across NSW had their school zones painted with Dragons Teeth?
- (4) How much does the Government estimate the Dragons Teeth initiative will cost?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) As at 31 May 2010, 1075 schools have been completed statewide. Of these schools, 35 were painted with Dragon's Teeth in the South Coast region.
- (2) Work is currently scheduled to commence within the South Coast electorate in July 2010, subject to weather conditions.
- (3) By the end of 2011, every school in the State will have Dragon's Teeth rolled out.
- (4) The Government has previously announced that this important road safety initiative will cost \$14 million.

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*10745 LITIGATION CLAIMS AGAINST GOSFORD HOSPITAL—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What is the total number of litigation claims that have been made against the Gosford Hospital in the following years:

- (a) 2007;
- (b) 2008;
- (c) 2009;
- (d) year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) 4
- (b) 6
- (c) 4
- (d) 1 (year to date)

*10746 LITIGATION CLAIMS AGAINST WYONG HOSPITAL—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What is the total number of litigation claims that have been made against the Wyong Hospital in the following years:

- (a) 2007;
- (b) 2008;
- (c) 2009;
- (d) year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) 5
- (b) 3
- (c) 0
- (d) 0 (year to date)

*10747 LIQUOR LICENCES—GOSFORD LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister for Sport and Recreation—

(1) What is the total number of liquor licences in the Gosford Local Government Area (LGA) for licensed clubs for the following period:

- (a) 30 June 2009;
- (b) year to date?

(2) What is the total number of liquor licences in the Gosford LGA for licensed hotels for the following period:

- (a) 30 June 2009;
- (b) year to date?

(3) What is the total number of liquor licences in the Gosford LGA for licensed bottle shops for the following period:

- (a) 30 June 2009;
- (b) year to date?

(4) What is the total number of liquor licences in the Gosford LGA for licensed restaurants for the following period:

- (a) 30 June 2009;
- (b) year to date?

Answer—

(1) The number of club licences is as follows:

- (a) 20
- (b) 20

(2) The number of hotel licences is as follows:

- (a) 24

- (b) 24
- (3) The number of packaged liquor licences is as follows:
- (a) 38
- (b) 43
- (4) The number of on-premises licences is as follows:
- (a) 124
- (b) 135

*10748 WAKEHURST PARKWAY AND WARRINGAH ROAD INTERSECTION—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

What work/plans/action has the Minister's department undertaken between 1995 and now in relation to the improvement of traffic flow at the intersection of Wakehurst Parkway and Warringah Road, Bantry Bay?

Answer—

I am advised that since 1995 the Roads and Traffic Authority has undertaken the following to improve traffic flow at the intersection of Wakehurst Parkway and Warringah Road:

- The provision of a bus lane in Wakehurst Parkway (southbound) from French's Forest Road to Warringah Road.
- On 30 October 2009 as part of the Pinch Point Program, work was completed on increasing the capacity of the right turn bay on Warringah Road, eastbound to southbound.

*10749 WAKEHURST PARKWAY AND WARRINGAH ROAD INTERSECTION—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Have any studies been undertaken by the Minister's department to ascertain the costs to the community of traffic delays in peak hour at the intersection of Wakehurst Parkway and Warringah Road?
- (2) If so, what costs have been determined;
- (3) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) The Roads and Traffic Authority regularly examines options for traffic management improvement, usually through the employment of traffic modelling which can be used to quantify the likely extent of travel time, distance and accident cost savings.

(3) Works to enhance capacity were last undertaken at the Wakehurst Parkway and Warringah Road intersection in 2005. Options for further improvement have been examined as part of the Congestion Management and Bus Priority programmes.

*10750 ROAD "FLYOVERS" CONSTRUCTED—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

What road "flyovers" has the Government constructed at intersections since 1995 and what was the total cost of each one?

Answer—

I am advised:

The following lists overpasses, underpasses, ramps or tunnels constructed since 1995.

Location/ Route	Project	Year Opened	Number
Hume Hwy	Jugiong bypass	1995	2
Sydney	Anzac Bridge and Glebe Island Arterial	1995	1
Hume Hwy	Tarcutta Range deviation	1996	1
Pacific Hwy	Chinderah Bypass	1996	1
Sydney	Silverwater Road extension	1996	1
Pacific Hwy	Bangalow Bypass duplication	1997	2
Sydney	M2 Motorway	1997	6

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Pacific Hwy	Raymond Terrace Bypass	1998	1
Pacific Hwy	Raleigh Bypass	1998	1
Sydney	Hume Highway, Centenary Drive and Roberts Road intersection at South Strathfield	1998	1
Sydney	Homebush Bay Dr, Australia Ave/Underwood Rd grade separation	1998	1
Sydney	Great Western Highway - Warrimoo Section 2&3: The Boulevarde-Valley Heights	1998	1 tunnel for local roads access
Hume Hwy	South Gundagai interchange	1999	1
Sydney	Eastern Distributor	1999	1.7 km 3-lane double deck tunnel
Federal Hwy	Dual carriageway between the Hume and ACT (Lake George)	1999	2
Sydney	Campbelltown Rd, Rudd Rd to Blaxland Rd	1999	1
Federal Highway	Dual carriageway between the Hume and ACT	2000	1
Pacific Hwy	Taree Bypass - opened progressively 1998 to 2000	2000	2
Pacific Hwy	Bray Street to Arthur Street, Coffs Harbour	2000	1
Pacific Hwy	Ewingsdale Interchange	2000	1
Sydney	Horsley Dr, Carramar Railway Br	2000	1
Hume Hwy	Bookham bypass	2001	1
Pacific Hwy	Lyons Road to Englands Road, Coffs Harbour	2001	2
Pacific Hwy	Tandys Lane	2001	1
Sydney	M5 East	2001	6
Sydney	Great Western Highway - Linden Bends Section 5	2001	1
Princes Highway	Oak Flats interchange	2001	1
Pacific Hwy	Yelgun to Chinderah	2002	3
Hunter	Newcastle Bypass, West Charlestown Bypass	2003	3
Pacific Hwy	Karuah Bypass	2004	2
Sydney	Great Western Highway - Shell Corner (Albion St to Watson Way, Katoomba)	2004	1
Illawarra	Lawrence Hargrave Drive between Clifton and Coalcliff (Sea Cliff Bridge)	2005	1
Pacific Hwy	Lakes Way interchange	2005	1
Princes Hwy	North Kiama Bypass	2005	7
Sydney	Bangor Bypass - Stage 1 - Akuna Avenue to Alfords Point Rd, Menai	2005	4
Sydney	M7 Motorway - between M2 and M5	2005	15
Sydney	Cross City Tunnel	2005	Twin 2.1km two- lane tunnels

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Hume Hwy	West Street interchange, North Gundagai	2006	1
Pacific Hwy	Bundacree Creek to Possum Brush	2006	1
Hume Hwy	Albury bypass	2007	8
Sydney	North West Bus Transitway	2007	2
Sydney	Lane Cove Tunnel	2007	Twin 3.4km two-lane tunnels
Sydney	Windsor Flood Evacuation Route over South Creek	2007	1
New England Hwy	Weakleys Dr Interchange	2008	1
Pacific Hwy	Bonville upgrade	2008	2
Pacific Hwy	Tugun Bypass (4km in NSW)	2008	1
Hume Hwy	Coolac Bypass	2009	1
Hume Hwy	Southern Hume Duplication	2009	3
Princes Hwy	Oak Flats to Dunmore	2009	2
Princes Hwy	Northern Distributor Extension	2009	2
Princes Hwy	Kiama Ramps	2009	1
Sydney	Mamre Rd, M4 Overpass Duplication	2009	1
Sydney	Great Western Highway - Leura to Katoomba	2009	1
Princes Hwy	Conjola Mountain realignment	2010	2
Pacific Hwy	Coopernook to Moorland	2010	2

The RTA does not have individual cost of each as there is no separate accounting for the cost of flyovers and/or interchanges, overpasses, underpasses, ramps or tunnels.

*10751120 HOURS LEARNER DRIVING—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Has the Government considered the concerns of young people that 120 hours learner driving is excessive?
- (2) Has any consideration been given to reducing the total 120 hours required in the event that formal driver training is undertaken by learners (in lieu of lessons from family and friends)?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The introduction of 120 hours of supervised driving was based on research undertaken overseas and in Australia. Since the introduction of the 120 hour log book requirement, provisional (P1) driver fatalities in NSW have decreased by 45 per cent.
- (2) On 19 December 2009, the NSW Government announced that learner drivers who complete a one hour structured driving lesson with a fully licensed driving instructor can record three hours driving experience in the Learner driver log book. A maximum of 10 hours of lessons are accepted and recorded as 30 hours in the Learner driver log book.

Additionally, the RTA supports community mentoring programs for learner drivers. These programs are run by community based organisations that provide a mentor (Class C licence holder) to supervise learner drivers who may be experiencing difficulty in achieving the mandatory 120 hour logbook requirement.

*10752STAFF NUMBERS—GARIGAL NATIONAL PARK—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) How many staff have been employed at Garigal National Park in each of the last 5 years?
- (2) What staff positions have been lost over the last 5 years at the National Park and Wildlife office(s) involved in managing Garigal National Park?

Answer—

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I am advised as follows:

(1) Staffing for the Northern Beaches Area, which manages Garigal National Park, is as follows:

- 1 Area Manager
- 3 Rangers
- 1.5 Administration Staff
- 1 Senior Field Supervisor
- 3 Senior Field Officers
- 8 Field Officers.

(2) No staff positions have been lost from the Northern Beaches Area over the last five years. The field officer numbers were increased from 7 to 8 in 2010.

*10753 PUBLIC DENTAL SERVICES—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Between 2000 and the current date, by year, how many patients from the Burrinjuck electorate have sought dental treatment from the public dental service?
- (2) By year, how many of these patients were treated within 30 days of their first request for an appointment?
- (3) By year, how many of these patients did not receive treatment until more than 90 days past their first request for an appointment?
- (4) With reference to question (1), above, by year how many of these patients were provided with a voucher to seek treatment from a private dentist?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (4) Data on access to health services provided in the public sector is not collected at an electorate level.

NSW Oral Health Service Waiting List for Ambulatory Care is reported at an Area wide level and is published on the NSW website at: http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/cohs/health_services.asp.

*10754 SCHOOL BUS SAFETY—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport—

Given that the operator of a school bus route N1146 has advised the Director-General of NSW Department of Transport and Infrastructure that as a result of recent heavy rain the condition of Fifeshire Road at Good Hope has become too dangerous to safely operate the bus run:

- (1) What action will the Minister take to ensure that this road is repaired so the school bus can recommence use of this route?
- (2) How many children are affected by the closure of this route?
- (3) What alternative transport arrangements will the Minister put in place, to get these children to and from school, until this road has been repaired?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) I am advised that the maintenance of Fifeshire Road is the responsibility of Yass Valley Council.

Four students are affected by the withdrawal of the Yass – Goodhope school bus service from Fifeshire Road. During the period of withdrawal, their parents are eligible to claim the Private Vehicle Conveyance Subsidy to drive them to a bus stop on Goodhope Road. Students will continue to be conveyed by bus to school from that point.

*10755 WENTWORTH GROUP OF CONCERNED SCIENTISTS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

With a reference to the June 2010 paper by the Wentworth Group "Sustainable Diversions in the Murray Darling Basin - An analysis of the options for achieving a sustainable diversions limit in the Murray Darling Basin":

- (1) Does the Minister support the 65% cut to irrigation water in the Murrumbidgee Valley and the 39% cut to irrigation water in the Murray Valley that is recommended in this report?
- (2) Given that this report has been strongly condemned by many agriculture organisations will the Minister unequivocally reject the recommendations in this report?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) The Commonwealth Government, through the Murray-Darling Basin Authority, is developing the Basin Plan as a key component of its Murray-Darling Basin reforms. The Plan will set new water extraction levels, known as "Sustainable Diversion Limits", for all catchments across the Murray-Darling Basin.

The NSW Government has no role in setting the Sustainable Diversion Limits, this is being undertaken solely by the Commonwealth. However, the NSW Government made a submission to the Murray-Darling Basin Authority's Sustainable Diversion Limit Issues Paper which emphasised the need for a full socio-economic assessment.

Consideration of all available scientific information and opinion, will be a matter for the Murray Darling Basin Authority in finalising its draft Basin Plan.

*10756HORNSBY HOSPITAL—ASBESTOS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) What areas of Hornsby Hospital contain asbestos?
 (2) What reports in the last 15 years have been undertaken to review the level of asbestos in the hospital?
 (3) What is the total anticipated cost of the removal of the asbestos?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) The buildings located on the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital campus were built at a time when asbestos was still widely used in the construction of buildings. Asbestos materials have been identified on the Hospital campus and removal works are currently progressing.

An external asbestos site audit was conducted by Sydney Hospital Occupational Health and Safety Service in July 1988 and further reviews occurred as follows:

- Asbestos Survey Report of Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital in July 2000
- Asbestos Risk Assessment of Building 3 and Building 11 in June 2004
- Asbestos Materials Survey Report of Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital in June 2005
- Asbestos Re-inspection and Management Plan in June 2008
- Asbestos Re-inspection Audit and Management Plan in June 2010.

(3) It is not possible to provide costs for the total removal of asbestos materials from the site as each removal would need to be assessed, at time of removal, to include the associated cost of service relocations or add backs for electrical, fire, mechanical services or carpet and ceiling replacements.

*10757HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL HOUSING STRATEGY—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

Why has the Minister for Planning not met with local residents (as requested by the local MP for Hornsby) in relation to the Hornsby Shire Council Housing Strategy?

Answer—

As Minister for Planning I regularly meet with Members of Parliament, local council representatives, local residents and community groups, to discuss a range of issues from across my portfolio areas of responsibilities.

*10758SCHOOL ZONE FLASHING LIGHTS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

When will 40 kph school zone flashing lights along Edgeworth David Avenue, Hornsby adjacent to Hornsby Girls High School, be installed?

Answer—

I am advised that school zones to be fitted with flashing lights under the current program are still being finalised.

*10759MENTAL HEALTH PATIENTS—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

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In relation to mental health:

- (1) How many mental health patients have been in hospital for greater than 500 days, each year over the past 4 years?
- (2) How many hospital beds have been increased due to a bed blockage by mental health patients that have been in hospital for greater than 500 days and are unlikely to be discharged, each year over the past 4 years?
- (3) How many mental health patients have passed away that have been in hospital for greater than 500 days, each year over the past 4 years?
- (4) How many mental health patients that have been in hospital for greater than 500 days, have been discharged each year over the past 4 years?
- (5) What program(s) support(s) were put in place to help the patients return home?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The estimated number of patients staying in mental health units for longer than 500 days:

in 2005-06 - 494
in 2006-07 - 562
in 2007-08 - 567
in 2008-09 - 484

These figures include people who were discharged from hospital after stays of greater than 500 days, and people remaining in hospital for greater than 500 days on the last day of the period.

- (2) Hospital beds are not opened in response to the length of stay of individual consumers.
- (3) The estimated number of mental health inpatients with stays greater than 500 days who died while in hospital:

in 2005-06 - 9
in 2006-07 - 15
in 2007-08 - 10
in 2008-09 - 9

- (4) The estimated number of mental health inpatients discharged following a hospital stay longer than 500 days:

in 2005-06 - 105
in 2006-07 - 118
in 2007-08 - 155
in 2008-09 - 111

- (5) The NSW Government continues to support greater emphasis on community based care. Examples of programs include:

The HASI program - which recognises the interdependence of stable housing, accommodation support services and clinical mental health services for people with a mental illness living in the community. The Program:

- Provides people with ongoing clinical mental health services and rehabilitation within a recovery framework;
- Assists people to participate in community life and to improve their quality of life;
- Assists people to access and maintain stable and secure housing; and
- Establishes, maintains and strengthens housing and support partnerships in the community.

The Recovery and Resource Services Program (RRSP) - a community based service which commenced in 2007-08. It provides links with social, leisure and recreational and vocational education and employment opportunities for people with a mental illness through NGOs. It promotes community inclusion and participation and targets areas across the state with a particular need for more mental health rehabilitation services, and includes a particular focus on rural areas.

The Integrated Services Project for Clients with Challenging Behaviour (ISP) is administered by Ageing, Disability and Home Care, Department of Human Services NSW, in partnership with Housing NSW and NSW Health. The Project establishes coordinated cross-agency responses for adults who have been identified from across the service system as having complex needs and challenging behaviour. The clients and their support networks receive a range of additional time-limited services aimed at improving their social links, behaviour, health and well-being and establishing a more

durable, safe and effective means for services to work with each individual throughout and upon exit from the program.

These programs have been made possible by the more than three-fold increase in the mental health budget since 1994-95, increasing from \$356 million to \$1.17 billion in 2009-10. And the increases are continuing, the 2010-11 financial year will see a record investment of \$1.23 billion in mental health in NSW.

***10760 LITIGATION CLAIMS AGAINST SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL—**Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What is the total number of litigation claims that have been made against the Sutherland Hospital in the following years:

- (a) 2007;
- (b) 2008;
- (c) 2009;
- (d) year to 1 June 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) 2
- (b) 4
- (c) 2
- (d) 0 (year to date 1 June 2010)

***10761 SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL EMERGENCY WARD—**Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

How many people presented to Sutherland Hospital Emergency Ward in:

- (a) 2007;
- (b) 2008;
- (c) 2009;
- (d) to 30 April 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

Emergency Department presentations at the Sutherland Hospital by calendar year were:

- (a) 35,285
- (b) 34,821
- (c) 39,394
- (d) 13,572 (year to date - 30 April 2010)

***10762 COORDINATED MENTAL HEALTH AND ALCOHOL DRUG SERVICES—**Ms Clover Moore asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

With respect to the co-location of alcohol and drug services, mental health services and community health services in the new O'Brien Centre at St Vincent's Hospital:

- (1) What assessment has the Government made of the benefits of co-location of these services, particularly for homeless people with mental illness, physical health and alcohol/drug concerns?
- (2) What benefits have been identified for consumers, clients and patients as a result of this arrangement?
- (3) What benefits have been identified for health service providers?
- (4) What benefits have been identified for non-Government welfare service providers?
- (5) What plans does the Government have to apply similar arrangements in other locations to ensure effective health services, particularly for vulnerable groups?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (5) Contemporary research shows integrated treatment of alcohol and drug, and other mental disorders, is more effective than treatment directed at a single problem. A single point for patient triage is particularly helpful for marginalised groups such as the homeless, and ensures appropriate referral to services.

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Clients can present to the O'Brien Centre and receive a comprehensive assessment that reviews medical, alcohol and drug, mental health and social needs.

Health service providers will benefit from the ability to better coordinate services making care coordination simpler by allowing for an easily accessible multi-disciplinary approach. The proximal location to the Emergency Department and Psychiatric Emergency Care Centre improves safety, ease of client transfer and improves working relationships between staff of the services.

The services of the Centre are accessed via one central telephone system. A Non Government Organisation (NGO) meeting room has been provided for local agencies to meet as part of the NGO Partnership Group.

The Government has no current plans to apply similar arrangements of the O'Brien Centre in other locations as the Centre is appropriate to the needs of the surrounding community. However, the Government is committed to better integration between mental health and drug and alcohol services and has brought the policy arms together with the creation of the Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Office in the Department of Health in 2005.

***10763GAZETTING OF PROPERTY AS A HERITAGE ITEM**—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) Why did the Government gazette 20 Park Crescent, Pymble as a Heritage property in the Ku-ring-gai Town Centres LEP, when the Premier personally wrote to Mr Ren and Mrs Wang on 22 September 2009, as Planning Minister, assuring them that the draft LEP had erroneously indicated their property as a Heritage item and would be rectified?
- (2) How many other properties were erroneously gazetted in the LEP?
- (3) What processes are currently in place to address this situation?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Ku-ring-gai Planning Panel is in the process of rectifying an error in the Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan (Town Centres) 2010, identified in relation to 20 Park Crescent, Pymble.

***10764CEO OF NSW MARITIME**—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—

Does the Minister have full confidence in the CEO of NSW Maritime, Mr Steve Dunne, including in the way he has handled complaints from current or former staff relating to the management of its Legal Division?

Answer—

Yes.

***10765SALE OF NSW ELECTRICITY INDUSTRY ASSETS**—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) Has the Premier approached the Prime Minister in relation to his support for her Government's latest proposal for the sale of NSW electricity industry assets?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) If so, what was his response?

Answer—

I am advised:

We are working towards securing our energy future through the energy reform process. The process currently underway will not only deliver the infrastructure requirements our growing state and prosperous economy requires, it will also maintain public ownership of existing power plants and maintain the public ownership of electricity transmission and distribution networks (the poles and wires).

The energy reform process we are undertaking will increase competition, encourage private investment into the NSW electricity sector and ensure NSW homes and businesses continue to enjoy a reliable supply of electricity now and into the future.

***10766WEEKEND BUS SERVICES**—Mr Barry O'Farrell asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport—

- (1) Has the Minister received complaints from residents of Glenmore Park concerned about a lack of

weekend bus services allowing people to connect to rail services?

- (2) Why was the frequency of weekend bus services reduced given the increasing population in the suburbs?
- (3) Will the Minister commit to:
 - (a) reviewing the timetable;
 - (b) increasing weekend bus services to Glenmore Park?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) Residents of Glenmore Park have bus services 7 days a week to Penrith Station and town centre. On weekends route 797 operates hourly between 6.30am and 11pm on Saturdays and 8.30am to 8.30 pm on Sundays. Route 799 operates from 7am to 6pm on Saturdays.

Route 797 operates seven days a week and links Glenmore Park with Penrith Railway Station and town centre. Weekend frequencies have not changed on this route. Route 799 operates weekdays to Saturday and connects Glenmore Park with Penrith Railway Station and town centre.

Frequencies are adjusted to match the demand experienced and timetables in all bus contract regions are reviewed annually as part of the contract process.

*10768NSW HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT 2008-09—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to the NSW Health Annual Report 2008-09 where it was reported that the North Coast Area Health Service had a balance of \$34,272 Current Assets, \$220,898 Current Liabilities and \$58,605 for the financial year 2008-09:

What component of these figures can be attributed to the Tweed Heads Hospital?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Chief Executive of the North Coast Area Health Service advises that Current Assets and Current Liabilities are not routinely recorded at an individual Hospital level and the Health Service is unable to provide the information sought in the Member's question.

*10769PROPOSED GROUP HOUSE—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Education and Training representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, Minister for Volunteering, and Minister for Youth—

In relation to the planned Government single-storey five-bedroom "Group House" in Kellehers Road in the Black Rocks Estate located in Pottsville:

- (1) Who are expected to be the clients of the proposed group house?
- (2) When will the project be completed?
- (3) When will the "group house" be occupied?
- (4) What was the total cost of the project?

Answer—

Ageing, Disability and Home Care did not proceed with the purchase of Kellehers Road Pottsville.

*10770GRAFFITI VANDALS—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

- (1) How many graffiti vandals have been caught and prosecuted in The Hills Local Government Area in the last 12 months?
- (2) How many of these offenders were proceeded against in court?
- (3) What penalties did the other offenders receive?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) In the Hills Local Government area the only data available between April 2009 and March 2010, which does not represent all graffiti-related prosecutions, is from the NSW Police Force, which indicates it commenced proceedings against 12 people for graffiti incidents.
- (2) and (3) Of those people, the NSW Police Force commenced court proceedings against six people and dealt with the remainder under the Young Offenders Act.

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*10771 CARBON EMISSION TARGET—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Did the NSW Government commit to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 5-15% on year 2000 levels by 2020 on 28 October 2009?
- (2) If so, why was this target not included in the State Plan released on 29 October?
- (3) Did the Minister tell the ABC on 25 March 2010 that he was not aware of the decision to drop the 2025 carbon target from the State Plan?
- (4) Does the "Green State" chapter of the State Plan provide the major direction for the State's environmental efforts, and if not, what document does?
- (5) Did the Minister read the "Green State" chapter of the State Plan in the three months between becoming Minister and the State Plan going on-line?
- (6) What is the largest single component in the State's plan to reduce emissions, and how much carbon is it estimated to save?

Answer—

- (1) I am advised that the NSW Government made no such commitment. The Government, however, committed to cutting greenhouse gas emissions in line with the Australian Government target of a 60 per cent cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) An ABC radio journalist contacted me directly at home as I was feeding my new born daughter. I recall telling the journalist that I was not clear on what he was referring to, and directed him to my media staff.
- (4) The Green State chapter of the State Plan is one of the documents that provides comprehensive information on the NSW Government's priorities and targets for tackling environmental issues in NSW. It outlines our priorities and targets for:
 - tackling climate change;
 - developing a clean energy future;
 - securing sustainable supplies of water and using our water more wisely;
 - protecting our native vegetation, biodiversity, land, rivers and coastal waterways;
 - improving air quality; and
 - reducing waste.

It is complemented by other policy documents both existing and in development.

(5) Yes.

(6) I am advised that to meet the State Plan target of a 60 per cent reduction on year 2000 emissions by 2050, NSW will need to reduce its emissions to around 61 million tonnes per year. Without action, business as usual emissions are expected to be approximately 280 million tonnes in 2050.

The NSW Government is committed to supporting a national emissions trading scheme as the principal mechanism for delivering the greenhouse gas emissions reductions we need, to meet our target at the least cost to the economy. NSW policies and programs will be complementary to a national emissions trading scheme.

Details of NSW programs to cut greenhouse gases can be found on the Department's website www.environment.nsw.gov.au

*10772 UPGRADE OF ROUNDABOUT—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What plans does the RTA have to upgrade the roundabout at the intersection of New Line Road, County Drive and Shepherds Drive, Cherrybrook?
- (2) When is this work scheduled to be carried out?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) The Roads and Traffic Authority is currently reviewing road conditions at the intersection of New Line Road, County Drive and Shepherds Drive at Cherrybrook.

Once this review is complete, works may be prioritised.

*10773 EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS—SHELLHARBOUR AND NOWRA HOSPITALS—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) What strategies exist to improve medical staffing in the emergency departments at Shellharbour and Nowra hospitals?
- (2) Do hospitals in Sydney assist with staffing the emergency departments at Shellharbour and Nowra hospitals as envisaged when the area mergers occurred?

Answer—

I am advised:

There is a national shortage of suitably trained doctors. However, both NSW Health and the South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area Health Service are participating in recruitment campaigns on both a national and international level.

*10774 EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS—SHELLHARBOUR AND SHOALHAVEN HOSPITALS—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Are trainee doctors from Sydney assigned to work in the emergency departments at Shellharbour and Shoalhaven hospitals?

Answer—

I am advised:

Trainee doctors have not been rotated from Sydney to work in Emergency Departments at Shellharbour and Shoalhaven Hospitals. The Hospitals do not have accredited Medical Staff Specialists available for supervision of trainee doctors in the Emergency Departments.

There is a national shortage of suitably trained doctors, however, both NSW Health and the South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area Health Service are participating in recruitment campaigns on both a national and international level.

*10775 EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS—SHELLHARBOUR AND SHOALHAVEN HOSPITALS—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

How many accredited medical training positions exist in the emergency departments at Shellharbour and Shoalhaven hospitals?

Answer—

I am advised:

There is a national shortage of suitably trained Medical Officers and the South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area Health Service is actively pursuing recruitment through a range of strategies on a national and international level.

*10776 TRANSCRIPTION STAFF—Mr Greg Smith asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Vice President of the Executive Council—

What greater efficiency does the Minister's department hope to achieve by moving transcription staff from Penrith Court to Parramatta against the wishes of staff, who will be greatly inconvenienced?

Answer—

I am advised:

I refer the member to my response to a question without notice from the Hon John Ajaka on 8 June 2010. Transcription services in NSW are provided at locations according to need and where service delivery and quality can be maximised.

*10777 SHARK NETTING—NORTHERN BEACHES—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) When was the most recent occasion the shark netting on Sydney's northern beaches was replaced?
- (2) How often is the shark netting on Sydney's northern beaches checked for damage and maintenance concerns?
- (3) Is the shark netting on Sydney's northern beaches considered to be in a satisfactory and effective condition?

Answer—

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- (1) The Shark Meshing Bather Protection Program runs for eight months of the year from 1 September to 30 April each year. I am advised that nets on Sydney's northern beaches were removed by 30 April 2010.
- (2) In accordance with the Joint Management Agreements and associated Management Plan for the Shark Meshing (Bather Protection) Program, beach meshing contracts require contractors to check and ensure nets are in good condition every 72 hours.
- (3) I am advised that contractors fulfilled their duties in accordance with their contracts, during the eight-month period from 1 September 2009 to 30 April 2010.

The Shark Meshing Bather Protection does not include bathing areas maintained by local councils.

*10778DISABILITY GROUP HOMES—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Education and Training representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, Minister for Volunteering, and Minister for Youth—

- (1) What is the total number of disability group homes owned by the NSW Government in the Pittwater electorate?
- (2) What is the total number of disability group homes leased by the NSW Government in the Pittwater electorate?
- (3) What is the total number of disabled persons housed in these properties?
- (4) (a) Do any plans exist to purchase, lease or construct any additional disability group homes in the Pittwater electorate?
(b) If not, why not?

Answer—

As at June 2010, there are 321 group homes housing 1,319 people with a disability in Ageing, Disability and Home Care's (ADHC) Metro North Region. Ageing, Disability and Home Care is currently undertaking planning for future projects across NSW.

*10779TRAFFIC BLACK SPOTS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) How does the RTA determine which sites are considered traffic Black Spots in NSW?
- (2) Which sites in the Pittwater electorate are considered to be traffic Black Spots?
- (3) What action is the NSW Government taking to ensure that safety at these traffic Black Spots is improved?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) analyses crash trends and patterns across Sydney. Pittwater Electorate is included in this process. Additionally, the RTA regularly provides crash data to local councils for analysis and investigation on the local and regional road networks.

Each year the RTA and councils identify, develop and nominate road safety projects for funding under both the State and Federal Road Safety Programs. Nominations for these programs are open to the RTA and councils from across the State.

- (2) and (3) In 2009-10, the RTA delivered the following road safety projects in the Pittwater Electorate:
 - Installation of a median pedestrian fence on Barrenjoey Road, between Mona Vale Road and Golf Avenue at Mona Vale.
 - Installation of a new pedestrian crossing across Pittwater Road at the intersection of Mona Vale Road at Mona Vale which provides access to Kitchener Park.

In the 2010-11 program there are three approved projects being delivered by the RTA in the Pittwater Electorate (and adjoining electorates):

- Proposed safety works along Wakehurst Parkway, including the installation of profile line marking and an enhanced separation line between Elanora Road, Elanora Heights and Warringah Road at Frenchs Forest.
- Proposed safety works on the westbound carriageway of Mona Vale Road between 400 metres north of Forest Way and 600 metres north of Forest Way at Terrey Hills.
- Proposed traffic lights on Pittwater Road at Albert Street at Narrabeen and pedestrian fencing along Pittwater Road.

I am advised that Pittwater Council did not submit any project nominations for consideration in the 2009-10 or 2010-11 road safety program.

*10781 BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION—PAYMENT OF SUBCONTRACTORS—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) Who is the principal contractor or contractors for the erection of buildings at schools under the "Building the Education Revolution" (BER) in the Myall Lakes?
- (2) What monitoring is being carried out by the Minister's department in relation to the payments or otherwise to subcontractors of the principal contractor or contractors?
- (3) Are subcontractors experiencing delays in payment from principal contractors?
- (4) If so, why?
- (5) If so, what is the extent of the delay?
- (6) If so, what steps is the Minister taking to ensure subcontractors are paid for work done?
- (7) If the Minister or her department is not taking any steps to ensure payment to subcontractors, why not?

Answer—

- (1) to (7) The Managing Contractor for Primary Schools for the 21st Century projects in the Myall Lakes is The Reed Group.

For the Primary Schools for the 21st Century program (P21), the Building the Education Revolution (BER) Program Office has a contract with Managing Contractors who are responsible for engaging and managing sub-contractors. As works progress, Managing Contractors make progress claims for works undertaken.

For each of the Managing Contractors' progress claims, before the BER Program Office makes a payment, a statutory declaration must be received, stating that contractors have been paid.

In turn, Managing Contractors require this of their sub-contractors. This process is designed to ensure that money only goes to those who can prove that they have earned it.

*10783 BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION—NABIAC SCHOOL HALL—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) Who was the successful tenderer for the erection of the Nabiatic school hall under the Building the Education Revolution (BER) program?
- (2) Was the successful tender \$1.25 million to construct the hall?
- (3) If not, what was the tender amount?
- (4) Did the principal contractor for the Nabiatic school hall subcontract the work?
- (5) If so, what was the subcontract price for the Nabiatic school hall?
- (6) If the subcontractor's amount was less than the contracted amount, how was the surplus accounted for?

Answer—

- (1) The successful tenderer appointed by Reed Construction, the Managing Contractor, to deliver the Primary Schools for the 21st Century project at Nabiatic Public School is Garry Bannister Constructions.
- (2) to (6) The principal contractor subcontracted the work.

The estimated project costs for Nabiatic Public School's Primary Schools for the 21st Century (P21) project at Estimated Construction Sum stage are available at <http://www.ber.nsw.gov.au/index.php/schools/nabiatic-public-school/>

As with all construction projects, the cost of each school's P21 project will become more certain as the project progresses towards construction and then completion. The Estimated Construction Sum is developed by the Managing Contractor and is an estimate only of the total costs of developing and delivering the school's project. The ECS provides the information required to test whether a project fits within the school's allocation and can proceed to construction.

The Estimated Construction Sum is not the amount which will be paid to the Managing Contractor. The amount that is paid to the Managing Contractor is determined through the Benchmark Value process where the BER Program Office formally benchmarks the tendered cost of the project against similar tendered projects across the State. At completion, the Benchmark Value is compared to the actual construction costs incurred and the Managing Contractor is paid the lesser of either the actual cost incurred or a maximum of 105 per cent of the Benchmark Value.

This process acts as a real incentive to keep costs down, as the Managing Contractor has to cover any costs that exceed 105 per cent of the Benchmark Value.

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*10784COMMUNITY BUILDING PARTNERSHIP GRANT PROGRAM—Mr John Turner asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

Noting that in December 2009 \$400,000 in funding from the Community Building Partnership Grant Program was announced for distribution to successful organisations and groups in the Myall Lakes electorate:

- (1) Have all successful applicants received the funding announced in 2009?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) What is the total amount to date that has been distributed to the Myall Lakes electorate?
- (4) When will the balance of the funds be distributed to the successful organisations?

Answer—

I am advised:

Payments have been made in relation to seven of the ten successful project applications in the Myall Lakes electorate.

Payment is dependent on applicants signing and returning the contract and a compliant tax invoice. Delays by applicants in submitting these documents could be for a number of reasons including awaiting development consent, finalising agreements with contractors, or timing of works to suit applicant needs such as works being conducted during holiday or inter-season breaks. Approval for payments on completed contracts and tax invoices is generally made within ten days of submission.

Up to 18 June 2010, funds totalling \$311,411.92 have been paid in relation to projects in the Myall Lakes electorate.

The balance of funds will be paid when applicants return completed contracts and compliant tax invoices and meet milestones for instalment payments.

*10786SUPREME COURTS AT PARRAMATTA—Mr Greg Smith asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, Vice President of the Executive Council—

Given that in the Attorney General's Department 2003-04 Annual Report it was stated that the Parramatta judicial precinct would be suitable for use by the Supreme Court, District Court and other courts:

Having regard to the number of homicides in Western Sydney, the subject of trials in the City of Sydney, why has the Government not provided permanent Supreme courts at Parramatta?

Answer—

I am advised:

I refer the member to my response to a question without notice from the Hon John Ajaka on 8 June 2010 which addresses the Government's commitment to access to justice in Western Sydney.

The location of sittings are matter for Heads of Jurisdiction.

8 JUNE 2010

(Paper No. 207)

*10788GRAFTON BRIDGE—Mr Steve Cansdell asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In respect to the Grafton Bridge:

- (1) Why did the RTA not inform or consult with the community in December 2008 about Pound and Bacon Streets (proposed bridge location options) when these two options were being provided in the RTA's Contract Brief (dated December 2008) to the consultants to investigate?
 - (a) Why were the Pound and Bacon Street options not in the February and December 2009 traffic studies, when they were in the consultant's brief?
 - (b) Why was the community not informed of the Pound and Bacon Street options until 24 February 2010?
 - (c) Why did the RTA not inform and consult with the community in accordance with the RTA's protocol?

- (2) Why is the RTA insisting on following a process for the current site selection, when it is clear many in the community (residents, motorists and particularly heavy transport haulage drivers and operators) do not want a second bridge where the project team are proposing it go?
- (3) Why has the Minister not released the extended traffic zone areas (e.g. Pound, Bacon, Villiers, Dobie and Turf Streets) to the public, and the impact they will have through increased traffic noise, local road traffic, local road maintenance, environmental, etc?
- (4) As the proposed second crossing forms part of the Summerland Way, will the Minister undertake to inform the residents of Grafton of the impacts an increase of traffic to 48,000 vehicles per day by 2036 (by RTA figures) will have on the above?
- (5) How is the current site selection of the second bridge in any way different from the 2003-04 study conducted on Grafton's second bridge, in which the then study/project team stated that localities downstream to Elizabeth Island and upstream at the Prince Street and Susan Island localities were not recommended for further investigation because of anticipated increases in noise, environmental impacts, impacts on the local community and potential increases on flood levels?
- (6) Will the Minister review the process currently undertaken by your RTA project team and look at further options?
- (7) Will the Minister uphold the assurance of the former Minister that any information requested from the RTA as previously agreed to will be forthcoming?
- (8) Why has the Minister and the current project team refused to discuss any options outside the grey shaded study area, when former Minister Campbell and the Hon Greg Donnelly have stated in media releases they both want to assure the community that a clear process is being followed to identify the best option (i.e. for the second crossing), although the RTA is not looking at any alternative options?
- (9) For those documents the RTA is unable to provide free of charge, could the RTA provide reasons in writing why it cannot provide these and under what legislation/section?
- (10) How much money has the current process cost to date, and what is the budget for the current process?
- (11) (a) Has the RTA carried out or undertaken traffic studies on the number and type of trucks using Villiers Street in Grafton over a full 24-hour period and done so over an extended period?
(b) If not, why not?
- (12) Why are other towns throughout NSW being provided with bypasses for truck traffic, where Grafton it seems is making a bypass for trucks right through the middle of town?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) (a) to (c) The preliminary bridge options for Bacon and Pound Streets did not exist in 2008.
The consultants' brief in December 2008 required traffic modelling to test if additional approach roads would improve overall network performance. As part of the planning process for a project, the RTA looks at several possible scenarios and outcomes and tests them for traffic flow, constructability and other constraints. Several possibilities were shown in the December 2008 brief, but were not identified as specific options.
The community was informed of preliminary options when traffic data was available, to allow for discussions with the community to take place.
The next step in the project involves undertaking detailed engineering and environmental studies that will result in a list of refined concept options.
- (2) The RTA recognises the importance of community involvement in its activities and decision-making. Although decision-making can strive for consensus, complete agreement may not occur as there is always a range of competing community values and interests. A clear process is being followed to identify the best option and all issues will be carefully considered before any decision is made.
- (3) The RTA does not have an "extended traffic zone". In developing route options the RTA is currently investigating traffic movements within the Grafton and South Grafton road networks. Environmental and technical studies, including further traffic studies, will be carried out as part of developing the route options.
- (4) The process for the assessment of route options will include environmental investigations. Only 533 of the 27,000 vehicles currently travelling over the bridge each day use the Summerland Way north of Grafton. Should traffic projections increase as indicated, the majority of traffic would continue to be local traffic.
- (5) Current investigations are building on previous studies in 2003-04. All investigations to date have reconfirmed that a bridge in the vicinity of the existing bridge, would best achieve the objective of

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reducing traffic congestion on the existing bridge. Locations further away, in the vicinity of Elizabeth and Susan Island areas would not best meet the objective of reducing traffic congestion.

- (6) The preliminary options, which were displayed earlier this year, were a starting point for community involvement. The RTA is now undertaking further investigations and looking at all submissions from the community in developing a number of further route options.

Local residents will soon be given the opportunity to comment on the project's community liaison plan.

- (7) Reports and studies have been placed on the RTA's website www.rta.nsw.gov.au/graftonbridge for the information of interested parties. Draft working documents are not published in studies such as this one as the drafts not been finalised or subjected to normal review processes.
- (8) Issues raised during the consultation period this year are being considered in developing route options, which will be displayed later in the year. Investigations since 2002 and recent traffic studies have reconfirmed that the most appropriate location still appears to be in the vicinity of the existing bridge.
- (9) Draft working documents and internal emails not published and not subject to normal review processes can be applied for through the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009.
- (10) Expenditure in the 2009-10 financial year, was \$1.75 million, with an allocation this year of \$2 million in 2010-2011.
- (11) (a) Since 2002, a number of traffic studies have been carried out, which included heavy vehicle movements.
- (b) N/A
- (12) The proposed additional crossing of the Clarence River is primarily to provide improved travel efficiency for local road users. A bypass of the Summerland Way at Grafton would not solve current traffic congestion and local traffic issues in Grafton and South Grafton. Only 533 of the 27,000 vehicles travelling over the bridge each day use the Summerland Way north of Grafton.

*10789AGA AUCTIONS AND TRANS-MAX—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for the Arts—

- (1) How many complaints has the Office of Fair Trading received over the last four years regarding AGA Auctions?
- (2) How many of these complaints related to non-delivery of kit homes purchased through AGA Auctions?
- (3) Was a connection established between AGA Auctions and Trans-Max?
- (4) What prevented the Office of Fair Trading from investigating Trans-Max until 8 months after the company went into liquidation?

Answer—

- (1) Since 1 January 2006, nine complaints have been received against AGA Auctions Pty Ltd.
- (2) Seven of these complaints related to non or partial delivery of kit homes.
- (3) Relocatable homes were auctioned by AGA Auctions Pty Ltd as agent for Trans-Max Holdings. At the time the company was placed into liquidation there was no known corporate link between the two companies.
- (4) Fair Trading initiated an investigation into Trans-Max Holdings in September 2009 following complaints from consumers. Trans-Max was placed into liquidation on 20 October 2009.

As the investigation is attempting to uncover possible hidden activities by a number of people involved, it would be detrimental to the investigation to disclose any information in relation to the investigation at this time.

*10790INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PANELS—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for the Arts—

Noting that a Federal Government Senate Estimates Hearing was recently advised by Greenbank Australia (the nation's largest independent trader of renewable energy certificates) that installation of cheap solar panels made of glass rather than tempered glass poses a significant danger and that concerns about substandard work were supported by Conenergy Australia:

- (1) Has the Office of Fair Trading instigated an inspection regime to deal with the surge of solar panel installations?
- (2) If certifiers are conducting inspections, has the Office of Fair Trading been notified of any non-compliant installations?
- (3) How many non-compliant installations have been recorded in the past six months and what action

has been taken?

Answer—

- (1) Fair Trading is responsible for stand-alone installations (renewable energy installations not connected to the grid) and has an inspection program in place for these types of installations.

Installations that are connected to the electrical network are inspected by Electrical Network Operators to comply with their obligations under the Electricity Supply Act 1995 in ensuring that premises connected to the national grid are safe.

- (2) and (3) From 1 January 2010 to 21 June 2010, Fair Trading received 118 complaints about building work that related to solar panels. Of these, only one related to the glass in a solar panel, and this was breakage suspected to be caused by an impact rather than any issues of non-compliance with Australian Standards or any other codes related to solar panel installations.

*10791E10 FUEL SIGNAGE—Mr Steve Cansdell asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Are E10 (ethanol blended fuel) warning signs compulsory on fuel dispensers?
(2) If so is this a Federal Government responsibility or a NSW Government responsibility?
(3) If it is compulsory who enforces it?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
(2) Federal Government.
(3) The Federal Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts.

*10792MAROUBRA PUBLIC HOUSING—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

Why is the Government not prepared to provide information on the precise number of representations received from the Member for Maroubra (Questions 9963 and 8970)?

Answer—

Any correspondence between a Minister and another Member of Parliament is subject to privacy issues and a matter to be dealt with that specific Member of Parliament.

*10794MOORE PARK TRUST—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

Given the level of community concern with the NSW Government's plan to transfer the management of Moore Park from the Centennial Park trust to the SCG trust:

Did the Premier consult with the Centennial Park and Moore Park trust and local community groups before the decision was made to transfer management to the SCG Trust?

Answer—

No decision has been made to transfer management of Moore Park to the SCG Trust.

*10795REMOVAL OF CHILDREN DUE TO NEGLECT—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

In relation to the Minister's appearance on the ABC's Message Stick program on 23 May 2010 where she indicated that if a child has sores and they are not being attended to and had become septic it would be grounds for the child to be removed:

- (1) If a child who is in foster care has sores that are also not treated and become septic, is that child removed from that foster carer?
(2) If a child's sores become so bad they require hospital treatment, is the child removed from the current foster carer?
(3) Is there any differentiation made between what constitutes neglect by a parent, private person and a Government department or its agents?
(4) If so, what are the differences?

Answer—

(1) and (2) When there are serious concerns for the safety, welfare or wellbeing of a child or young person in out of home care, then like other reports received by Community Services a risk assessment is undertaken.

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(3) and (4) Where a report to Community Services relates to a child in foster care there is an assessment of immediate risk of harm conducted by the Community Services Centre as well as an investigation into the allegation against the foster carer, where that carer is employed by Community Services. These processes are separate and conducted by different staff but work together for the safety of the child.

*10796HOMELESS YOUTH ALLOWANCE—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

- (1) If a child is granted financial assistance and receives the Homeless Youth Allowance from Centrelink, is that child automatically considered to be in the Minister's care and protection or that of the department's Director General?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) If not the Minister's or the department's care, and the child is under 18, whose care is he or she under?

Answer—

- (1) No.
- (2) The eligibility for Youth Allowance is different to the circumstances that may warrant the state assuming parental responsibility for a child or young person.
- (3) In the absence of an order allocating parental responsibility or care responsibility, a child or young person is taken to be in the care of the person who usually provides for the child or young person's physical and emotional needs. In many cases this is a child or young person's biological parent or parents, but it can be another relative or person who has, due to the circumstances of the family, become responsible for the care of that child or young person.

*10797JOB POSITIONS—COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTRES—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

- (1) What is the total number of job positions in Community Service Centres in NSW?
- (2) How many of those job positions do not have a staff member allocated to them?
- (3) What are the position titles of those vacant job positions?

Answer—

- (1) The total number of job positions within Community Service Centres (CSC) in NSW is 3293. This covers all positions located in CSCs including those that are located in the CSCs but report centrally or regionally (e.g. Joint Investigation Response Teams, Psychologists and Regional Out-of-Home Care teams).
- (2) There are 228 job positions which do not have a staff member permanently or temporarily allocated to them.
- (3) The position titles of the vacant job positions within Community Service Centres includes:
 - Casework Manager
 - Casework Specialist
 - Caseworker
 - Customer Service Officer
 - Manager Client Services
 - Project Officer
 - Psychologist
 - Senior Administrative Officer
 - Senior Customer Service Officer.

*10798LIQUOR LICENCES—WYONG LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister for Major Events—

- (1) What is the total number of liquor licences in the Wyong Local Government Area (LGA) for licensed clubs for the following period:
 - (a) 30 June 2009;
 - (b) year to date?
- (2) What is the total number of liquor licences in the Wyong LGA for licensed hotels for the following period:
 - (a) 30 June 2009;
 - (b) year to date?
- (3) What is the total number of liquor licences in the Wyong LGA for licensed bottle shops for the following period:

- (a) 30 June 2009;
- (b) year to date?
- (4) What is the total number of liquor licences in the Wyong LGA for licensed restaurants for the following period:
 - (a) 30 June 2009;
 - (b) year to date?

Answer—

- (1) The number of club licences is as follows:
 - (a) 25
 - (b) 25 at 24 June 2010
- (2) The number of hotel licences is as follows:
 - (a) 16
 - (b) 16 at 24 June 2010
- (3) The number of packaged liquor licences is as follows:
 - (a) 32
 - (b) 33 at 24 June 2010
- (4) The number of on-premises licences is as follows:
 - (a) 69
 - (b) 72 at 24 June 2010

*10799COOKE'S METAL INDUSTRIES—COMPLAINTS—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Has Lithgow City Council modified the opening hours on the development consent for the Hanson's Lithgow Batching Plant premises as per Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water New South Wales (DECCW) letter to council of 22 March 2010?
- (2) What information has DECCW obtained, under Section 193 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997, from Cooke's Metal Industries?
- (3) What action will DECCW, as the appropriate regulatory authority, take or has already taken, in relation to the complaints raised by the residents of Inch Street, Lithgow and other local residents, provided to DECCW by Lithgow City Council, regarding a range of problems concerning Cooke's Metal Industries?
- (4) Is DECCW investigating or has it investigated any potential contamination of Farmers Creek caused by pollutants from the industrial activity in Inch Street?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) No.
- (2) The information included the date of purchase of the Cooke's Metal Industries site, when scrap metal activities first commenced, the types and quantities of wastes received at the premises, the requirement for tracking of wastes received and sold, procedures for receiving waste, the hours of operation and the management of contaminated surface water on site.
- (3) In 2010, DECCW conducted two inspections of Cooke's Metal Industries, served a legal notice to obtain information, completed a noise impact assessment, undertook a preliminary contaminated sites investigation and collected water samples from Farmers Creek to check for pollution.
- (4) Yes. DECCW undertook water sampling on 30 March 2010 after rain, when runoff would be expected from the commercial premises on Inch Street. The samples were analysed for hydrocarbons and metals. Pollution of Farmer's Creek was not detected.

*10800REGISTRATION AS SUBURB—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Will the Minister respond to community concerns and agree to (a) Wheeler Heights and (b) Collaroy Plateau being registered as suburbs?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that residents in these areas have believed for many years that they live in the "suburbs" of Wheeler Heights and Collaroy Plateau when in fact, legally, they no longer exists as "suburbs"?
- (3) To enable you as Minister to declare Wheeler Heights and Collaroy Plateau as legal suburbs, what action needs to be taken?

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Answer—

- (1) to (3) The Geographical Names Board has not received any correspondence from Warringah Council seeking changes to the classification of Wheeler Heights and Collaroy Plateau.

*10801HOSPITAL AIR-CONDITIONING—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) What assessments have been done to determine air-conditioning requirements at:
 - (a) Manly Hospital;
 - (b) Mona Vale Hospital?
- (2) What is the total estimated cost of identified air-conditioning needs?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) The most recent assessment of air conditioning requirements at Manly and Mona Vale hospitals was conducted in January 2010. The total estimated cost to install additional air conditioning is \$0.64 million at Manly Hospital and \$7.9 million at Mona Vale Hospital.

*10802TINGIRA HEIGHTS SOCIAL HOUSING PROPOSAL—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Why did the Department of Housing fail to take into account many issues raised by the local council in relation to the proposed Tingira Heights Social Housing Proposal (Lot 2 DP 259067 and Lot 11 DP 1054508)?
- (2) When will the Minister respond to the comment by Michelle Bisson (Development Planner) in her letter to Housing NSW (Att: Rebecca Fisher) on 30 November 2009 which said, "Given that a pre-lodgement meeting has been held with council officers in relation to this development site, it is unfortunate that very few issues raised in the previous meeting has been addressed by the plans now provided to council for comment"?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) I recently met with local community representatives and conducted a site inspection. Issues raised by the local council were addressed by the independent planning consultants in the Environmental Impact Assessment.

*10803BURRANGONG MEAT PROCESSORS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Special Minister of State—

- (1) With reference to the 2004 fire that significantly damaged the Burrangong Meat Processors Pty Ltd factory in Young, did the Department of State and Regional Development provide any financial assistance to this company to help with rebuilding of the factory?
- (2) How much money was provided to this company and under what program was this assistance given?
- (3) Who approved the provision of this funding assistance?
- (4) Has the Burrangong Meat Processors Pty Ltd received any other funding assistance or incentives other than that following the 2004 fire?
- (5) If so, on what date, under what program and what was the value of this assistance?
- (6) Did the former Minister for State and Regional Development employ any person on his personal staff who were former employees or owners of Burrangong Meat Processors Pty Ltd and, if so, on what date were they employed and in what position?

Answer—

I am advised that in August 2003 the former Department of State and Regional Development under Minister Egan approved modest funding assistance for Burrangong Meat Processors as part of the Meat Processing Industry Restructure program. I am advised that further details of this assistance are commercial-in-confidence and cannot be released.

I am unable to comment on the appointment of staff in the former Minister's office.

*10804GRENFELL MPS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Given that the Grenfell MPS remains without a permanent VMO and the temporary VMO arranged by the Greater Western Area Health Service attends the Grenfell MPS only once a week, on Friday between 4 and 6pm, will the Minister personally intervene to resolve this situation?

- (2) What is the cost to the Department of Health of providing transport for elderly patients to attend Cowra or Orange hospitals to have minor medical procedures, such as the issuing of prescriptions and medical injections, undertaken?
- (3) What financial incentive is the Department of Health offering to attract a new, permanent VMO to Grenfell?
- (4) Given that this position has now effectively been vacant for nine months, and it is clear that this incentive is insufficient, why will the Minister not increase the financial incentive for a VMO to relocate to Grenfell?

Answer—

I am advised:

Everything possible is being done to resolve the VMO problem at the Grenfell Multi-Purpose Service (MPS). Negotiations are continuing with the local General Practitioner who withdrew his services from the MPS and recruitment efforts are ongoing.

Rural GP VMO's are private medical practitioners who provide a part of their working time and derive a portion of their income from services delivered at their local hospital. The payments which can be made by the Area Health Service to these VMO's are governed by the Rural Doctors' Settlement Package which is structured to reflect the special circumstances of rural doctors.

GPs perform the majority of their work and obtain the majority of their income from the patients they see in their surgeries. These services are not provided or funded by the NSW Government.

The Area Health Service will continue to work with the Grenfell Health Advisory Council and the Weddin Shire Council to support local efforts to attract another GP to the town but it is not in a position to provide a direct financial incentive for a doctor to establish a private practice.

The cost of transporting patients to other health is minimal as the patients were transported via Greater Western Patient Transport.

*10805 COUNTRY TOWN WATER AND SEWERAGE SCHEME—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

- (1) What priority has been allocated under the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program to (a) raising the Yass Dam Wall, (b) the Murrumbateman Village Sewage Scheme, (c) the Binalong Village Sewage Scheme and (d) the Browning Village Sewerage Scheme?
- (2) How many applications have been prioritised ahead of each of these applications?
- (3) Within the CTWSS Program ranking scheme of 1 to 10 what is the highest priority that will achieve funding?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The priorities allocated under the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program are as follow:

- (a) raising of Yass dam wall has a ranking of 5;
- (b) Murrumbateman sewerage scheme has a ranking of 3;
- (c) Binalong sewerage scheme has a ranking of 7;
- (d) Bowning sewerage scheme has a ranking of 8;

with a ranking of 1 having the highest priority.

(2) There is no prioritisation of projects within individual ranking bands. Where funds are available, projects are progressed in order of the local water utility's readiness to proceed to construction.

(3) Within the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program, under the current Program cap, all projects that have been ranked 1 to 4 are able to be funded or have been funded. In addition, eight projects that were ranked 5 have been funded. These were small-towns sewerage projects that were progressed as a package in order to achieve savings through economies of scale in terms of equipment procurement. Furthermore, one project, Bodalla Sewerage, was funded, as that project was also receiving funding from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

*10806 HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS IN WAITARA—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) How many high-rise buildings (and individual dwellings) were constructed in Waitara precinct of

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Hornsby Shire Council from 2000 to present?

- (2) Will these dwellings be included in the current 11,000 required dwellings by 2031 or are they additional to this number?

Answer—

(1) Data held by the Metropolitan Development Program shows that, within the Waitara transit node in the Hornsby Shire:

- (a) a total of 1,893 dwellings were constructed from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2009; and
- (b) of this, 478 dwellings were constructed from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2009.

(Note: The Waitara transit node is defined in the MDP Report 2008/2009 as the walkable catchment of 800m from Waitara station. There is no other quantifiable definition available for 'Waitara precinct').

(2) All dwellings constructed after 1 July 2004 will contribute to the 11,000 dwelling target for Hornsby Shire to 2031 contained in the draft North Subregional Strategy.

*10807 PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A SPECIAL RATE VARIATION—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

Noting on 2 September 2009 "General Manager Robert Ball and Hornsby Council executives" met with the Department of Local Government's Mr Grahame Gibbs, Director Performance Management & Compliance and Mr Mark Hely, Principal Finance Officer to discuss Hornsby Council's proposed application for a special rate variation:

- (1) Is it normal practice for the senior bureaucrats of Department of Local Government to meet with the general manager and senior executive of a council, to discuss a rate increase before the ratepayers are consulted or informed?
- (2) Can the Minister confirm where this meeting took place and which Hornsby Council executives were present?
- (3) Are minutes required to be kept for such a meeting between Hornsby Council and the Division's senior bureaucrats?
- (4) If not, why not?

Answer—

I provide the following details in response to your questions:

- (1) Yes. The Division of Local Government encourages councils considering applying for a special rate variation to meet with the Division to ensure they have a clear understanding of the different types of special variations and the assessment criteria that apply. This is made clear in the Division's "Guidelines for the preparation of an application for a special rate variation the general income in 2010/2011".
- (2) I am advised that officers from the Division of Local Government met with Hornsby Shire Council representatives on 2 September 2009 at the Division's Sydney office, which is located at Level 9, 393 Castlereagh Street.

I am further advised that the Council officers present at the meeting were Mr Robert Ball, General Manager, Mr Gary Bensley, Executive Manager Corporate and Community Services and Mr Glen Magus, Manager Finance.

- (3) No.
- (4) I am advised that, given that the purpose of the meeting was to provide information to Council that is already contained in the Division's special rate variation application guidelines, the officers from the Division did not consider the recording of minutes was warranted in the circumstances.

*10808 APPLICATION FOR A RATE VARIATION—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

Given that it was reported in the Hornsby Advocate on 17 September 2009 that "General Manager Robert Ball and council executives met with the division of Local Government, Department of Premier and Cabinet, a fortnight ago to get a feel for their reaction to an application for a rate variation":

- (1) Can the Minister confirm when and where this meeting to discuss the division's "reaction" to an application for a Hornsby Council rate variation took place?
- (2) Are minutes required to be kept for such a meeting between Hornsby Council and the division's senior bureaucrats?

(3) If not, why not?

Answer—

I provide the following details in response to your questions:

- (1) I am advised that officers from the Division of Local Government met with Hornsby Shire Council representatives on 2 September 2009 at the Division's Sydney office, which is located at Level 9, 393 Castlereagh Street.
- (2) No.
- (3) I am advised that, given that the purpose of the meeting was to provide information to Council that is already contained in the Division's special rate variation application guidelines, the officers from the Division did not consider the recording of minutes was warranted in the circumstances.

*10809 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN WESTERN NSW—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Special Minister of State—

- (1) Can the Minister advise on Government strategies promoting regional development in Western NSW (west of the Newell Highway)?
- (2) Has the Government given any consideration to decentralising Government services into Western NSW?
- (3) What is the number of State Government employees per FTE employed in Western NSW in:
 - (a) 2010;
 - (b) 2009;
 - (c) 2008;
 - (d) 2007?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The NSW Government, through Industry & Investment NSW (I&INSW), has developed a set of Regional Business Growth Plans for NSW which identify high priority and high impact growth strategies for the Central West, Far West and Orana regions. These plans support the Government's State Plan priority to increase business investment in rural and regional NSW. The NSW Government also administers a suite of regional development programs through I&INSW which aim to promote investment and job growth in regional NSW by reducing barriers to companies establishing, expanding or relocating to areas such as the Orana, Far West and Central West regions.
The NSW Government, in conjunction with the Federal Government, also works with the Central West, Orana and Far West Regional Development Australia (RDA) committees to promote economic development in Western NSW. The Orana and Far West RDAs have recently completed regional plans that identify strategies to guide economic development in their respective regions. It is expected that the Central West RDA's regional plan will be completed shortly.
- (2) and (3) The issue of decentralisation of Government services to Western NSW falls under the administration of the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

*10811 MACQUARIE GENERATION—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

- (1) How much did Macquarie Generation lose in the 2008-09 financial year due to decreases in the value of electricity contracts linked to the price of aluminium?
- (2) How much, if anything, does Macquarie Generation expect to recoup from movements in the price of aluminium in the 2009-10 financial year?

Answer—

This issue falls within the portfolio administration of the Treasurer, the Hon Eric Roozendaal MLC.

*10812 UNITS PURCHASED FOR PUBLIC HOUSING—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Have any units in the Ku-ring-gai Council area been purchased recently for public housing?
- (2) If so, how many and where?
- (3) If not, are any negotiations underway to purchase any such units?

Answer—

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- (1) to (3) Housing NSW, like any organisation, regularly reviews its assets to determine their cost effectiveness and viability. Housing NSW will always consider the most appropriate and cost effective method of new supply including purchase.

*10813 POST CONSTRUCTION NOISE ASSESSMENT—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In relation to noise assessments to be undertaken at the Tugun Bypass on the Pacific Highway and given your advice that the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads will be finalising a post construction noise assessment of the area (Question 8432):

- (1) Have the post construction noise assessments for the Tugun Bypass been completed?
- (2) Have the results been released?
- (3) Will the results be made available to NSW?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) The Queensland Department of Main Roads has advised that the report is currently being finalised and will be provided as soon as they are completed.

Once finalised, it is expected that the report will be available on the Queensland Department of Main Roads' and the Roads and Traffic Authority websites.

*10814 PART 3A PROJECTS—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

In relation to Part 3A projects in the Tweed Local Government Area and given your advice that four Part 3A projects had been determined in the Tweed Local Government Area (Question 6806), will the Minister list the four Part 3A projects?

Answer—

Details of all Part 3A projects are available from the Major Projects Register on the Department of Planning's website, and searchable by local government area.

*10815 INTENSIVE CARE UNIT—TWEED HEADS HOSPITAL—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) How many monitors are currently in operation in the Intensive Care Unit at the Tweed Heads Hospital?
- (2) What is the current age of the monitors?
- (3) Are there any replacement plans in place?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) The total number of monitors in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at The Tweed Hospital is ten - one for each patient bed (7) and three transport defibrillator monitors.

The bedside monitors are centrally monitored on a separate unit.

The seven monitors at each patient bedside were purchased in January 1994.

Two of the transport defibrillator monitors were purchased in 2006.

A third transport defibrillator monitor was purchased in 2009 and has integrated transthoracic pacing functions.

The central monitor was replaced during the latter half of 2009.

Replacement of the bedside monitors in the ICU is expected in 2010-11.

*10816 MAJOR EVENTS FUNDING—Mr George Souris asked the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister for Women—

- (1) What are the names of major events or events funded or partly funded by Tourism NSW in the last 12 months?
- (2) What amount of funding did Tourism contribute to each individual event?

Answer—

I am advised:

I refer the Honourable Member to the answer to Written Question 10818 provided by the Hon Kevin Greene MP, Minister for Major Events.

*10817 MAJOR EVENTS FUNDING—Mr George Souris asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Special Minister of State—

- (1) What are the names of major events or events funded or partly funded by the Department of State Development in the last 12 months?
- (2) What amount of funding did State Development contribute to each individual event?

Answer—

Please see answer provided by the Minister for Major Events to Written Question Legislative Assembly 10818.

*10818 MAJOR EVENTS FUNDING—Mr George Souris asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister for Major Events—

- (1) What are the names of major events or events funded or partly funded by Events NSW in the last 12 months?
- (2) How much money did Events NSW contribute to the funding of each listed event?

Answer—

NSW is the entertainment and major events capital of Australia and the NSW Government is sending a clear message to the world that we are open for events business.

The Government recently announced an increased commitment to major events, including the creation of a dedicated Cabinet portfolio and Minister for Major Events.

We will continue to support a large number of events that provide significant and ongoing benefits to the State's economy. Last year events including the World Masters Games, Sydney Telstra 500 V8 Motor Race, Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras, and the World Rally Championship held on the North Coast generated millions of dollars for the State and local economies.

The Government has also sponsored and hosted a range of business events, conferences and seminars over that period to facilitate the development of innovative and sustainable businesses and industries that increase productivity, employment and investment growth in the State.

Further information can be found in the respective annual reports and on the websites of each agency that support major events.

*10819 DOCUMENTS RECEIVED—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) Has the Minister received copies of the following documents and, if so, when were they received:
 - (a) a copy of allegations dated 31 August 2004 against the TAFE teacher Richard Gibbs by the three head teachers of the Information Technology at Blacktown College of TAFE;
 - (b) a letter from Phil Cox the Institute Director of TAFENSW-WSI to Mr Gibbs dated 16 December 2004;
 - (c) a letter addressed to Mr Gibbs from Susan Hartigan the Institute Director of TAFENSW-WSI dated 10 July 2006 refusing to investigate allegations dated 31 August 2004?
- (2) Did the letter from Mr Cox, referred to in (1) (b) above, overturn a previous appeal which was successful?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) As these questions appear to relate to matters being investigated by the Independent Commission Against Corruption and matters which will be heard by the NSW Industrial Relations Commission, it is not appropriate for me to comment at this time.

*10820 PROTECTED DISCLOSURE—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Education and Training—

In relation to the protected disclosure made by Richard Gibbs, a former TAFE teacher at Blacktown TAFE:

- (1) How did allegations purportedly made in secret against Mr Gibbs on or about the 31 August 2004 end up in the Protected Disclosure file of Mr Gibbs?
- (2) Why were the allegations made against Mr Gibbs on or about the 31 August 2004 not made available to Mr Gibbs?

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- (3) Under what DET policy did the Institute Director of TAFENSW-WSI in a letter to Mr Gibbs dated 10 Jul 06 refuse to investigate allegations made in secret against Mr Gibbs on or about the 31 August 2004?
- (4) Is there any DET document which states that that there has been any form of disciplinary action taken against any TAFE officer over the bungling of protected disclosure?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) As these questions appear to relate to matters being investigated by the Independent Commission Against Corruption and matters which will be heard by the NSW Industrial Relations Commission, it is not appropriate for me to comment at this time.

*10821PROTECTED DISCLOSURE—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Education and Training—

In relation to the protected disclosure made by Richard Gibbs, a former TAFE teacher at Blacktown TAFE:

- (1) Does the Protected Disclosures Act 1994 state "A person who takes detrimental action against another person that is substantially in reprisal for the other person making a protected disclosure is guilty of an offence"?
- (2) Does the DET Code of Conduct state "Decisions involving individuals should be made on the basis of factual information with honesty and integrity, objectively and in conformity with the principles of procedural fairness"?
- (3) Has the Minister or the Department of Education and Training assessed whether the allegations made by three head teachers from the Information Technology section of Blacktown TAFE on or about the 31 August 2004 in relation to Mr Gibbs have breached the DET code of conduct in relation to procedural fairness and natural justice towards a person who has made a protected disclosure?
- (4) If so, what was the outcome of this assessment?
- (5) If not, why not?
- (6) Has the Minister or the Department of Education and Training assessed whether the allegations made by three head teachers from the Information Technology section of Blacktown TAFE on or about the 31 August 2004 in relation to Mr Gibbs have breached the Protected Disclosures Act 1994 No. 92?
- (7) If so, what was the outcome of this assessment?
- (8) If not, why not?
- (9) Did the Institute Director of TAFENSW-WSI (in a letter to Mr Gibbs dated 16 December 2004) overturn a successful appeal, based upon the allegations made by the three head teachers?
- (10) If so, does this action constitute a breach of either the Protected Disclosures Act 1994 No. 92 or the DET Code of Conduct?

Answer—

- (1) to (10) As these questions appear to relate to matters being investigated by the Independent Commission Against Corruption and matters which will be heard by the NSW Industrial Relations Commission, it is not appropriate for me to comment at this time.

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*10822DWELLINGS IN BEAMES AVENUE, MOUNT DRUITT—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Is the Department of Housing building dwellings in Beames Avenue, Mount Druitt?
- (2) If so, how many units are being built and at what locations are these units being built?
- (3) To which category of tenant are these various units to be allocated?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) Details of the two approved projects under the Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan are listed on Housing NSW's website under Planning Determinations.

*10823DOCS CASEWORKER POSITIONS—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

- (1) What funding was allocated to early intervention services for families with young children in the Albury electorate in the 2009-10 and 2010-11 budgets?
- (2) How many additional caseworker positions have been created in the Albury office over these two

budget periods?

- (3) How many Department of Community Services caseworker positions were based at the Albury office as at:
- (a) 31 January 2008;
 - (b) 31 January 2009;
 - (c) 31 January 2010?

Answer—

- (1) Mission Australia is the lead agency for the delivery of Brighter Futures through the Riverina Murray EIP Lead Agency Project which includes service delivery in the Albury LGA.

2009-2010 - \$2.6 million*

2010-2011 - \$2.6 million*

* These amounts do not include any Community Services Caseworker salaries or other administrative costs.

- (2) None.
- (3) (a) 31 January 2008 - 30
- (b) 31 January 2009 - 30
- (c) 31 January 2010 - 29

One position was relocated to the Western Region Child and Family Referral Unit in 2009.

*10824 PLANTATION MANAGEMENT IN TUMBARUMBA SHIRE—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Mineral and Forest Resources, Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) Have operators of Managed Investment Scheme (MIS) timber plantations in the Tumbarumba Shire reduced their personnel and forest maintenance over recent months, resulting in reduced fire prevention measures and less control of feral animals and weeds?
- (2) As these MIS plantations were approved by the former Minister, what action is the Government taking to ensure the forests do not become a threat to neighbouring farms?
- (3) Can you confirm claims that the Forests NSW workforce has been reduced in the Tumbarumba Shire?
- (4) What measures are in place to implement control of feral animals in pine forest plantations currently under the management of Forests NSW in the Tumbarumba area?
- (5) What fire control and fuel reduction programs are in place in pine plantations under the responsibility of Forests NSW in the Tumbarumba area?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) For the MIS plantations Forests NSW deals with, no.
- (2) In relation to the MIS plantations Forests NSW deals with, there is no change to the management status.
- (3) Under the recent Industry and Investment NSW voluntary redundancy program no public service employees from the Forests NSW office at Tumbarumba took a voluntary redundancy.
- (4) Feral animal control programs are undertaken for wild dogs, pigs and rabbits, within plantations managed by Forests NSW in the Tumbarumba area. Control programs for these animals are undertaken as required based on field inspections.
- (5) Forests NSW use a range of technology and strategies to spot and control fire. These include fire towers, a standby helicopter and spotting aircraft, and fire control equipment including fire tankers, light vehicles, heavy earthmoving equipment. Staff are on standby during the fire season and for emergency response.

Fuel reduction programs are undertaken in native forest areas near by to pine plantations, but not normally in established pine plantations due to the sensitivity of pine trees to fire damage. Grazing is also implemented in some suitable plantations in the Tumbarumba area to reduce fuel loads.

*10825 PUBLIC DENTAL SERVICES—ALBURY ELECTORATE—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) How many patients in the Albury electorate sought dental treatment from the public dental service in 2009?
- (2) How many of these patients were treated within 30 days of their first request for an appointment?
- (3) What was the average waiting time for an appointment?

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- (4) How many patients did not receive treatment until more than 90 days after their first request for an appointment?
- (5) How many patients in 2009 were provided with a voucher to receive treatment from a private dentist?
- (6) How many dentists are working in the public system in the Albury electorate?
- (7) Are there any mobile public dental services operating in the Albury electorate?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (7) Data on access to health services provided in the public sector is not collected at an electorate level.

NSW Oral Health Service Waiting List for Ambulatory Care is reported at an Area wide level and is published on the NSW website at: http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/cohs/health_services.asp

There are three dentists working in the public system in the Albury catchment area. There are no mobile public dental services.

*10826SEATBELTS IN SCHOOL BUSES—Mr Peter Besseling asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

Will the Minister consider mandating the fitting of seatbelts in new and replacement school buses, particularly in rural and regional areas where buses often travel on poorly maintained roads with speed zones of 80 kmh or greater?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government has been looking closely at the issue of school bus safety. The work done by NSW has been instrumental in the development of National Guidelines for Risk Assessment of School Bus Routes, which have been endorsed by the Australian Transport Council.

These Guidelines are being used by States to identify possible risk factors along school bus routes, particularly in rural and regional areas, and to classify routes according to the overall level of risk.

NSW has almost completed this assessment process for more than 3,000 rural and regional school bus routes. Once this is complete Transport NSW will work with the bus industry to implement the most effective risk mitigation strategies.

*10827PORT MACQUARIE DENTAL HEALTH CLINIC—Mr Peter Besseling asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What is Port Macquarie Dental Health Clinic's denture and plate budget for 2010-11 given the recent doubling of the clinic's capacity from three chairs to six chairs?

Answer—

I am advised:

The denture budget is allocated on a Network, not a Clinic basis, and is determined by identified patient clinical need rather than the size of the Network's Clinics.

The planned denture budget for 2010/2011 for the Hastings/Macleay Oral Health Network is \$204,660, an increase of over 100% on the previous year.

*10828SOLAR BONUS SCHEME—COMPLYING GENERATORS—Mr Peter Besseling asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

As of 1 June 2010, what is the total generating capacity of all complying generators in NSW under the Solar Bonus Scheme?

Answer—

I am advised that Distribution Network Service Providers are required to provide reports about the Scheme every six months. The first report falls due within 28 days after 30 June 2010.

Total generating capacity is one of the items which the Distribution Network Service Providers will need to report on.

*10829 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR COMMUNITY TRANSPORT—Mr Peter Besseling asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Why does Home and Community Care eligibility criteria for Community Transport not include people whose medical conditions require that they reside in an aged care facility?
- (2) Will the Minister consider reviewing the criteria?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) The Home and Community Care (HACC) Program is a joint Australian, State and Territory Government initiative to help people in need. The NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care administer the HACC Program in NSW.

The member's question may more appropriately be directed to the Minister for Ageing and Disabilities Services.

*10830 PILOT BOAT SHED—Mr Peter Besseling asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

Will the historic pilot boat shed in Clarence Street, Port Macquarie, remain in situ regardless of the outcomes of the Port Macquarie Foreshore Plan of Management?

Answer—

The Land and Property Management Authority respects the historic status of the Pilot Boatshed and would expect the building to remain in situ regardless of the outcomes of the draft plan of management.

*10831 MENTAL HEALTH ACCESS LINE LISTING—Mr Peter Besseling asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Will the Mental Health Access line be listed as the "Mental Health Access line" rather than Area Mental Health Service in next year's local phone book for the Hastings-Macleay region?

Answer—

I am advised:

In line with the State Mental Health Telephone Access Line program the North Coast Area Health Service "Mental Health Access Line" will be renamed and listed with a new number in next year's local phone book for the Hastings-Macleay region.

The new title will be "Mental Health Line" and listed within the local directories covering all regions within the North Coast Area Health Service. The "Mental Health Line" number will be listed by this title under the major heading of North Coast Area Health Service within the Community Service Guide section of the local directories.

A communication program will be implemented in partnership with NSW Health to ensure all service partners, consumers and carers have access to material advertising the new "Mental Health Line" and contact number.

To ensure service partners, consumers and carers are able to access mental health services during the transition from the current "Mental Health Access Line" to the new "Mental Health Line", the current Mental Health Access Line number will be listed with the new "Mental Health Line" in the local directories to ensure a seamless transition without disruption to mental health service delivery. Both numbers will operate in parallel for a period of time and link to the North Coast Area Health service 24 hour "Mental Health Line" providing advice, triage and referral services.

*10832 "L" AND "P" PLATE DRIVERS—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

Given the advice it is not Government policy to advise the parents or guardians of "L" plate and "P" plate drivers of any speeding or other traffic offences committed by those teenage drivers (Question 8456):

Will the Government implement a system whereby parents or guardians of "L" and "P" plate drivers (under 18 years of age) are advised of any speeding or other traffic offences committed by teenage drivers?

Answer—

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I suggest the Honourable Member direct his question to the Minister for Roads and the Minister for Western Sydney, the Honourable David Borger MP.

*10833GRAFFITI OFFENDERS—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

Given Clause 20A of the Young Offenders Regulation 2004 requires graffiti offenders who undergo a Youth Justice Conference under the Young Offenders Act 1997 to take remedial action, such as removing graffiti or paying compensation (Question 7356):

What financial assistance does the Government provide to local councils to assist with graffiti clean-up?

Answer—

I am advised:

Under the Graffiti Reduction Demonstration Project, the Government provided \$382,590 to councils to implement graffiti vandalism management strategies. One of these strategies, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, utilises physical design elements to limit opportunities for graffiti vandalism and facilitate easier removal. This was found to be the most effective strategy in reducing the incidence of graffiti.

Consequently, the Government's Graffiti Action Plan includes a \$1 million annual grants program to fund anti-graffiti design elements in council areas with the highest levels of reported graffiti vandalism.

The Government also provides \$1.6 million annually in crime prevention funding, which includes funding available to support councils to implement strategies to reduce graffiti and the costs associated with its removal.

*10834RENEWABLE ENERGY—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

Given your advice the NSW Government has announced a three-point plan to promote investment in renewable energy (Question 8702):

Since 27 February 2009, what new renewable energy projects have been approved?

Answer—

I am advised:

Details of renewable energy generation projects approved by the NSW Government are available on the NSW Planning website at www.planning.nsw.gov.au

*10835REFERRALS TO BRIGHTER FUTURES—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

- (1) Can referrals be made from a Wellbeing Centre direct to the Brighter Futures referral unit or must such referrals be made via the Helpline?
- (2) If a family requires more assistance than a Wellbeing Centre can offer, would the Wellbeing Centre refer the family direct to their local Community Service Centre or would the referral have to be initially made to the Helpline?
- (3) What percentage of referrals to Brighter Futures is expected to come from the Child Protection system now that the definition of risk has changed to "significant harm"?

Answer—

- (1) Yes. Referrals can be made from a Child Wellbeing Unit or the Child Protection Helpline to Brighter Futures Assessment Unit.
- (2) Helpline.
- (3) The criteria for referral to Brighter Futures remains unchanged.

*10836FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister for Women—

- (1) What public education programs are currently being run regarding female genital mutilation?
- (2) If no programs currently exist, why not?
- (3) What is being done to ensure all people in NSW know about the dangers and understand that female genital mutilation is illegal in Australia?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government, through NSW Health, runs the NSW Education Program on Female Genital Mutilation.

The program involves training social workers, health workers and police to work with women and girls who have been victims of female genital mutilation.

It also involves an education program where bi-lingual community workers work with communities at risk to raise awareness about the dangers of female genital mutilation and that this practice is illegal in NSW and Australia.

Further information about the program is available at the Diversity Health Institute website, www.dhi.gov.au

***10837 ADOPTION OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE**—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

In reference to the Minister's media release of 4 June 2010 "More children in foster care being adopted: NSW encourages permanency for children in care at national conference":

- (1) What is the Community Services definition of "no possibility of [a child or young person] being restored to their [birth] parents"?
- (2) If a foster carer adopts a child or young person, do the birth parents retain any legal rights to access?
- (3) If a decision in relation to (2) is made on a case-by-case basis, what criteria are used to make this judgement?
- (4) Will the "recent changes to policy" that the Minister refers to mean that foster carers who adopt a child or young person in their care continue to receive carer assistance payments?
- (5) If so, what are the details of this policy change?
- (6) If so, does carer assistance to parents who adopt a child or young person in their care only continue if the child exhibits physical, mental or behavioural difficulties or conditions?
- (7) Do the "recent policy changes" mean that Community Services will aim to find adoptive parents for all children and young persons in the permanent care of the Minister until age 18?

Answer—

(1) to (6) Information about adoption criteria and policy changes to financial assistance for carers who adopt a child in their care is available at www.community.nsw.gov.au

(7) No. Adoption is sought only for those children in the parental responsibility of the Minister where adoption has been assessed and approved as the most appropriate permanent plan for their care.

***10838 HEALTH BUDGET SPENDING**—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to the \$5,000,000 announced in the 2009-10 budget for Manly Hospital, Mona Vale Hospital and the Frenchs Forest site:

- (1) What amounts thereof will be spent on each facility/area?
- (2) To what will each amount be allocated?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) The 2010-11 Budget includes \$5 million to commence a \$29 million investment for planning and enabling works associated with the commencement of Stage One of the Northern Beaches health services redevelopment on the Frenchs Forest site, and for preparatory works at Manly and Mona Vale Hospitals.

Planning, consultation and the acquisition of land for the Northern Beaches Hospital development are well progressed. The Service Procurement and Project Definition Plans for the new hospital are being completed, and appropriate planning approvals progressed.

The completion of the planning phase will include the identification, specification and budgets for the proposed enabling works at the three sites.

***10839 BARTON HIGHWAY**—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

With reference to the "Barton Highway future duplication, display of proposed road boundaries", dated May 2010 that is currently on public exhibition:

- (1) Given that a significant amount of the "commuter" traffic on the Barton Highway in the morning and evening peak hours comes from and travels to Murrumbateman Village and the northern housing

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estates, has consideration being given to the installation of a southbound interchange where Murrumbateman Road crosses the proposed Barton Highway?

- (2) Has a traffic count been conducted recently on Murrumbateman Road near the intersection with the Barton Highway?
- (3) If so what is the average amount of traffic that uses this road each day during the peak commuter periods?
- (4) With regards to safety at the existing intersection of McIntosh Circuit and the Barton Highway, as this is a known danger spot with traffic turning right across the flow of traffic on the current Barton Highway, particularly during heavy fog in winter, why was this safety issue not addressed when the current proposals were drawn up?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The proposed Euroka Road and Hillview Road interchanges will cater for all traffic to and from Murrumbateman, with greatly improved safety and traffic capacity and would minimise the potentially significant noise and visual (night and day) impact on the village centre and Dundoos Estate, that would result from an interchange at Murrumbateman Road.

To cater for the anticipated future growth of Murrumbateman to the north and west of the existing village, provision has also been made for future south-facing on and off-ramps at Hillview Drive. Furthermore, 65 per cent of the morning peak traffic is from north of Murrumbateman (from Yass and surrounding areas) and bypasses the village.

- (2) Yes.
- (3) About 120 vehicles use Murrumbateman Road during the morning and afternoon peak hours.
- (4) Safety at McIntosh Circuit has been addressed by removing a large proportion of the traffic from this intersection and onto the new carriageways, and by allowing traffic from Murrumbateman to enter the highway traffic at a high standard grade separated interchange at Euroka Avenue. Traffic turning right onto the existing highway carriageway (which will be a service road under this proposal) from McIntosh Circuit, which carries 25 per cent of Barton Highway peak hour traffic, will be turning into less than 10 per cent of the existing highway traffic.

*10840FORESTRY BUDGET—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Mineral and Forest Resources, Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—

With reference to the 2010-2011 Budget Estimates Paper Number 3, Section 7:

- (1) What is the specific break down of the \$41,081,000 allocated to "River Red Gum structural adjustment" on page 7-22 and which organisations, groups or people will receive this funding?
- (2) What is the specific break down of the \$43,001,000 allocated to "Other operating expenses" on page 7-26?
- (3) Which specific organisations received the \$22,000 in "Grants and subsidies" noted on page 7-26 during the period 2009-10 and how much was provided to each organisation?
- (4) Which specific organisations will receive the \$22,000 in "Grants and subsidies" noted on page 7-26 during the period 2010-11 and how much will be provided to each organisation?

Answer—

(1) \$40,431,000 for Business Exit Assistance and Worker Assistance; \$650,000 for administration. The budget estimate is based on the projected cost of payments to the eligible sawmills, other businesses and workers likely or known to be affected by the red gum forest reservation decision, as announced by the Government on 19 May 2010. Administration of the funds is by the Forests Programs and Industry Adjustment Unit of Industry and Investment NSW.

(2) Budgeted "other operating expenses" as per the budget papers for Science and Research for 2010-11 on page 7-26 are as follows:

Other Operating Expenses	\$ '000
Other advertising and promotion	107
auditors remuneration	200
bank charges	55
consultancy	290
courier and freight	358
electricity	1,220
insurance - premium to Managed Fund	693

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insurance - premium to other	17
local council rates - paid by general government agencies	160
operating lease rentals - motor vehicles	1,989
property rentals - to State Property	595
property rentals - other	2,736
Telephone and other related telecommunications	1,454
travel and accommodation - overseas	236
travel and accommodation - domestic	3,002
water - purchase from NSW PTEs	7
fuel	1,195
expenses - rents and leases	43
training and staff development	209
fees	6,540
printing (other operating expenses)	273
consumables and stores	7,219
other operating expenses	11,308
repairs and maintenance	839
other maintenance	2,256
Total	43,001

(3) The only payments that have been made were to the University of Western Sydney (\$6,000) and the University of NSW (\$2,500) totalling \$8,500.

(4) The science and research organisations that will receive grants from this budgeted contingency amount will be determined in 2010-11.

*10841 WATER BUDGET—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

With reference to the 2010-2011 Budget Estimates Paper Number 3, Section 4:

- (1) What is the specific break down of the \$2,893,000 allocated to "Other operating expenses" on page 4-31?
- (2) On which specific projects will the \$70,972,000 allocated to the "Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Scheme Program" on page 4-31 be spent and how much is allocated to each project?
- (3) How many projects are yet to be funded through the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Scheme Program, and what is their total value?
- (4) What is the specific break down of the \$30,657,000 allocated to "Other operating expenses" on page 4-33?
- (5) What is the specific break down of the \$15,233,000 allocated to "Other expenses" on page 4-31?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The break down of \$2.893 million allocated to "Other operating expenses" encompasses all costs associated with the day to day delivery of the Urban Water Utilities service group apart from the salary costs of the 66 officers budgeted for the program.

(2) The allocation of \$70.972 million to the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program covers the following projects:

- Balranald Water Supply Emergency Drought
- Berridale Sewerage Augmentation
- Bingara Water Supply Treatment
- Boggabilla Water Supply Emergency Drought
- Bombala Water Supply Emergency Drought
- Bonalbo Water Supply - Treatment
- Bourke Water Supply Emergency Drought
- Braidwood Sewerage Augmentation
- Brunswick Area Sewerage Augmentation
- Bundanoon Sewerage Augmentation
- Cobar Water Supply Emergency Drought

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Condobolin Water Supply Emergency Drought
 Coraki Sewerage Augmentation
 Cowra Sewerage Augmentation
 Cowra Water Supply Emergency Drought
 Crescent Head Water Supply
 Crookwell Water Supply Emergency Drought
 Cumnock Sewerage
 Cumnock Water Supply Emergency Drought
 Darbys Falls Water Supply
 Daysdale Water Supply Emergency Drought
 Euabalong & Euabalong West Water Supply Emergency Drought
 Euston Water Supply Emergency Drought
 Evans Head/Woodburn Sewerage Augmentation
 Forbes Water Supply Emergency Drought
 Geurie Sewerage
 Goulburn Sewerage Augmentation
 Grafton Sewerage Augmentation
 Gulgong Water Supply Emergency Drought
 Hillston Water Supply Emergency Drought
 Kangaroo Valley Sewerage
 Lake Cargelligo/Tullibigeal Water Supply Augmentation
 Lake Cargelligo Water Supply Emergency Pipeline - Merri-Abba Bore
 Lithgow Sewerage Augmentation
 Lithgow Water Supply Emergency Drought
 Maclean/Townsend Sewerage Augmentation
 Manildra Sewerage
 Manning District Water Supply (Water Treatment Plant) Augmentation
 Mendooran Water Supply Augmentation
 Nambucca Heads Sewerage Augmentation
 Narromine Water Supply Emergency Bore
 Oberon Water Supply Emergency Works
 Orange Water Supply Emergency Pipeline
 Orange Water Supply Emergency Stormwater Harvesting
 Oxley Water Supply Emergency Drought
 Rankin Springs Water Supply Emergency Drought
 Robertson Sewerage
 Rylstone Deep Storage Pump Station Emergency Drought
 Shoalhaven Regional Effluent Management Scheme
 Standpipes for Emergency Water Cartage
 Tamworth Sewerage Augmentation - Sewer Treatment Plant and Reuse
 Taralga Sewerage
 Taralga Water Supply Emergency Drought
 Tenterfield Sewerage Augmentation
 Tomingley Water Supply Emergency Drought
 Trundle Sewerage
 Tumbarumba Water Supply Augmentation
 Tumbarumba Water Supply Emergency Drought
 Urbenville, Woodenbong, Muli Muli W Water Supply Augmentation
 Wallerawang Sewerage Augmentation
 Wellington & Geurie Emergency Bores
 Wyangala Sewerage Augmentation
 Yass Sewerage Augmentation

Spending against each project will be dependant on the local water utility meeting the milestones for payment and submitting tax invoices.

Note that funding will also be made available for new eligible emergency drought projects for town water that emerge throughout 2010-11.

Note also that funding of \$16.5 million is allocated for the Wingecarribee to Goulburn Emergency Drought pipeline (Highland Source Project) in addition to the \$70.972 million allocated to the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program.

(3) There are 57 projects in the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program that are yet to be funded and can be funded under the current program cap of \$1.17 billion. This number of projects may increase if further emergency drought works for town water supplies emerge.

(4) The breakdown of \$30.657 million allocated to "Other operating expenses" encompasses all costs associated with the day to day delivery of the Water Management service group apart from the salary costs of the 578 officers budgeted for the program.

(5) The breakdown of \$15.233 million allocated to "Other expenses" covers the following:

- NSW share of operating cost and works programs for irrigation areas (\$9.495 million).
- Conserving and restoring of groundwater resources of the Great Artesian Basin (\$5.538 million).
- Contribution to the cost of flood warning systems (\$200,000).

*10842NSW AMBULANCE TRANSFERS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

(1) What was the average monthly cost of transferring patients by NSW Ambulance between Hornsby Hospital and Royal North Shore Hospital in:

- (a) 2007-08;
- (b) 2008-09;
- (c) 2009-10 year to date?

(2) How many patients were transferred by NSW Ambulance between Hornsby Hospital and Royal North Shore Hospital in:

- (a) 2007-08;
- (b) 2008-09;
- (c) 2009-10 year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The average monthly costs of transferring patients by NSW Ambulance between Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital and Royal North Shore Hospital were:

- (a) 2007-2008 - \$15,891.00
- (b) 2008-2009 - \$16,547.00
- (c) 2009-2010 (March 2010) - \$12,000.00

(2) The number of patients transferred by NSW Ambulance between Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital and Royal North Shore Hospital in:

- (a) 2007-2008 - 313 patients
- (b) 2008-2009 - 282 patients
- (c) 2009-2010 (March 2010) - 199 patients

*10843SMOKE DETECTORS IN SCHOOLS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Education and Training—

(1) Are all schools in the Hornsby electorate fitted with smoke detectors?

(2) If the answer to question (1) is no:

- (a) Which schools in the Hornsby electorate have not yet been fitted with smoke detectors?
- (b) Why have smoke detectors not yet been installed in these schools?

(3) When will all schools in the Hornsby electorate be fitted with smoke detectors?

Answer—

(1) to (3) As the primary purpose of smoke alarms and smoke detectors is to alert sleeping people to the possibility of a fire emergency, the Building Code of Australia and the Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Smoke Alarms) Regulation 2006 only require smoke detectors to be fitted in schools where people sleep, such as schools with dormitories. There are no schools of this sort in the Hornsby electorate.

The Department of Education and Training takes fire safety very seriously. Representatives from the Department of Education and Training meet regularly with the NSW Fire Brigade and specialist companies to review fire safety compliance in schools and TAFE colleges.

Fire safety equipment in schools and TAFE colleges is regularly tested and maintained as part of the Department's maintenance contracts.

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All schools and TAFE colleges are required to conduct trial emergency evacuations twice each year as part of their emergency management planning. This ensures that on-site fire safety officers as well as staff and students are familiar with emergency procedures.

*10844PATIENT SURVEY—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Has the performance of Hornsby Hospital been rated highly by patients in a recent survey?
- (2) What are the details of the survey?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Yes. The results of the NSW Department of Health Patient Satisfaction survey for Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital in 2009 included an overall rating of 90.6 percent for the care received at the good, very good and excellent level, which is significantly higher than that of peer hospitals in 2009 (86.7 percent) and higher than the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital result in 2008 (89 percent).
- (2) The NSW Department of Health Patient Satisfaction survey has been undertaken since 2007, to gain information from users of health care services regarding their experience with the services provided, and to provide measures that will identify improvement opportunities and enable benchmarking activities to improve healthcare services to the people of NSW.

*10845COMPENSATION FOR KURNELL RESIDENTS—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

What amount of compensation to date has been paid to Kurnell residents for damage to their homes from the construction of the desalination plant?

Answer—

Sydney Water has not accepted liability for alleged physical damage to residential properties in Kurnell relating to the desalination project. Accordingly, it has paid no compensation for such liability.

Sydney Water has always remained committed to making good any physical damage to property that can be shown to have resulted from its construction activities. No such payments have been made to date.

In a very limited number of cases, ex-gratia arrangements have been made. The terms of these arrangements are contractually confidential.

*10846DAMAGE IN WORONORA DAM CATCHMENT AREA—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

What action has been undertaken to date by the Sydney Catchment Authority to remediate damage and water loss to the Waratah Rivulet in the Woronora Dam catchment area caused by long wall mining?

Answer—

I am advised by Sydney Catchment Authority that:

Metropolitan Colliery has conducted trial remediation in some areas of the Waratah Rivulet impacted by their mining.

The Sydney Catchment Authority continues to work with the Metropolitan Colliery to review, supervise and monitor the remediation works.

*10847BUNGENDORE WIND FARM—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

- (1) How many megawatts were generated by the Bungendore wind farm in each of March, April and May 2010 respectively to power the Kurnell Desalination Plant?
- (2) What is the cost to Sydney Water of the 180,000 Renewable Energy Certificates for the first year of operation of the Kurnell Desalination Plant?

Answer—

Information on the renewable energy contracts for Sydney's desalination plant are available on Sydney Water's website, www.sydneywater.com.au

*10848AFFORDABLE HOUSING—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

Following the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute analysis of international financing mechanisms for affordable housing carried out for the Government of Western Australia published in May 2010:

- (1) What assessment has the Government made of this comprehensive analysis of mechanisms to channel investment into affordable housing?
- (2) What assessment has the Government made of implementing:
 - (a) dedicated and tax-privileged savings deposits;
 - (b) housing tax credits;
 - (c) publicly guaranteed loan and bonds;
 - (d) social housing mortgage guarantees;
 - (e) housing construction convertible bonds?
- (3) What advocacy has the NSW Government carried out to encourage Commonwealth Government action on these successful approaches to supporting affordable housing?
- (4) What further action does the Government propose to use to use this overseas experience to increase investment in affordable housing?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) The NSW Government is working closely with the Commonwealth and other State and Territory Governments to progress reforms under the Council of Australian Governments' Housing Supply and Affordability agenda and the delivery of outcomes under the National Affordable Housing Agreement.

The Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute report is being considered along with other research into addressing housing affordability and will be progressed through the Council of Australian Governments' process.

The NSW Government will continue to provide valuable input on appropriate approaches to investment in affordable housing through this forum.

*10849ORAL HEALTH—Ms Clover Moore asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Following the national agreement on health that will result in new funding for health services:

- (1) What expansion of dental services to improve oral health will result from this agreement?
- (2) How much per capita does the NSW Government spend on dental health compared to other states and territories?
- (3) What funds does the NSW plan to add to existing public dental services?
- (4) What action has the Government taken to increase the public dental workforce?
- (5) What waiting lists and/or waiting times apply for access to urgent public dental treatment?
- (6) What waiting lists and/or waiting times apply for access to non-urgent public dental treatment?
- (7) What waiting lists and/or waiting times apply for Sydney electorate residents needing public dental treatment?
- (8) What action will the Government take to expand public dental services?

Answer—

Funding and policy issues regarding public dental services were not part of the recent COAG Health Reforms Agreement, and the Commonwealth Government has not yet addressed its role in the national oral health agenda.

The NSW Government's commitment to oral health funding, which next financial year (2010-2011) will total \$169.4 million, is a 38% increase in State funding since 2005/2006. Per capita oral health funding comparisons across States are misleading as they do not account for varying systems of determining eligibility, service delivery and funding as well as calculations of the State budgets. Other States fund their system via co-payments, whereas NSW and Queensland do not.

The NSW Government is committed to increasing the public dental workforce through providing improved career opportunities and better remuneration. The NSW Government also recognises the importance of further training and education and has introduced the International Dental Graduate's program of training and service provision to public patients and those in rural communities. In 2009-10, NSW Health contributed \$4 million funding for a new dental facility in Dubbo which would also provide additional student placements in Dubbo.

These initiatives and increases in funding will continue to improve the oral health of NSW residents. The 2007 Australian Institute of Health & Welfare's National Survey of Adult Oral Health 2004 - 2006 and

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the NSW Health Child Dental Health Survey 2007 indicates that the state of oral health of children and adults in NSW is equal if not better than other jurisdictions.

The NSW Government welcomes the cooperative approach being taken by the Commonwealth to assist States in the provision of public oral health services. Current Commonwealth dental programs improve access to dental care for eligible NSW residents. More than 715,934 vouchers have been redeemed nationwide for the Medicare Teen Dental Plan, with 255,280 being redeemed in NSW. This has provided much needed access for vulnerable youth to examination and early preventive care in NSW.

NSW is also working with the Commonwealth under the National Partnership Agreement "Closing the Gap" and has a \$6 million commitment for an Aboriginal Oral Health Hub and Spoke program to provide much needed increased access for Aboriginal people in urban and rural areas of New South Wales. Funding for additional partnership projects in reducing inequities in access to oral health services and improved oral health outcomes for Aboriginal people in NSW is also scheduled for 2010-2011.

In regards to waiting lists, assessment and treatment waiting lists for public dental care are based on clinical need and apply in each Area Health Service in NSW under the Priority Oral Health Program. The majority of urgent public dental patients are directly appointed and are not placed on waiting lists in NSW.

***10850 PARTY BUSES AND BOATS**—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister for Major Events—

With respect to the Government's Hassle Free Nights plans to regulate party buses and party boats in order to prevent alcohol-related crime and anti-social behaviour:

- (1) What regulations have been developed and implemented to ensure responsible management of party buses, including:
 - (a) What permit system has been established;
 - (b) What areas have been determined "no go zones", and which inner city areas will be protected;
 - (c) How will party bus operators ensure access to toilets for patrons;
 - (d) What noise controls will apply to party buses;
 - (e) How will set down points be identified and enforced;
 - (f) What training will be required for staff?
- (2) What regulations have been developed and implemented to ensure responsible management of party boats, including:
 - (a) What Code of Conduct will apply;
 - (b) What safety audits will be carried out;
 - (c) What noise controls will apply to party boats;
 - (d) What measures will be used to prevent noise and other impacts where party goers disembark;
 - (e) What increased enforcement of licensing conditions will occur;
 - (f) What training will be required for staff?
- (3) What enforcement system will the Government use to ensure responsible management of these operators?
- (4) How will the Government report on progress with these plans?
- (5) What plans does the Government have to evaluate the effectiveness of these strategies in preventing alcohol-related crime and anti-social behaviour?

Answer—

- (1) The Hassle Free Nights Action Plan specifies that work on the party buses regulation is to commence from 6 July 2010. The project is now in its early stages.
- (2) Questions on this matter should be directed to the Minister for Ports and Waterways.
- (3) Effective enforcement strategies will be examined in the context of developing the codes.
- (4) Where appropriate, information will be provided on the www.hasslefree.gov.au website.
- (5) An evaluation strategy is being developed and an evaluation of the first 12 months will be commenced by 31 March 2011.

***10851 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH**—Ms Clover Moore asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Noting the Access Economics December 2009 report that calculates \$10.6 billion financial costs in 2009 as a result of mental illness in young people aged 12-25 years states that preventive interventions would generate greater personal, social and economic benefits:

- (1) How many young people 12-25 years are estimated in NSW to have a lifetime mental illness diagnosis?

- (2) What programs does the NSW Government fund or provide to address the health, social and economic impacts of this illness?
- (3) How many young people 12-25 years are estimated in the Sydney electorate to have a lifetime mental illness diagnosis?
- (4) What programs does the NSW Government fund or provide in the Sydney electorate to address these health, social and economic impacts?
- (5) Is it true that only around one quarter of young people with a mental illness in NSW receive treatment?
- (6) Is it true that young people are more likely to suicide than all other age groups, and that young people with a mental illness are more likely to suicide?
- (7) What prevention programs has the Government established since this report was produced?
- (8) What prevention programs does the Government intend to provide to address youth mental illness?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) to (8) An estimated 352,280 persons in NSW aged 12-25 years had a lifetime diagnosis of mental illness as well as experiencing symptoms within the last 12 months. Data collected in 2007 indicated an estimated 3,634 persons aged 12-25 years in the Bligh electorate had a lifetime diagnosis of mental illness as well as experiencing symptoms within the last 12 months.

At present it is not possible to estimate the true proportion of young people in NSW with a mental illness who receive treatment.

Suicide rates in NSW for young people are now below those of the general population with the suicide death rate for young people aged 15-24 years falling to 5.9 per 100,000 in 2008, the lowest in Australia.

The NSW Government provides mental health services for children, adolescents and young people, ranging from specialist community-based programs to those provided in age-specific mental health inpatient units. Community-based services provide access to specialist mental health care, drug & alcohol services, general practitioners, vocational and educational services and other related health services. They have a prevention and promotion focus.

The NSW Government also provides funding of \$6.8 million per annum to Area Health Services for Youth Mental Health Services, targeted at 14-24-year-olds.

The NSW Government recognises the importance of having community oriented mental health services through the NSW Community Mental Health Strategy 2007-2012.

The Strategy is aligned with the five-year \$939 million "New Direction for Mental Health (2006)" package which focuses on transforming mental health in NSW.

Under the Strategy, a range of community mental health programs run by public mental health services and specialist Non-Government Organisations have been put in place to support a balanced and comprehensive system of mental health care.

New programs include:

- the Mental Health Community Rehabilitation Program which delivers a comprehensive model of rehabilitation to support people with a mental illness to reintegrate back into society and improve the quality of their lives, and
- the Recovery and Resource Services Program delivered by the NGO sector, established to increase participation in the community and better employment opportunities for people with a mental illness in NSW.

Other programs provided by the NSW Government to address youth mental health needs include the Young Offenders Re-engagement Initiative and NSW Housing Accommodation Support Initiative (HASI).

The Young Offenders Re-engagement Initiative works with community partners to identify young offenders who would benefit from access to supports including accommodation, vocational and training options and health services.

HASI is a partnership program between NSW Health, Housing NSW and the non-government sector to support people living with mental illness to maintain successful tenancies, engage in the community and to improve their quality of life. Currently there are over 1000 places in the HASI program across NSW. HASI can be accessed by people aged 16 years and older.

Young people living in the Sydney electorate can access the Youth Mental Health Program which provides intake services, early psychosis services, rehabilitation, and case management.

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Since 2009, the NSW Government has also provided funding for a number of initiatives to improve youth mental health services.

NSW Health provided \$16 million in funding to the Brain and Mind Research Institute (BMRI) to build its Youth Mental Health Facility, which opened in September 2009.

In June 2009, funding of \$430,000 was provided to extend the Young People's Outreach Program (Y-POP) pilot currently available to young people in Penrith and Blacktown, to establish an additional pilot site in Parramatta, and to facilitate longer term follow-up of the young people in the program which will be used to inform the development of a HASI service delivery model for young people.

The Y-POP is a partnership between Sydney West AHS Mental Health Network, headspace Mt Druitt and The Richmond Fellowship of NSW (RFNSW). It is an outreach service for 16-25-year olds who have or are at risk of developing functional disability because of their mental health problems. Y-POP helps young people to achieve their recovery goals, including living skills, education and training, relationships with family and friends and access to other services.

The NSW Government is continuing to invest in the development and implementation of Youth Mental Health Services. Among the nine key principles that continue to underpin these services are a "commitment to a promotion and prevention framework".

The NSW Suicide Prevention Strategy 2010-2015 will be finalised in late 2010. The Strategy sets out the Government's strategic directions and intended outcomes for suicide prevention over the next five years and provides the basis for a coordinated whole of government approach. Children and young people are targeted in a number of the Strategic Directions in the Strategy.

"Building Better Mental Health: A Framework for the promotion of mental health and prevention of mental ill-health in NSW" is currently under development. It provides a framework and implementation plan for strategic action around mental health promotion, prevention of mental ill-health and early intervention for mental health problems in NSW. Young people, 12-25 years have been identified as a specific target group.

For adolescents at school, the NSW School-Link initiative, a collaborative partnership between NSW Health and the NSW Department of Education and Training provides a state-wide framework for child and adolescent mental health services, schools and TAFE to work together.

Programs for children of parents with a mental illness have also been established across NSW progressively since 1996. The Children of Parents with a Mental Illness (COPMI) Framework for Mental Health Services was released in June 2010. It identifies and sets out strategic directions for an integrated approach to improve the mental health and well being of children and young people in NSW who have a parent with a mental illness.

*10852 FORESHADOWED LAND SALES IN BELROSE—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) What areas are the subject of the foreshadowed land sales in Belrose, as referred to in the Budget Paper No 3, 2010-2011 Budget Estimates, Planning, Minister Administering the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, ref: 9-62?
- (2) What are the relevant timetables for these sales?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The land is jointly owned by the Roads and Traffic Authority and the Minister administering the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and forms part of an abandoned road corridor that was to connect St Ives with Dee Why.
- (2) A development application will be lodged with Warringah Shire Council within the next 3 months. If an englobo sale is adopted, the land is expected to be marketed towards the end of this year, otherwise individual lots will be marketed towards the middle of 2012.

*10853 FORESHADOWED LAND SALES IN BELROSE—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) What areas are the subject of the foreshadowed land sales in Belrose, as referred to in the Budget Paper No 3, 2010-2011 Budget Estimates, Planning, Minister Administering the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, ref: 9-62?
- (2) What are the relevant timetables for these sales?

Answer—

- (1) The land is jointly owned by the Roads and Traffic Authority and the Minister administering the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and forms part of an abandoned road corridor that was to connect St Ives with Dee Why.
- (2) A development application will be lodged with Warringah Shire Council within the next 3 months. If an englobo sale is adopted, the land is expected to be marketed towards the end of this year, otherwise individual lots will be marketed towards the middle of 2012.

*10854COMMUTER CAR PARK PROGRAM—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that only one of the 15 new commuter car parks under the Commuter Car Park Program announced today in the Budget Paper No. 3, 2010-2011 Budget Estimates, Department of Transport and Infrastructure, ref: 13-13, is located in a seat held by the Opposition?
- (2) What consideration is being given to improve commuter car parking in the electorate of Davidson?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) The NSW Government is delivering new commuter car parks at key locations across Sydney, the Central Coast, the Illawarra and the Blue Mountains to address current demand and cater for future growth.

These locations were selected based on current and forecast demand, an assessment of existing facilities, site constraints, existing and future transport access and surrounding land uses.

Future opportunities to improve commuter car parking across Sydney will be considered as part of the Government's commitment to invest more than \$400 million in new commuter car parks and interchanges over the next ten years.

*10855REPORT BY WENTWORTH GROUP OF SCIENTISTS—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

In relation to a recent report by the Wentworth Group of Scientists:

- (1) Has the Minister read the recent report "Sustainable Diversions in the Murray-Darling Basin" (June 2010)?
- (2) Does the Minister and the NSW Government agree with the statements made in this report to slash irrigation in the Murrumbidgee Valley by 65% for environmental purposes?
- (3) Does the Minister agree with the statement made by the Water Program Manager for the Wentworth Group, Tim Stubbs, when he claimed that the report focused on the Murrumbidgee and Murray Valleys "because the economic analysis shows that taking water from those catchments would have the lowest long-term economic impact on the basin" (as reported in The Australian 3 June 2010)?
- (4) Will the Minister provide some reassurance to the people of the Murrumbidgee and Murray catchments that they will not have their irrigation slashed by 65% and 39% respectively?
- (5) Will the Minister indicate whether he will specifically ask for this report to be excluded from any official Murray-Darling Basin Authority reports in the future?
- (6) (a) Has the Minister ever met with the Wentworth Group and/or Tim Stubbs during the Minister's tenure?
(b) If so, on how many occasions?
- (7) Does the Minister and the NSW Government reject the Wentworth Group's findings?

Answer—

I refer the Member to the response to Written Question 10755.

*10856BER PROJECTS IN NSW GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training—

Of all the BER projects in the NSW Government schools:

- (a) How many projects are there in total?
- (b) How many are under construction?
- (c) How many are completed?
- (d) How many are out to tender?
- (e) How many are still in the pre-tender stage?

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Answer—

- (a) to (c) This information is available on the Department of Education and Training's BER website.
- (d) and (e) Information concerning the tender status of BER projects in NSW government schools is held by the relevant managing contractor.

*10857BER PROJECTS IN NSW NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training—

Of all the BER projects in the NSW non-Government schools:

- (a) How many projects are there in total?
- (b) How many are under construction?
- (c) How many are completed?
- (d) How many are out to tender?

Answer—

The Department of Education and Training does not hold this information as all non government schools deal directly with the Commonwealth Government regarding their BER projects.

*10858334 BUS SERVICE—Mr Greg Piper asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

- (1) (a) Was the 334 bus service scheduled to depart Cardiff at 7.18 am on 2 June 2010 cancelled due to a staff shortage?
- (b) If so, why was no effective notice given to the public?
- (2) (a) Was the same service also cancelled on 3 June 2010 for the same reason?
- (b) If so, why was the problem not foreseen and prevented?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) (a) and (b) The 334 bus service scheduled to depart Cardiff at 7.18 am on 2 June 2010 was regrettably cancelled at short notice due to circumstances beyond the control of Newcastle Buses, when a significant number of drivers reported they were too ill to work. Notice of this action was given to the public, with Newcastle Buses immediately advising the Transport InfoLine as the Government's main contact point for the public with public transport enquiries.
- (2) (a) and (b) The same circumstances were present on 3 June 2010 and the 7.18 am service was unfortunately cancelled again. Newcastle Buses endeavours to avoid any cancellation. Letters of apology were sent to passengers of the 7.18 am service who had expressed their concern.

*10859SERVICE CANCELLATIONS—NEWCASTLE BUSES—Mr Greg Piper asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

- (1) How many service cancellations have occurred in the past six months due to staff shortages at Newcastle Bus Services?
- (2) What action will be taken to ensure that in future when a bus service is cancelled due to driver shortages, adequate notice is given to the public?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) Where services are cancelled at short notice this is due to a variety of reasons such as mechanical breakdowns, collisions and a higher than normal number of short notice staff absences. Newcastle Buses recorded 0.029% of services which had to be cancelled due to unexpected staff absences for the 6 month period January 2010 to June 2010.

*10860MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES—TWEED HEADS HOSPITAL—Mr Geoff Provost asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

In relation to mental health services in the Tweed electorate and with reference to your advice that 25 beds were provided for mental health patients in the Tweed Valley Clinic at the Tweed Heads Hospital in 2007 (Question 1400):

- (1) What is the total number of beds available to mental health patients at the Tweed Heads Hospital?
- (2) What is the total number of mental health patients that have been admitted to the Tweed Heads Hospital in the following years:
 - (a) 2008;
 - (b) 2009;
 - (c) year to date?
- (3) What is the current occupancy of the mental health facility at the Tweed Heads Hospital?
- (4) Are there plans to increase the number of beds available to mental health patients at the Tweed Heads Hospital?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) 25
- (2) (a) 562
(b) 540
(c) 229 (year to date as at 17 June 2010)
- (3) 97%
- (4) The NSW Government is always working to expand and build upon our network of mental health services. It should be noted that neighbouring Mental Health Units support each other and the number of Mental Health beds in the neighbouring Lismore Base Hospital Adult Mental Health Unit have been increased from 25 to 40 beds in the last few years.

There has also been an expansion in Area wide Specialist Mental Health Inpatient facilities which provide services for the Tweed/Byron Network. These Specialist facilities are an 8 bed Child & Adolescent Unit at Lismore Base Hospital and a 20 bed Rehabilitation Unit at Coffs Harbour Health Campus.

Community Mental Health Services have expanded over the past few years including an increase in Mental Health Emergency Care positions working with acute Mental Health patients. There has also been an expansion in Older Persons Mental Health Services. These community enhancements assist in preventing admissions to the inpatient beds.

North Coast Area Health Service has been advised of a proposed increase in Mental Health facilities and service provision within South Eastern Queensland. This expansion of capacity is likely to have the impact of reducing service demand from this population on The Tweed Hospital.

*10861 MATERNITY UNIT—TWEED HEADS HOSPITAL—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) What is the total number of beds in the maternity unit at the Tweed Heads Hospital?
- (2) Are there any plans for expansion of the maternity unit at the Tweed Heads Hospital?
- (3) If so, could the Minister detail how many additional beds the expansion will provide?

Answer—

I am advised:

Information about beds at the Tweed Hospital can be found in the NSW Health Services Comparison Data Book. This can be found at: http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/pubs/2009/yellowbook_08.html

*10862 MIDWIVES—TWEED HEADS HOSPITAL—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) How many midwives are currently employed at the Tweed Heads Hospital in the following positions:
 - (a) full-time;
 - (b) part-time?
- (2) Are there any plans to expand the midwifery department at the Tweed Heads Hospital to cope with the rising birth rate and additional workload?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) (a) Eighteen (18) full-time midwives are employed at The Tweed Hospital. This includes the Midwifery Unit Manager/Midwife-in-Charge.
(b) Twenty-nine (29) part-time midwives are employed at The Tweed Hospital
- (2) Current minor works are underway in Women's Care Unit to increase capacity.

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Planning is underway to introduce a Midwifery led model of care into The Tweed Hospital to supplement the current Specialist Obstetrician led model.

*10863PRIORITISING DISPLACED PATIENTS—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Will patients awaiting surgery at Blacktown and Westmead hospitals, with their overflow of elective patients displaced by increased trauma and emergency presentations and revealed as mismanaged by the centralised booking process, be prioritised to the new Mount Druitt Elective Surgery Centre?

Answer—

I am advised:

The prioritisation of patients for surgery is based on the assessed clinical needs of those patients and managed according to the statewide benchmarks for provision of surgery. All patient bookings and surgery scheduling functions have continued to be provided at each hospital. Patients are scheduled to have surgery at the appropriate hospital for the surgical interventions for which they require care.

*10864SUCCESSFUL SOLAR PROJECTS—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

Given that the Budget allocates \$120 million for "successful solar projects" over the next 20 years:

- (1) How does the Minister define and measure success for a solar project?
- (2) Are these funds for concept demonstration projects, or only existing ones that have already been successful?
- (3) How much of those funds will be spent in 2010-11?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) The NSW Government has committed to provide up to \$120 million for NSW-based projects that secure funding in Round 1 of the Australian Government's Solar Flagships Program. Projects must also represent value for money for NSW taxpayers and contribute to the Government's broader Climate Change and Clean Energy policies.
- (2) Only commercially proven solar technologies are eligible for the Australian Government's Solar Flagships Program.
- (3) The timing for this expenditure is dependent on the Australian Government's Solar Flagships Program. Project selection is expected to be announced by mid-2011.

*10865STATE PLAN TARGETS—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

Given the targets in the "Green State" chapter of the recently revised State Plan and the forecasts in the latest Budget:

- (1) Why is the department not expecting any improvement in pollution in the coming year?
- (2) Why is the department not expecting any improvement in water quality in the coming year?
- (3) Why is the department not expecting any improvement in household recycling in the coming year?
- (4) How much will be spent on pollution control in the coming year?
- (5) How much will be spent on improving water quality in the coming year?
- (6) How much will be spent on household recycling in the coming year?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

(1) to (3) The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) has strong policies and programs to continue to improve pollution control, improve water quality and improve household recycling in the coming year. However, making future forecasts is difficult, given the influence of meteorology and weather patterns, as well as economic activity. As a result, the Department takes a conservative approach to estimating future indicators in the budget papers.

(4) In 2010-11, the budget for the Environment Protection and Regulation Group within DECCW will be \$111 million. This Group delivers credible, targeted and cost effective regulation and enforcement across a range of environment protection areas, including the impacts of pollution on the environment and community.

(5) In 2010-11, the budget for Water Management, which is broader than water quality, within DECCW will be \$222.6 million. This service group establishes and manages sustainable water sharing, licensing, allocation and trading arrangements. Key services include cross-jurisdictional water management, statutory water sharing, licence administration and compliance, water quality and quantity assessment, allocation of available water, and advice on water quality and ecosystem protection.

(6) In 2010-11, the budget for the waste management programs within DECCW, including programs to help local government and the community improve the rate of household recycling, will be \$43.86 million.

*10866 VISITORS TO NATIONAL PARKS—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Who is responsible for the Budget forecast that visitors to National Parks would increase by 1.5 million in 2010-11?
- (2) What is that estimate based on?
- (3) Can the Roy Morgan phone interview results obtained in 2008-09 be used to make visitor number forecasts?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water anticipates this increase in visitation.
- (2) The estimate is based on domestic visitor trends and strategies in place to promote national parks to a broader range of citizens.
- (3) No.

*10867 PLANTBANK—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) How long will it take to construct the PlantBank?
- (2) How much will the PlantBank cost each year to run?
- (3) How much will visitors pay to tour the facility?
- (4) How many visitors are expected each year?
- (5) How much will researchers be charged to use the facility?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) Construction of PlantBank will take three years beginning in July 2010, and is expected to be completed by June 2013.
- (2) The annual cost of operating PlantBank is estimated to be approximately \$68,600.
- (3) Visitors will be able to view the public areas of the PlantBank facility and interpretive displays at no charge as part of their Garden entry fee. Specialised technical tours of the PlantBank facility will be offered on a pre-arranged basis. The cost will be the same as the current fee for Seedbank tours - \$23 per person (\$19 concession).
- (4) It is expected that the majority of visitors to Mount Annan Botanic Garden (approximately 100,000 per annum) will visit the PlantBank facility and the interpretive displays. The number of visitors taking a specialised tour of the PlantBank facilities is expected to be approximately 500 per annum.
- (5) In the majority of cases external research staff will use the facility for collaborative research projects with Botanic Gardens Trust researchers and accordingly no charges will apply. In other cases, charges will be determined on a case by case basis depending on use of laboratory consumables and space required.

*10868 PLANTBANK—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) How many researchers are expected to use the PlantBank each year?
- (2) How did the Minister determine that the facility would generate \$64.8 million, as stated in the Daily Telegraph on 9 June?
- (3) How many years will PlantBank take to generate these funds?
- (4) Is the Minister aware of the Svalbard Global Seed Vault in the Arctic Circle?
- (5) Did the Government check to see how much it would cost to store the 5,800 plant species seeds in Svalbard?
- (6) If so, what was that cost?

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Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) It is estimated that in the first year of operation there will be approximately 11.6 equivalent full time (EFT) researchers (comprised of undergraduate, postgraduate, research associates and volunteers) operating from PlantBank, in addition to Botanic Gardens Trust employees. Projections estimate that by year 10 this will have grown to 52.8 EFT researchers, in addition to Botanic Gardens Trust employees.
- (2) Over a 20 year period it was estimated that the economic benefit would be \$90.438 million and the economic costs \$25.601 million - producing a net benefit of \$64.837 million.
- (3) The economic benefit from its operation and outputs is forecast to be \$64.8 million over a 20 year period, not including the residual value of the NSW Seedbank collection. This forecast was prepared by a consultant economist as part of the business case development process and takes into account research grants, consultancies, patents and paid and in-kind research contributions, as well as hiring of the research and conference facilities.
- (4) Yes. The Svalbard Vault was constructed for the long-term storage of seeds of agricultural crops, ie, those for food and fibre. It is not designed as a repository for wild plant species collections from around the world.

Collections of native plants require specialised conditions different from those of agricultural plants which have seed that are easily produced, collected and stored. The native plants of New South Wales are highly diverse and require a range of specialised conditions for storage and many (for example, rainforest species) require research to determine the appropriate conditions. For this reason it is essential to develop a facility that combines storage with an active research program - such as that designed at PlantBank.

- (5) Costs were not investigated as Svalbard Vault is not an appropriate place for storing NSW native seed collections.
- (6) Not applicable - see above.

*10869 FORMULA 1 GRAND PRIX—Mr George Souris asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

Given that on Saturday 27 March, in declaring the Government's interest in poaching the Formula 1 Grand Prix from Victoria, the Premier said on Ten News, "What we have to do is have skin in the game and that's precisely what this Government is doing. We're going down and putting ourselves in front of the promoters of the Grand Prix and we're saying Sydney's here and we're interested":

- (1) Did the Premier meet with the promoters of this event?
- (2) If not, did the former Minister for Major Events, the Hon Ian MacDonald meet with the promoters?
- (3) Did anybody from Events NSW accompany either the Premier or Ian MacDonald to a meeting with the promoters?
- (4) Did any staff member meet the promoters?

Answer—

I am advised that the Premier has not met with the promoters of this event.

I'm not aware of whether or not the former Minister met with the promoters.

Events NSW has not met with the promoters.

*10870 CHAIRPERSON OF IPART—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) What is the annual salary for the newly appointed chairperson of IPART, including all details of the remuneration package such as vehicle provision, fuel allowance, bonuses and staffing allowances?
- (2) What are the termination payments (if any)?
- (3) What is the period of appointment?

Answer—

I am advised:

The annual salary for the IPART Chairperson is \$263,771 pa, based on a six day fortnight. The remuneration package includes other on-costs such as vehicle provision, fuel allowance, bonuses and staffing allowances. Under section 4(2) of Schedule 2 of the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal Act 1992, the remuneration for part time members is determined by the Premier.

Termination payments are not made.

It is anticipated that the new Chairperson of the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal will be appointed for five (5) years effective from 26 July 2010.

*10871MID NORTH COAST CORRECTIONAL CENTRE—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

- (1) How many inmates convicted on charges of child sex offence or paedophilia are currently accommodated at the Mid North Coast Correctional Centre, including Swanson Lodge?
- (2) How many of these inmates are currently being rehabilitated back into the community?
- (3) Are inmates with such serious convictions, such as paedophilia, entitled to unsupervised release during rehabilitation?
- (4) What is the current procedure for advising the community of the impending release of such inmates?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) It is not generally the policy of Corrective Services NSW to publicly comment on inmate profiles of individual correctional centres and residential facilities.
- (2) Therapeutic programs that require offenders to address their offending behaviour are available for all inmates convicted of sex offences irrespective of their location.
- (3) All inmates serving sentences of 12 months imprisonment or more, who have achieved the lowest possible security rating and progressed successfully through a rigorous case plan, including completion of programs and long-term good behaviour, are eligible for consideration of unescorted external leave programs in the last stages of their non-parole period, in order to prepare them for release on parole. Whilst on unescorted external leave, inmates are electronically monitored and subject to unannounced visits by the Corrective Services NSW Community Compliance Group.
- (4) Registered victims of serious offenders are advised when an inmate who offended against them is eligible for parole consideration or unsupervised external leave. Hearings of the State Parole Authority are generally conducted in public. Registrable offenders under the Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000 are required to inform Police of their name, address, vehicle registration and other personal details within 7 days of their release.

*10872GALSTON GORGE WARNING SIGNS—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Given the large number of truck drivers who ignore the flashing signs and warnings on both sides of the approach to Galston Gorge, and the number of trucks that subsequently get stuck causing hours of delays and inconvenience for residents who cross Galston Gorge, what actions are currently being investigated to prevent these trucks travelling past these signs and getting stuck in Galston Gorge?

Answer—

I am advised that Galston Road has a vehicle length limit imposed. Vehicles greater than 7.5 metres are prohibited at Galston Gorge, with a signposted maximum fine of \$2,200. The vehicle restrictions are signposted with advisory and regulatory signs on all approaches to the Gorge including Old Northern Road, Galston Road, Mid Dural Road and the Pacific Highway. I am further advised that the RTA is also investigating the matter further to reinforce current measures.

10 JUNE 2010

(Paper No. 209)

*10873SECTION 94 CONTRIBUTIONS—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Has the Government announced a cap on what is known as Section 94 contributions on land development?
- (2) Does this cap apply to all parts of New South Wales?
- (3) What is the reason for the implementation of this cap?
- (4) Will it apply to both new release areas and established residential areas?
- (5) How will this new capped figure compare with the contributions now being paid by developers in other parts of Australia, especially the capital cities?

Answer—

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- (1) A cap of \$20,000 per residential lot or dwelling on local development contributions was announced by the Premier on 4 June 2010. The \$20,000 cap came into effect on 7 June 2010.
- (2) The cap applies to development contributions under section 94 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment (EP&A) Act on residential development across all of New South Wales.
- (3) The cap forms part of a revised approach for setting local development contributions and local council rates. These changes are intended to increase housing supply by lowering development charges for infrastructure to stimulate housing construction.
- (4) The cap applies to development contributions under Section 94 of the EP&A Act in both release areas and established residential areas.
- (5) The \$20,000 cap in NSW means that residential development contributions are broadly comparable with other states. For example, in the high growth councils of Queensland the average cost per residential lot is \$22,000, however this can be as high as \$40,000 in some councils. Similarly, in the urban growth areas in Perth rates can vary between \$19,000 to over \$40,000 per residential lot.

*10874WORKLOAD ASSESSMENT—Mr Peter Besseling asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

- (1) Has a Workload Assessment been undertaken on the actual strength of the NSW Police Force for the Mid North Coast and Manning Great Lakes Local Area Commands?
- (2) Are officer numbers, authorised and actual, assessed against NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR)'s official crime statistics?
- (3) Does this data influence recurrent funding and asset allocations to the Mid North Coast and Manning Great Lakes Local Area Commands?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me:

- (1) Assessments of workload and any other measurable data are carried out on the basis of authorised strength. Actual strengths are subject to variation which would produce potentially inaccurate results.
- (2) and (3) No. The NSW Police Force provides the source data for BOCSAR and derives statistical data from its own systems.

*10875USE OF EXPLOSIVE DEVICES—Mr Peter Besseling asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

At what distance from a residential house can explosive devices be used in rock quarries owned by the Land and Property Management Authority?

Answer—

The distance from a residential house at which an explosive device can be used is governed by the conditions of the development consent.

*10876OLD PACIFIC HIGHWAY—JOHNS RIVER—Mr Peter Besseling asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Will the RTA provide relevant line-marking and re-sealing of sections of the south-bound lanes of the old Pacific Highway through Johns River as the existing road is no longer appropriately marked since the Johns River Bypass opened?

Answer—

I am advised some adjustments will be made to the directional line marking of the old Pacific Highway at Johns River as part of finishing works for the Coopernook to Herons Creek upgrade.

I understand that the line marking adjustments on the old highway could not be completed until after traffic was switched onto the new bypass, which opened to traffic on 28 May 2010.

I am further advised that rainfall since the opening has delayed the completion of the work. Temporary directional markings and traffic guidance remain in place until the work is completed.

*10877INMATES AT GRAFTON GAOL—Mr Steve Cansdell asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

- (1) How many inmates convicted on charges of child sex offence or paedophilia are currently accommodated at Grafton Gaol?
- (2) How many of these inmates are currently being rehabilitated back into the community?
- (3) Are inmates with serious convictions, such as paedophilia, entitled to unsupervised release during

rehabilitation?

(4) What is the current procedure of advising the community of the impending release of such inmates?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) It is not generally the policy of Corrective Services NSW to publicly comment on inmate profiles of individual correctional centres and residential facilities.
- (2) Therapeutic programs that require offenders to address their offending behaviour are available for all inmates convicted of sex offences irrespective of their location.
- (3) All inmates serving sentences of 12 months imprisonment or more, who have achieved the lowest possible security rating and progressed successfully through a rigorous case plan, including completion of programs and long-term good behaviour, are eligible for consideration of unescorted external leave programs in the last stages of their non-parole period, in order to prepare them for release on parole. Whilst on unescorted external leave, inmates are electronically monitored and subject to unannounced visits by the Corrective Services NSW Community Compliance Group.
- (4) Registered victims of serious offenders are advised when an inmate who offended against them is eligible for parole consideration or unsupervised external leave. Hearings of the State Parole Authority are generally conducted in public. Registrable offenders under the Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000 are required to inform Police of their name, address, vehicle registration and other personal details within 7 days of their release.

*10878REPLACEMENT PROCEDURE FOR POLICE—Mr Steve Cansdell asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

- (1) What is the replacement procedure within the police force if an officer is on leave or sick?
- (2) (a) Are these vacancies filled temporarily to avoid a shortage?
(b) If not, why not?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that current authorised strength allocations are sufficient for Local Area Commanders to accommodate officers on leave without the need for a temporary placement of officers to avoid shortages. In cases of extended long-term absence, overstrength positions may be created to allow recruitment of staff to fill vacancies as required.

*10879LE ANDER GARDENS PROJECT—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Why did the Minister's department hold up for three years the Le Ander Gardens project approval?
- (2) How does he justify the delay, noting that the \$360,521 Federal funding grant allocated towards this project was lost due to this delay?

Answer—

- (1) The Department received a planning proposal for the Le Ander Gardens site on the 3 November 2009 and the LEP was notified on 26 February 2010 within a period of less than 4 months.
- (2) The loss of the funding had nothing to do with the consideration of the LEP for Le Ander Gardens and was a Federal Government matter.

*10880ELECTRIC CARS—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

Given your advice the Government is involved in various trials of electric vehicles (Question 5831) and a NSW Electric Vehicles Taskforce is reviewing the technology, infrastructure, policy, and legislation to support the uptake of electric vehicles by NSW motorists (Question 9964):

What are the planned outcomes of the taskforce by March 2011?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Electric Vehicles Taskforce is reviewing the technology, infrastructure, policy and legislation relevant to the uptake of electric vehicles in NSW. The Taskforce will report back to Government as necessary on issues relating to electric vehicles. The advice of the Taskforce will be considered in developing Government policy related to electric vehicles.

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*10881PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYMENT—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

- (1) How many people retired or left the NSW public sector in 2009?
- (2) How many people were employed by the NSW public sector in 2009?

Answer—

29,015 people left the NSW public sector during 2008-2009. This figure includes 3,122 people who retired.

There were 316,686 full-time equivalent employees in NSW public sector at 30 June 2009.

*10882RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

Given the Government's advice an important function of the office of Premier is to regularly meet with companies and organisations to discuss initiatives which have benefits for New South Wales, including energy and environmental projects (Question 8923):

Since December 2009, which companies and organisations has the Premier met with to discuss renewable energy initiatives?

Answer—

I continue to meet and consult with a range of companies and organisations to discuss a wide variety of issues, policies and initiatives, including renewable energy initiatives.

I am advised that some key renewable energy initiatives the Government has undertaken in consultation with companies and organisations include the NSW Greenhouse Gas Reduction Scheme, a range of initiatives under the \$700 million Climate Change Fund and the Government's State Plan target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 60 per cent by 2050. These initiatives will encourage the uptake of renewable energy, mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and help NSW transition to a low carbon economy.

*108832010-2011 BUDGET—EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE—Mr Thomas George asked the Minister for Education and Training—

Regarding Education infrastructure listed in the 2010-2011 Budget:

(1) In Budget Paper No. 4 on pages 4-15 to 4-21 the following entries appear:

- Enterprise Information Management System - Various
- Learning Management and Business Reform Project - Human Resource & Payroll systems - Various
- Learning Management and Business Reform Project - Student Administration and Learning Management System - Various
- Building Better Schools - New High School Gymnasiums - Various
- Building Better Schools - New Primary School Halls - Various
- Central Coast Centre for Industry Training Excellence - Upgrades at Local High Schools - Various
- Connected Classrooms - Various
- Electronic Document and Record Management System - Various
- Learn to Earn - Trade Schools - Various
- Learning Management and Business Reform Project - Various
- Newcastle Schools for Special Purposes - Consolidation - Various
- Premier's Sporting Challenge - Upgrade Sports High Schools - Various
- State-wide Demountable Replacement Program - 2008-09 - Various
- State-wide Demountable Replacement Program - 2009-10 - Various
- State-wide Gymnasiums and Halls Project 2008-09 - Various
- TAFE Learning Management and Business Reform Project - Student Administration and Learning Management System - Various

What is the amount under the entry that has been allocated to the Lismore electorate?

(2) In Budget Paper No. 4 at page 4-73 the following entry appears:

- New Houses to Meet Demand Growth - Various

What is the amount under the entry that has been allocated to the Lismore electorate?

Answer—

- (1) The Enterprise Information Management System project, various Learning Management and Business Reform projects and Electronic Document and Management System project are statewide initiatives that will benefit staff and students in schools in every electorate.

Under the Connected Classrooms program, the following schools in the Lismore electorate will receive interactive whiteboards funded in the 2010-11 budget: Afterlee, Barkers Vale, Chillingham, Collins Creek, Doubtful Creek, Goonellabah, Larnook, Manifold, Murwillumbah, Old Bonalbo Stokers Siding and Stratheden Public Schools, together with Murwillumbah South Infants School and Dorrroughby Environmental Education Centre.

The Central Coast Centre for Industry Training Excellence and Newcastle Schools for Special Purposes projects are site specific in the locations indicated by their titles.

Among the remaining capital works programs listed above, no funds have been allocated in 2010-11 to schools in the Lismore electorate, however Lismore schools have seen \$5,672,646 in NSW Government-funded capital works completed over the past two financial years

- (2) This question should be directed to the Minister responsible for the Teacher Housing Authority.

*10884 CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

In reference to the advice given on the timeframe for the removal of children from out-of-home care (Question 9973):

- (1) Why is it that 57% of children and young people who were in out-of-home care in 2006-07 were not initially removed until at least two years after an initial child protection report was made about them?
- (2) Why is it that 28% of children and young people who were in out-of-home care in 2006-07 were not initially removed until at least five years after an initial child protection report was made about them?
- (3) Does the Minister believe that these time periods between an initial child protection report and the first removal of a child are acceptable given the damage or harm that can be done in the interim and the effects of placing a child or young person in foster care at a later stage of their life?

Answer—

(1) to (3) The analysis of the 2006-07 data referred to in the response to Written Question 9973 considered the time from the first report to Community Services to entry into out-of-home care only.

The analysis did not consider:

- the nature of the reports
- the outcome of the initial assessment
- whether a secondary assessment was required or whether risk of harm or actual harm was determined, or
- the work that Community Services undertakes with families.

Each family has a unique set of circumstances and Community Services endeavours to deliver the best outcomes for the child/children.

The removal of a child is not a decision that is taken lightly.

*10885 APPEALS AGAINST SENTENCES—Ms Pru Goward asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, Vice President of the Executive Council—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that both parents of the now deceased child known as Ebony have launched appeals against their sentences?
- (2) If so, will the Crown defend the appeal?
- (3) What resources are being used by the Government against the appeal?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) As at 15 June 2010, the deceased child's father has formally lodged an appeal against his manslaughter sentence. The deceased child's mother has lodged a notice of intention to appeal her sentence for murder.
- (2) The Crown is the respondent in such appeals. The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions appears in these matters.
- (3) The level of resources applied to this or any other appeal of this nature is a matter for the Director of Public Prosecutions.

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*10886 STAFF DIVERSITY—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

- (1) In relation to the "range of policies and procedures" within Community Services aimed at promoting diversity (Question 9000), can the Minister provide details of any policies to increase the rate of male caseworkers outside of placing images of males in advertising and information material?
- (2) Can the Minister provide reasons why 24% of applicants for caseworker positions are male, yet only 18% of employed caseworkers are male?
- (3) Does Community Services have any plan to institute policies to raise the number of males in Senior Executive positions in Community Services?

Answer—

- (1) Community Services' policies and procedures regarding the recruitment of caseworkers is available at www.community.nsw.gov.au
- (2) All appointments to caseworker positions are made on the basis of merit.
- (3) All appointments to Senior Executive Services (SES) positions in Community Services must comply with the SES Guidelines published by the Department of Premier and Cabinet. The guidelines are available at www.dpc.nsw.gov.au

*10887 STAFF MEDICAL OFFICERS AT GOSFORD HOSPITAL—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What was the total number of staff medical officers at Gosford Hospital in the following years:

- (a) 2005;
- (b) 2006;
- (c) 2007;
- (d) 2008;
- (e) 2009;
- (f) year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

The total number of staff medical officers at Gosford Hospital over the years in question was in accordance with clinical need, activity levels and available budget at the relevant time.

*10888 STAFF MEDICAL OFFICERS AT WYONG HOSPITAL—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What was the total number of staff medical officers at Wyong Hospital in the following years:

- (a) 2005;
- (b) 2006;
- (c) 2007;
- (d) 2008;
- (e) 2009;
- (f) year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

The total number of staff medical officers at Wyong Hospital over the years in question was in accordance with clinical need, activity levels and available budget at the relevant time.

*10889 GOSFORD HOSPITAL NURSING STAFF—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What was the total number of nursing staff at Gosford Hospital in the following years:

- (a) 2005;
- (b) 2006;
- (c) 2007;
- (d) 2008;
- (e) 2009;
- (f) year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

Nurse staffing levels across the periods specified were determined and adjusted as required by local management in line with budget, patient need and the specified award and benchmark tools.

*10890 WYONG HOSPITAL NURSING STAFF—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What was the total number of nursing staff at Wyong Hospital in the following years:

- (a) 2005;
- (b) 2006;
- (c) 2007;
- (d) 2008;
- (e) 2009;
- (f) year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

Nurse staffing levels across the periods specified were determined and adjusted as required by local management in line with budget, patient need and the specified award and benchmark tools.

*10891 HOSPITAL AIR-CONDITIONING—GOSFORD AND WYONG—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) What assessments have been done to determine air-conditioning requirements at:
 - (a) Gosford Hospital;
 - (b) Wyong Hospital?
- (2) What is the total estimated cost of identified air-conditioning needs?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) Various reviews of air conditioning have been conducted at Gosford and Wyong hospitals, including recent assessments and audits in 2006, 2008 and 2009. The cost of additional air conditioning depends on a variety of factors, such as the impact of clinical operations on the execution of the works and the order of execution of individual works packages.

*10892 HUNTER PRESS RELEASES—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister for Women—

- (1) How many Hunter press releases did the Minister issue in:
 - (a) 2009;
 - (b) to 31 May 2010?
- (2) How many Hunter press releases were on her ministerial website on 8 June 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

In 2009, I issued more than 110 media releases in my capacity as Minister for the Hunter. From 2009 through to 31 May 2010, I issued over 145 Hunter releases.

I do not have a Ministerial website.

*10893 PROPOSED ORCHARD HILLS WASTE FACILITY—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) When did the Minister visit the site of the proposed Orchard Hills Waste Facility?
- (2) What was the outcome of his visit?
- (3) With whom did the Minister meet?
- (4) If the Minister has yet to visit the site, when will he?

Answer—

I inspected the proposed Orchard Hills waste facility site in early June. As a final project proposal is not before me for consideration, it is not appropriate to comment at this time.

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*10894 METROPOLITAN STRATEGY—REVIEW OF TARGETS—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

Given that the Planning Institute of Australia has said the current review of the Metropolitan Strategy fails to set out what targets had been met in the 2005 Metropolitan Strategy, will the Minister now publish a comprehensive review of the targets?

Answer—

The 2005 Metropolitan Strategy contains housing targets and employment capacity targets to 2031. The five year review of the Metropolitan Strategy will review progress against the housing and employment targets set in 2005.

*10895 TINGIRA HEIGHTS PUBLIC HOUSING SITE—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

As per the article in the Newcastle Herald on 7 June 2010, "Asbestos find on Tingira Heights public housing site", will the Minister now stop plans to build 14 units on this site?

Answer—

No, the safe removal of asbestos will be handled by experienced contractors and in accordance with the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation 2001.

*10896 MANLY HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What number of administrative staff have been employed at Manly Hospital for the years 1995, 2000, 2005, and 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

An average of 56.3 Administrative Staff FTE were located at Manly Hospital during the financial year to date (July 2009 - May 2010).

Administrative Staff have been defined using the broad Treasury payroll grouping of "corporate Services". This includes employees aligned to the following professional award categories: Health Service Manager, General Administrative Staff, Administrative Officer, Telephonist, Administrative Officer Clinical.

This group includes administrative duties and management roles and functions in support of service delivery as well as duties within the clinical environment such as "ward Clerk" and "Clinical Support Officers".

The earliest a comparable figure can be provided is for the 2006-07 financial year when there were 61.4 FTE positions.

*10897 MEDICAL STAFF COUNCILS—CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

(1) What correspondence in the last 2 years has been received from the medical staff councils of Manly and Mona Vale hospitals expressing concerns to either the Minister or the hospitals' administration or the Area Health Service?

(2) What issues have been raised in the correspondence concerned?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) The Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service (NSCCAHS) hold records of five pieces of correspondence received over the past two years from the chairs of the Manly and Mona Vale Hospital Medical Staff Councils. The issues raised in this correspondence related to: Clinical Nurse Consultant positions, the co-location of inpatient rehabilitation beds to Mona Vale Hospital, the amalgamation of plastic surgery to Manly Hospital, and palliative care on the Northern Beaches.

*10898 WATER BUDGET—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

With reference to the NSW 2010-11 Budget Paper No. 4, Infrastructure Statement:

- (1) In what locations will the \$4.096 million for the Integrated Surveillance Monitoring, Automation and Remote Telemetry project on page 4-65 be spent?
- (2) How much of this funding will be spent in each location?

Answer—

I am advised by State Water that:

- (1) and (2) Projected spending on the Integrated Surveillance Monitoring, Automation and Remote Telemetry project includes each of State Water's regulatory structures (dams, weirs) and associated administrative/management offices in the major regulated valleys of regional NSW, coastal valleys and the Fish River Water Supply. Projected expenditure on the project also includes some \$1.8 million funding from the Water for Rivers joint enterprise.

*10899HEALTH BUDGET—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

With reference to the NSW 2010-11 Budget Paper No. 4, Infrastructure Statement:

- (1) What is the amount that has been allocated to the Burrinjuck electorate, and where will it be spent, for each of the following items under the location "Various" on page 4-24:
 - (a) COAG Capital Initiatives;
 - (b) Local Initiatives 2010/11?
- (2) What is the amount that has been allocated to the Burrinjuck electorate, and where will it be spent, for the Planning For Future New Works under the location "Various" on page 4-28?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) Health resources are not allocated by electorate.

COAG Capital Initiatives for 2010-11 include a \$1.8 million allocation to Greater Southern Area Health Service. No specific funding has been allocated from the 2010-11 Local Initiatives Program; however, planning has begun for 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 financial years.

Capital funds have been provided to commence a HealthOne project at Cootamundra and a Multi Purpose Service at Gundagai.

*10900EDUCATION AND TRAINING BUDGET—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Education and Training—

With reference to the NSW 2010-11 Budget Paper No. 4, Infrastructure Statement:

- (1) What is the amount that has been allocated to the Burrinjuck electorate and where will it be spent for each of the following items under the location "Various" on page 4-15:
 - (a) Enterprise Information Management System;
 - (b) Learning Management and Business Reform Project - Human Resources and Payroll Systems;
 - (c) Learning Management and Business Reform Project - Student Administration and Learning Management System?
- (2) What is the amount that has been allocated to the Burrinjuck electorate and where will it be spent for each of the following items under the location "Various" on page 4-16:
 - (a) Building Better Schools - New High School Gymnasiums;
 - (b) Building Better Schools - New Primary School Halls?
- (3) What is the amount that has been allocated to the Burrinjuck electorate and where will it be spent for each of the following items under the location "Various" on page 4-17:
 - (a) Learn or Earn - Trade Schools;
 - (b) Premier's Sporting Challenge - Upgrade Sports High Schools?
- (4) What is the amount that has been allocated to the Burrinjuck electorate and where will it be spent for each of the following items under the location "Various" on page 4-18:
 - (a) State-Wide Demountable Replacement Program;
 - (b) State-Wide Gymnasiums and Halls Program?

Answer—

- (1) These are statewide initiatives that will benefit staff and students in schools in every electorate.
- (2) to (4) Among the remaining capital works programs listed above, no funds have been allocated in 2010-11 to schools in the Burrinjuck electorate, however Burrinjuck schools have seen \$2,618,300 in NSW Government-funded capital works completed over the past two financial years.

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*10901 CORONIAL INQUIRY—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Under what circumstances would the Coroner, once notified of a notifiable death, create a coronial inquiry into the death?

Answer—

I am advised:

This question falls within the portfolio of the Attorney General and should be referred accordingly for response.

*10902 MINIBUS SERVICE—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) In relation to constituent requests to have a minibus running through Galston Gorge from Hornsby to Galston Village, are there any plans to commence this service?
- (2) If so, when?
- (3) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) I am advised that due to the limited patronage potential there are no plans to introduce a route between Galston and Hornsby at this time. As patronage demand changes the need for a route linking Galston and Hornsby will be reviewed.

*10903 CASEWORKER POSITIONS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

- (1) How many caseworker positions were there at the Chatswood and Epping Community Service Centres in the following years:
 - (a) 2006-07;
 - (b) 2007-08;
 - (c) 2008-09;
 - (d) 2009-10?
- (2) How many are allocated to the Hornsby electorate?

Answer—

- (1) (a) 2006-07: Chatswood 27; Epping 30
 (b) 2007-08: Chatswood 27; Epping 30
 (c) 2008-09: Chatswood 27; Epping 30
 (d) 2009-10: Chatswood 27; Epping 28
- (2) Caseworkers are not allocated by electorate.

Note: Two Epping positions were relocated to the Metro Central Child and Family Referral Unit in 2009.

*10904 MENTAL HEALTH TELEPHONE TRIAGE 1800 NUMBER—Mr Kevin Humphries asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) How many mental health clinicians are staffed, at any one time, as telephone consultants for the 24/7 mental health telephone triage 1800 number?
- (2) How many calls were received each year for the past 4 years?
- (3) How many calls lead to hospital admissions as a result of the triage each year for the past 4 years?
- (4) How many calls lead to referrals to other mental health services as a result of the triage each year for the past 4 years?
- (5) What were the operating costs for the telephone service each year for the past 4 years?
- (6) (a) Do the clinicians make, or have they ever made, outbound calls to mental health consumers as a result of community mental health service teams being overloaded?
 (b) If so, when, and how many cases were there each year for the past 4 years?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (4) The statewide 1800 mental health telephone number was activated in December 2009. Data for the past 4 years is not available.

The statewide number is being promoted in a staged manner across the State. The number is currently operational in the Greater Western, Greater Southern and North Coast Area Health Services, and will soon be operational in Sydney South West and Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Services.

All Area Health Services have 24/7 mental health telephone triage services and these services continue to be accessed via existing numbers whilst the statewide number is being rolled out.

It is anticipated that the State number will be operational across the State by the end of the year. When the service is fully operational, approximately 70 FTE mental health professionals will staff the services across the State.

(5) The State Mental Health Telephone Access Line Program has an annual budget of \$7.7 million.

(6) (a) and (b) The mental health professionals staffing triage services would, as part of their role, make outbound calls where necessary according to clinical need and assessed urgency to care.

*10905 AIR-CONDITIONING REQUIREMENTS AT SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

(1) What assessments have been done to determine air-conditioning requirements at Sutherland Hospital?

(2) What is the total estimated cost of identified air-conditioning requirements?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) and (2) Assessment of the Sutherland Hospital air conditioning system is not required as the Hospital is fully air-conditioned. A new air-conditioning chiller plant was installed in 2004 as part of the construction of new hospital buildings. Existing air-conditioning was also refurbished at that time.

Air conditioning plants are maintained as necessary and no concerns have been raised by patients or staff in relation to air-conditioning. All plant and equipment is maintained under Service Contracts on an annual basis.

*10906 LIQUOR LICENCES—SUTHERLAND SHIRE—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister for Major Events—

(1) What is the total number of liquor licences in the Sutherland Shire for the period from 30 June 2009 to date?

(2) What is the total number of liquor licences in the Sutherland Shire for licensed hotels for the period from 30 June 2009 to date?

(3) What is the total number of liquor licences in the Sutherland Shire for licensed bottle shops for the period from 30 June 2009 to date?

Answer—

(1) 303 at 24 June 2010.

(2) 14 at 24 June 2010.

(3) 48 at 24 June 2010.

*10907 WAGGA WAGGA BASE HOSPITAL—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

(1) What date is the physical construction of the Wagga Wagga Base Hospital scheduled to begin?

(2) How many car parks are included in the new plans?

(3) How many beds will the hospital accommodate?

(4) How many beds will be provided for mental health?

(5) Are plans available for the public to view?

(6) Is information available to the public regarding the constructing process?

(7) Is there a document available to the public that explains the redevelopment process?

(8) When will the Minister provide artist and architectural plans for the public to view or will the plans be put on display in the near future?

Answer—

I am advised:

The planning works for Stage 1 will identify the optimum configuration, phasing, and delivery of the project, and will allow for the reconfiguration and refurbishment of some of the existing spaces, and the future expansion of the Wagga Wagga Hospital.

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The planning works will determine the appropriate number of acute and mental health beds, and car parking spaces, and will include planning for new and upgraded areas for the emergency department, paediatric inpatient wing, operating theatres and a number of acute inpatient areas.

The estimated total capital cost of Stage 1 works is \$90.0 million. Design information and illustrations will be made available for public display and community consultation.

The amended plan will be outlined in a Concept Plan document expected to be complete by early 2011, including plans for Stage 1 enabling works which are due to commence in 2011.

*10908BED BUGS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

With respect to reports of bed bugs in residential settings:

- (1) What reports has the Government received about the incidence of bed bugs and what action has NSW Health taken in response to these reports?
- (2) What public health risks do bed bugs present in the community?
- (3) What information does NSW Health provide about bed bug prevention and treatment to:
 - (a) councils;
 - (b) Housing NSW, community and Aboriginal housing providers;
 - (c) real estate agents, backpacker hostels and boarding house operators;
 - (d) tenants advice and advocacy services;
 - (e) travel agents and tour operators;
 - (f) the general public?
- (4) Where can concerned residents get up-to-date information about bed bugs in order to prevent transmission to new sites?
- (5) What is current best practice for prevention and treatment of bed bugs, and how does NSW Health ensure that this information is widely available?
- (6) What further action will NSW Health take to help people understand the risks of bed bugs and take practical action to prevent their spread?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) to (6) NSW Health has received reports in the last 5 years from both residential settings and accommodation sectors about bed bug infestations. NSW Health funded and collaborated on a survey undertaken by the Council of the City of Sydney of backpackers residences in the city that found that the majority of residences had had a bed bug infestation in the last 12 months. (NSW Public Health Bulletin Vol.15 No.11.12).

In response to these inquiries and the increasing global awareness of the prevalence of bed bugs NSW Health has collaborated closely with the Sydney West Area Health Service's Medical Entomology Department in developing and disseminating current, accurate and accessible public health information on bed bugs. The Medical Entomology Department has produced a Code of Practice for the Control of Bed Bug Infestations, now in its 3rd edition, designed to promote and support an integrated pest management approach to the control of bed bugs. The Code was developed in consultation with the pest management industry and provides detailed information on bed bug management and prevention. The Code is available on the internet.

In addition to the Code of Practice is a Bed Bug Management Policy, designed to assist organisations to establish clear and reasonable procedures for responding to infestations, particularly in setting out treatment regimes. The key areas of the policy include; defining responsibilities, education, documentation, occupational health and safety, eradication, prevention, and working with the media.

Bed bugs bite usually at night and skin reactions can vary greatly, often dependent on both the sensitivity of the individual as well as the quantity of bed bugs. Usually the bites are painless, though general discomfort and disturbed sleep patterns may be experienced. The severity of reactions can also change with increased exposure, with some individuals developing a more severe reaction with continual bites, while others can become sensitised with prolonged untreated infestations. People with cognitive impairment may be unaware that bed bugs are present.

The Bed Bug fact sheet can be found at <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/PublicHealth/environment/pests.asp> and to the NSW Code of Practice and Management Policy can be found on a dedicated bedbug website maintained by Sydney West Area Health Service's Department of Medical Entomology.

<http://medent.usyd.edu.au/bedbug/index.htm>

NSW Health actively promotes this publication through interagency and organisation liaison, including through environmental health forums, professional development of local government environment health workforce.

NSW Health will continue to work closely with industry and researchers to ensure evidence based and supported information on bed bug eradication is freely available. Additionally NSW Health will promote through professional development, public campaigns and the web information the integrated pest management of bed bugs.

*10909 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Special Minister of State—

- (1) What percentage fall in the unemployment rate is projected over the next financial year?
- (2) How many fewer unemployed people is this equivalent to?
- (3) Is the unemployment rate projected to fall below the national average?

Answer—

Information on employment figures can be found in the 2010-11 Budget papers.

*10910 AFFILIATED HEALTH ORGANISATIONS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Comparing actual spend to budget, why were affiliated health organisations underfunded by \$11.6 million in the 2009-2010 financial year?
- (2) Who gave instructions for or approved this reduction in funding?
- (3) Where was this reduced funding expenditure directed?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) Affiliated health organisations have not been underfunded by the NSW Government in the 2009-10 financial year.

The reduction of \$11.6 million for 2009-10 as shown in the 2010-11 budget papers reflects a change to the accounting treatment of Highly Specialised Drugs.

For 2009-10 the Commonwealth revised the method of payment for Highly Specialised Drugs so that payments are now made direct from Medicare Australia to NSW Health rather than through NSW Treasury consolidated funds and are therefore treated as revenue rather than an expense.

The accounting treatment of this change was not identified and applied at the time of preparing the initial 2009-10 budget but was included in the revised 2009-10 budget after the accounting treatment had been approved by the NSW Treasury.

The revised expense budget for 2009/10 comprises a reduction of \$25.4 million due to the change in accounting treatment of Highly Specialised Drugs and an increase in funding of \$13.8 million for escalations and enhancements.

Affiliated health organisations have a corresponding direct revenue budget increase of \$25.4 million for these highly specialised drugs.

*10911 ANNUALISED SAVINGS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

How much in annualised savings is likely to result in the Government having two fewer ministers in June 2010 than in May 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

The reduction in the size of the Ministry will save the additional salary entitlements for two Ministers. Any other staff or operational savings that may eventuate have yet to be determined.

*10912 FUTURE OF DALWOOD—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) Has a decision been made regarding the future of Dalwood?
- (2) Given that there are 2 weeks until the end of Term 2, and the last residential session finishes at this time, when will a decision be made by the expert advisory council and be announced to the parents?
- (3) How many times has the expert advisory council met since its formation?

Answer—

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(1) and (2) The expert advisory panel will provide advice to the NSW Government about ways to strengthen services for students with complex reading difficulties from remote and regional NSW in mid 2010. The Government will make an announcement shortly after.

For remaining 2010 referrals to the service, I have guaranteed that the current residential program will be available as needed at Royal Far West in Manly during the rest of this year for students identified as suitable for this intervention.

(3) Five times as at 22 June 2010.

*10913 LAPTOP CASES—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training—

In relation to slipcovers for the new Federal Government laptops:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that some of the new laptop cases do not fit the Federal Government issued laptops?
- (2) Is the problem an administrative issue or manufacturing issue?
- (3) (a) Will the incorrectly fitting laptop covers be replaced under warranty?
(b) If no, who will pay?
- (4) How much will the replacement laptop covers cost?
- (5) How many laptop screens have cracked due to poorly fitting laptop cases?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The tightness is a manufacturing issue. The cases were issued separately and free of charge from the supplier, Lenovo.
- (3) New covers will be issued without any cost to the NSW or Federal Governments.
- (4) Lenovo will supply new laptop cases at no charge.
- (5) At 16 June 2010, 1,170 laptops issued in 2010 were reported to have broken screens, although the laptop cases may not be responsible in all instances. Lenovo will replace all breakages under warranty except screens that are broken as a result of student negligence.

*10914 WADE HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) Given that due to the unavailability of casual teachers at Wade High School, 9 classes on 26 May and 10 classes on 27 May could not be run and students were required to sit on the school oval with minimal supervision, what is the Minister doing to ensure appropriate levels of inbuilt relief and district relief are available to address the issue?
- (2) Has the Minister contacted the school and/or DET region to specifically raise the issue of staffing at Wade High School?
- (3) Has the Minister ever visited the school?
- (4) Has the Director-General ever visited the school?
- (5) (a) Does the DET measure the rate of cancelled classes in NSW Government Schools?
(b) If so, does Wade High School have an unusually high rate of "cancelled classes"?
- (6) On how many occasions has the Minister been contacted by the local Federation representative regarding staffing issues at Wade High School in the last 12 months?

Answer—

The NSW Government and Department of Education and Training are committed to examining and implementing innovative and responsive strategies to ensure that public schools have an adequate supply of quality teachers, including temporary and casual teachers.

The Department assists schools in obtaining casual and temporary teachers to cover relief needs through the Teacher Relief Scheme, the Local Area Relief Program, the Rural Area Relief Program and the Inbuilt Relief Program.

Wade High School regularly uses the Department's Temporary Teacher Program initiatives to meet its casual staffing needs.

In addition to the continued employment of two teachers as Inbuilt Relief teachers in 2010, an additional two temporary teachers have been engaged for this year under the Teacher Relief Scheme to cover day to day relief needs at Wade High School.

The Department has also fast tracked the casual approval for an additional teacher identified by the Principal to cover a long term leave vacancy and assists the school with free advertising for casual teacher positions.

Senior officers from the Department's Staffing Services area are continuing to work closely with the Principal of Wade High School and the School Education Director to provide ongoing support in meeting the casual and temporary staffing needs of Wade High School.

*10915PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS—Mr Greg Piper asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

Are domestic consumers with photovoltaic systems compensated for the energy generated by their systems that is prevented from feeding into the grid during extensive power outages, i.e. scheduled maintenance and lengthy repairs?

Answer—

No. The NSW Solar Bonus Scheme is the most generous in Australia, with participants receiving 60 cents per kilowatt hour for the electricity that is generated by their complying generator and supplied to the grid.

NSW currently has very high electricity supply reliability of 99.975 per cent. I am advised that scheduled maintenance causes a very small fraction of the interruptions experienced by customers.

For example, in the case of EnergyAustralia scheduled maintenance caused less than 5 per cent of the interruptions customers experienced.

*10916LICENSED DRIVERS IN TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

What is the total number of Learner, Provisional P1, Provisional P2, Full, Heavy Vehicle, Learner Rider, Provisional Rider and Full Rider licensed drivers in the Tweed electorate in the following years:

- (a) 2008;
- (b) 2009;
- (c) year to date?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (a) As at 30 June 2008 in the Tweed electorate there were:
 - 2,025 learner drivers.
 - 1,629 P1 drivers.
 - 2,023 P2 drivers.
 - 40,033 drivers with an unrestricted licence.
 - 7,646 heavy vehicle licence holders.
 - 158 learner riders.
 - 59 P1 riders.
 - 6,317 riders with an unrestricted licence.
- (b) As at 30 June 2009 in the Tweed electorate there were:
 - 2,171 learner drivers.
 - 1,575 P1 drivers.
 - 2,243 P2 drivers.
 - 40,679 drivers with an unrestricted licence.
 - 7,621 heavy vehicle licence holders.
 - 201 learner riders.
 - 67 P1 riders.
 - 6,459 unrestricted rider licence holders.
- (c) As at 31 May 2010 in the Tweed electorate there were:
 - 2,086 learner drivers.
 - 1,683 P1 drivers.
 - 2,280 P2 drivers.
 - 41,459 drivers with an unrestricted licence.
 - 7,480 heavy vehicle licence holders.
 - 202 learner riders.
 - 121 P1 riders.
 - 6,536 riders with an unrestricted licence.

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*10917TWEED/BYRON LOCAL AREA COMMAND DETAINEES—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

Given advice that provisions of the Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2000 empower police to detain intoxicated persons found in a public place behaving in a disorderly manner likely to cause harm to themselves or another person or to damage property (Question 9546):

How many people in the Tweed/Byron Local Area Command have been detained under the provisions of the Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2000 in the last 12 months?

Answer—

I refer the Member to my response to his Written Question No. 10164 on the same subject.

*10918PROVISIONAL DRIVING TESTS—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

(1) How many provisional driving tests have been done through the Tweed Heads South RTA office in the following years:

- (a) 2009;
- (b) year to date?

(2) During this time, what percentage of provisional drivers have failed in their first driving test through the Tweed Heads South RTA office?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) (a) In 2009, 1041 applicants attempted the C-class (car) driving test for the first time at Tweed Heads Motor Registry.

(b) From 1 January 2010 to 31 May 2010, 473 applicants attempted the C-class (car) driving test for the first time at Tweed Heads Motor Registry.

(2) In 2009, 22 per cent (233) of car driving test applicants failed at their first attempt at Tweed Heads Motor Registry.

From 1 January 2010 to 31 May 2010, 17 per cent (82) of car driving test applicants failed at their first attempt at Tweed Heads Motor Registry.

*10919PAYMENT TO REBUT ARGUMENTS—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

(1) How much money was Bret Walker QC paid to rebut Tim Robertson SC's arguments on the National Parks and Wildlife (Tourists and Visitors) Amendment Bill (as tabled on 3 June 2010)?

(2) When was that advice requested?

(3) How long did it take to produce?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

(1) \$8,250 (including GST).

(2) 27 May 2010.

(3) Five days.

*10920DEFINITION OF "CLINICIAN"—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Given that the Macquarie Dictionary defines "clinician" as "a physician who studies diseases at the bedside or is skilled in clinical methods", why does the Minister use the word to encompass all doctors, all nurses and allied health professionals working in the public hospital system?

Answer—

I am advised:

The generally accepted definition of the term "clinician", supported by a number of sources, is a health professional involved in clinical practice as distinguished from other types of health workers, such as laboratory technicians and those employed in research.

*10921NEW SOFTWOOD TREES—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Mineral and Forest Resources, Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) How many tonnes of carbon dioxide are the 10.5 million new softwood trees announced in the Budget expected to absorb?
- (2) How much does each seedling cost?
- (3) How much does it cost to plant each seedling?
- (4) How much will it cost to purchase the land for these trees?
- (5) When will the planting be completed?
- (6) How long do the trees have to be maintained?
- (7) Will these trees be logged, and if so, when?

Answer—

- (1) 169,000 tonnes/CO₂-e on average per annum.
- (2) About \$0.35c each.
- (3) About \$0.25c each.
- (4) Land is not being purchased for the plantings. The plantings are being undertaken on Forests NSW land as part of normal sustainable harvesting and replanting operations.
- (5) August 2010.
- (6) 30 to 35 years.
- (7) Yes. The plantations will be thinned at age 18 and 25 years and clear-felled at age 30 to 35 years.

*10922NEW HARDWOOD TREES—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Mineral and Forest Resources, Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—

- (1) How many tonnes of carbon dioxide are the 1.5 million new hardwood trees announced in the Budget expected to absorb?
- (2) How much does each seedling cost?
- (3) How much does it cost to plant each seedling?
- (4) How much will it cost to purchase the land for these trees?
- (5) When will the planting be completed?
- (6) How long do the trees have to be maintained?
- (7) Will these trees be logged, and if so, when?

Answer—

- (1) 22,900 tonnes/CO₂-e on average per annum.
- (2) About \$0.45c each.
- (3) About \$0.25c each.
- (4) Land is not being purchased for the plantings. The plantings are being undertaken on Forests NSW land as part of normal sustainable harvesting and replanting operations.
- (5) March 2011.
- (6) 30 to 35 years.
- (7) Yes. The plantations will be thinned at about age 15 years and clear-felled at age 30 to 35 years.

*10923CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Why has the 2009-10 revised forecast for the "Two-yearly participation rate of women within cervical cancer screening target group (20-69)" result indicator dropped from the 2009-10 forecast?

Answer—

I am advised:

The forecast drop was mainly due to the change in participation rate calculation methodology. The method of calculating the population of women aged 50-69 has now changed to bring it in line with the accepted practice as per the Health Outcomes Information Statistical Toolkit (HOIST). The HOIST dataset takes into account specific adjustments relating to the NSW population and allows the participation rate calculation to dynamically account for real population change during the biennial period in question.

*10924BREAST CANCER SCREENING—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Why has the 2009-10 revised forecast for the "Two-yearly participation rate of women within breast cancer screening target group (50-69)" result indicator dropped from the 2009-10 forecast?

Answer—

I am advised:

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The forecast drop was mainly due to the change in participation rate calculation methodology. The method of calculating the population of women aged 50-69 has now changed to bring it in line with the accepted practice as per the Health Outcomes Information Statistical Toolkit (HOIST). The HOIST dataset takes into account specific adjustments relating to the NSW population and allows the participation rate calculation to dynamically account for real population change during the biennial period in question.

*10925RESULT INDICATORS—Mrs Jillian Skinner asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What are the revised 2009-10 and forecast 2010-11 figures for the below result indicators which appeared in Budget Estimates 2009-10 but were omitted from Budget Estimates 2010-11:

- (a) Fall injuries (hospitalisations for people aged 65 years and over) - for males and females;
- (b) Unplanned and unexpected hospital re-admission within 28 days;
- (c) Emergency Admission Performance (% treated within 8 hours);
- (d) Unplanned and unexpected hospital re-admission within 28 days of separation;
- (e) Low birth weight babies (less than 2,500g) for Aboriginal persons and non-Aboriginal persons;
- (f) Postnatal home visits (offered a visit within 2 weeks of birth);
- (g) Age standardised mortality rate in females aged 50 - 69 for breast cancer per 100,000?

Answer—

I am advised:

NSW Health reviews and revises the measures that are reported in Budget papers from year to year, in consultation with NSW Treasury, so that the indicators that are reported are relevant to the community and best reflect how the health system is performing.

NSW Health indicators, including those that are not reported in Budget papers are publicly reported each year in the NSW Health Annual Report.

*10926ADDITIONAL MARINE PARKS OR MARINE SANCTUARIES—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) Do any plans exist to establish additional marine parks or marine sanctuaries in the Pittwater or its estuaries?
- (2) If the answer to question (1) is yes, what are the details of these plans?

Answer—

- (1) No.
- (2) N/A

*10927CAULERPA TAXIFOLIA OUTBREAK—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) What is the latest information regarding the outbreak of *Caulerpa taxifolia* in Pittwater and its estuaries?
- (2) How often are surveys carried out by the Department of Primary Industries to examine the extent of the *Caulerpa taxifolia* outbreak?
- (3) What measures is the NSW Government taking to manage and/or eradicate the outbreak of *Caulerpa taxifolia* in Pittwater and its estuaries?

Answer—

- (1) *Caulerpa taxifolia* was first discovered in Pittwater in 2000. It is no longer considered to be an 'outbreak'. The distribution and abundance of *Caulerpa taxifolia* within this estuary is widespread. There are currently no known treatments that would be effective in this situation. Our emphasis is on managing the potential spread to other unaffected estuaries.
- (2) Surveys are carried out under the NSW Invasive Species Program Monitoring Evaluation and Review program in each of the *Caulerpa taxifolia* affected estuaries. Each estuary is surveyed at least once every 3 years under this program.
- (3) The NSW government has implemented a fishing closure in the known *Caulerpa taxifolia* affected area in Pittwater to minimise the risk of the spread of this marine pest by recreational and commercial netting. The current closure is effective until 15 February 2011.

The NSW government has produced various educational and advisory materials to manage the potential spread of the marine pest to other unaffected areas. These materials include brochures and signs describing the areas affected by *Caulerpa*, and what water users can do to effectively manage

the risk of spreading it to other areas. More information on all *Caulerpa* affected areas is also made available on the NSW government's Industry & Investment NSW website.

*10928 RECLASSIFICATION OF PITTWATER ROAD AND MCCARRS CREEK ROAD—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) On what date was the section of Pittwater Road and McCarrs Creek Road between Mona Vale and McCarrs Creek reclassified as a secondary road?
- (2) On what date did Pittwater Council receive notification that these roads were to be reclassified?
- (3) What works are scheduled to be undertaken by the RTA to ensure these roads are in a "fit for purpose condition" before responsibility is transferred to Pittwater Council?
- (4) On what date will Pittwater Council assume responsibility of these roads?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The date of the reclassification was 12 March 2010.
- (2) On 29 May 2009, the former Minister for Roads announced the Road Classification Review Panel's recommendations, including reclassification of Pittwater Road and McCarrs Creek Road. The Road Classification Review Panel first identified these roads for reclassification in its interim report to councils in December 2004.
- (3) The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) and Pittwater Council are yet to agree to any works that may be undertaken. The RTA is compiling additional information at the request of Pittwater Council.
- (4) No date has been agreed to for when the transfer of these roads will occur.

*10929 INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PANELS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

In reference to the NSW solar bonus scheme:

- (1) Will the Minister ensure consumers signing contracts for the installation of solar panels are given fair warning of any plans to terminate or alter the scheme?
- (2) If the answer to question (1) is yes, what plans does the NSW Government have to publicise any amendments to the scheme?
- (3) If the answer to question (1) is no, why not?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) The mechanisms for reviewing the Solar Bonus Scheme (the Scheme) are outlined in the NSW Electricity Supply Act 1995.

Should any changes to the length of the Scheme or the tariff rate be proposed in the future it would require legislative change.

Should changes be proposed, it is the Government's intention that this would apply only to new entrants to the Scheme.

*10930 MANLY WARRINGAH WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the increase in the number of homeless women living on the Northern Beaches?
- (2) How much funding was allocated to the Manly Warringah Women's Resource Centre in Dee Why during;
 - (a) 2007-08;
 - (b) 2008-09;
 - (c) 2009-10?
- (3) How much funding has been allocated to the centre in the 2010-11 Budget?
- (4) Will the Minister be approving any additional funding for the Women's Resource Centre in Dee Why given the increasing number of homeless women on the Northern Beaches?
- (5) If the answer to question (4) is yes, what are the details of this funding?
- (6) If the answer to question (4) is no, why not?

Answer—

- (1) and (4) Data from the National Data Collection Agency (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) indicates a general growth in homeless persons across the state.

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Through the NSW Homelessness Action Plan and Regional Homelessness Action Plans the NSW Government will realign existing effort, increasing the focus of the service system on prevention and early intervention and long-term accommodation and support.

(2) (a) and (b) Funding information for the Manly Warringah Women's Resources Centre is contained in the Annual Report which is available at www.community.nsw.gov.au

(c) \$198,325 (GST inclusive)

(3) \$203,283 (GST inclusive)

(5) and (6) Not applicable.

*10931 MONA VALE HOSPITAL MATERNITY WARD—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

Did the 2010-11 State Budget include the additional funding required to complete the renovations to Mona Vale Hospital's maternity ward?

Answer—

I am advised:

The 2010-11 State Budget included an allocation of funding to the Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service for local capital works like the Mona Vale maternity ward renovations. The allocation of this funding to individual projects is currently being determined.

*10932 2010-11 BUDGET—NORTHERN BEACHES HEALTH SERVICES—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In reference to the \$5 million allocated in the 2010-11 NSW Budget for "Planning to enable the commencement of Stage 1 of the Northern Beaches health services redevelopment on the Frenchs Forest site and associated works at Manly and Mona Vale hospitals" (Budget Paper No. 4 p. 3-25):

(1) What percentage of this \$5 million will be allocated towards:

(a) Mona Vale Hospital;

(b) Manly Hospital?

(c) the proposed Frenchs Forest Hospital?

(2) What are the "associated works" which this announcement refers to?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The 2010-11 Budget includes \$5 million to commence a \$29 million investment for planning and enabling works associated with the commencement of Stage One of the Northern Beaches health services redevelopment on the Frenchs Forest site, and for preparatory works at Manly and Mona Vale Hospitals.

Planning, consultation and the acquisition of land for the Northern Beaches Hospital development are well progressed. The Service Procurement and Project Definition Plans for the new hospital are being completed, and appropriate planning approvals progressed.

The completion of the planning phase will include the identification, specification and budgets for the proposed enabling works at the three sites.

(2) The "associated works" referred to are enabling works at Manly and Mona Vale Hospitals in preparation for the reconfiguration of services associated with the implementation of stage one of the Northern Beaches Hospital development.

*10933 RELOCATION OF DEPARTURE POINT—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

(1) Has a decision been made to relocate the departure point for Pittwater's express services from Carrington Street to Clarence Street?

(2) On what date was this decision made?

(3) What public consultation was undertaken before this decision was made?

(4) On what date was this decision publicly announced?

(5) What measures did the Government take to ensure commuters were informed of this change prior to it being commenced?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (5) There has been no decision to relocate the departure point for Pittwater's express services from Carrington Street to Clarence Street.

*10934CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AT MONA VALE AND MANLY HOSPITALS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) What has been the total capital expenditure at Mona Vale Hospital in the following years:
 - (a) 2006-07;
 - (b) 2007-08;
 - (c) 2008-09;
 - (d) 2009-10?
- (2) What has been the total capital expenditure at Manly Hospital in the following years;
 - (a) 2006-07;
 - (b) 2007-08;
 - (c) 2008-09;
 - (d) 2009-10?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The total capital expenditure at Mona Vale Hospital during the year:
 - (a) 2006-07: \$24,231
 - (b) 2007-08: \$1,168,225
 - (c) 2008-09: \$3,321,071
 - (d) 2009-10: \$432,679 (year to date 20 June 2010).
- (2) The total capital expenditure at Manly Hospital during the year:
 - (a) 2006-07: \$1,161,708
 - (b) 2007-08: \$523,389
 - (c) 2008-09: \$1,465,908
 - (d) 2009-10: \$451,595 (year to date 20 June 2010).

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*10935COUNTRY TOWNS WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE PROGRAM—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

- (1) How much funding was allocated to local government areas in the Albury electorate under the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program in 2009-10 and for which projects?
- (2) What water supply and sewerage projects in local government areas in the Albury electorate will be funded in the 2010-11 Budget?

Answer—

- (1) During 2009-10 under the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program, \$121,000 was allocated to the Albury Electorate as follows:
 - \$57,000 for emergency water cartage;
 - \$43,000 for Albury Integrated Water Cycle Management study; and
 - \$21,000 for Mulwala Sewerage.
- (2) Funding of \$0.9 million for Tumbarumba water treatment plant has been included in the 2010-11 Budget.

The Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program has provided funds in excess of \$13 million to the Albury electorate since the commencement of the current program in 1994.

*10936HEATING SYSTEM AT TUMBARUMBA HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of recent incidents at Tumbarumba High School involving the boiler heating system exploding, causing damage to the Deputy Principal's office, rendering one classroom unusable and damaging school property?

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- (2) Did initial repairs performed on the system fail resulting in a further two heaters exploding in the school?
- (3) Is the boiler heating system of an age that makes it difficult to acquire replacement parts?
- (4) Due to the age of the boiler heating system, was a certifier with the appropriate qualifications sourced from Canberra?
- (5) Did Tumbarumba High School have no heating capability from 29 April to 3 June 2010?
- (6) Was asbestos removal required as part of the repair work to the boiler heating system?
- (7) If asbestos removal was required, what notification was provided to parents and students and what precautions were taken?
- (8) As there are concerns regarding the serviceability of this aged boiler heating system, will the Minister's department urgently consider replacement with a modern system?

Answer—

- (1) I am advised the heating system at Tumbarumba High School did not explode. Metal heater registers attached to the heating system fractured as a result of air entering the system.
As a consequence, water entered the Deputy Principal's office, a storeroom and the hallway on the ground floor. Carpet was replaced in the Deputy Principal's office and new vinyl was laid in the storeroom and hallway. A heater register also leaked in an upstairs classroom resulting in the carpet in that room also being replaced.
- (2) No. The heater registers did not fracture again as a result of the system being operated.
- (3) No. Parts are hard to access for these types of systems, not because of their age, but because they are not a common heating system.
- (4) The system was serviced by engineers with the appropriate certification.
- (5) No. The heating system was in operation from 13 May 2010 until the week commencing 24 May 2010. Temporary heating was considered after the system was closed down a second time, but as the weather was holding, it was considered that temporary heating was not required.
- (6) Yes. Water damage to the Deputy Principal's office, a storeroom and the hallway resulted in the need to replace floor coverings, and the floor underneath contained asbestos.
- (7) A licensed asbestos removalist was engaged to remove the asbestos. The removal followed strict Department of Education and Training guidelines. The work was carried out under the supervision of a qualified hygienist who provided air monitoring and a clearance certificate upon completion. The Principal of the school was kept fully informed in relation to the asbestos removal and all other aspects of the repair work. At no time was there any risk to parents, students or staff at the school.
- (8) The Department of Education and Training has arranged for the fitting of safety systems into the operation of the boiler to ensure that air does not enter the heater system again. The Department's Regional Asset Management Directorate and the Facility Contractor have no concerns regarding the operation of the system. The boiler is a fairly modern system, estimated to be 15 years old.

*10937PUBLIC HOUSING—PORT STEPHENS—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) How many people applied for public housing in the Port Stephens electorate in 2008/09?
- (2) How many people applied for public housing in the Port Stephens electorate in 2009/10?
- (3) How many households in the Port Stephens electorate applied for rental assistance in 2008/09?
- (4) How many households in the Port Stephens electorate applied for rental assistance in 2009/10?
- (5) How much was spent on temporary accommodation in 2008/09?
- (6) How much was spent on temporary accommodation in 2009/10?
- (7) How much was spent on rental assistance in 2008/09?
- (8) How much was spent on rental assistance in 2009/10?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) In 2008-09, approximately 57,000 applications for public housing were received across NSW and approximately 60,000 were received in 2009-10.
- (3) and (4) In 2008-09, approximately 33,000 households were assisted with rental assistance across NSW and approximately 35,000 were assisted in 2009-10.
- (5) and (6) In 2008-09, approximately \$12 million was spent on temporary accommodation and \$17 million spent in 2009-10.
- (7) and (8) In 2008-09, approximately \$20 million was spent on rental assistance and \$24 million was spent in 2009-10.

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*10938 AMBULANCE CREWS—PORT STEPHENS—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

(1) How many ambulance crews were operating in the Port Stephens electorate in:

- (a) 1995 and where were they located?
- (b) 1996 and where were they located?
- (c) 1997 and where were they located?
- (d) 1998 and where were they located?
- (e) 1999 and where were they located?
- (f) 2000 and where were they located?
- (g) 2001 and where were they located?
- (h) 2002 and where were they located?
- (i) 2003 and where were they located?
- (j) 2004 and where were they located?
- (k) 2005 and where were they located?
- (l) 2006 and where were they located?
- (m) 2007 and where were they located?
- (n) 2008 and where were they located?
- (o) 2009 and where were they located?
- (p) 2010 to date and where are they located?

Answer—

The following table indicates the number of Ambulance crews, each of two officers, operating in the Port Stephens electorate:

Operating crews as at 30 June	Nelson Bay	Raymond Terrace	Tanilba Bay#	Tea Gardens
1995	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	n/a	1 day/on call after hours
1996	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	n/a	1 day/on call after hours
1997	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	n/a	1 day/on call after hours
1998	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	n/a	1 day/on call after hours
1999	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	n/a	1 day/on call after hours
2000	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	n/a	1 day/on call after hours
2001	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/on call after hours
2002	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/on call after hours
2003	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/on call after hours
2004	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/on call after hours
2005	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/on call after hours
2006	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/on call after hours
2007	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/on call after hours
2008	2 day*/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/on call after hours
2009	2 day*/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/on call after hours
2010 to date	2 day*/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/1 night	1 day/on call after hours

* Except for Wednesday when there is one day shift crew.

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Tanilba Bay Ambulance Station was opened in 2001 and represented an enhancement of eleven full-time equivalent staff to service the Port Stephens region.

*10939 WIDENING OF NELSON BAY ROAD—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Was any funding allocated to widening of Nelson Bay Road between Anna Bay and Bob's Farm in the 2010/11 State Budget?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) If so, how much and how will it be spent?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) I am advised that the concept design is currently being completed as part of the project development. Once finalised, the project will be considered for funding against other statewide priorities.

*10940 ALLOCATED FUNDS FOR MYALL RIVER—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Was any funding allocated to fixing the Myall River at Tea Gardens in the 2010/11 State Budget?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) If so, how much and how will it be spent?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

- (1) No new funding was allocated from the Climate Change and Environment portfolio for any projects relating to Myall River in the 2010/11 budget.
- (2) Studies funded by the NSW Government and Great Lakes Council are currently underway to assess the health of the Myall River and develop a long term management strategy for the Myall River entrance at Tea Gardens.
- (3) Not applicable.

*10941 HIGH SCHOOL FUNDING—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) Was any funding allocated to the expansion of high schooling in west Port Stephens and/or a high school for Medowie in the 2010/11 State Budget?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) If so, how much and how will it be spent?

Answer—

- (1) No.
- (2) Hunter River High School and Irrawang High School in Raymond Terrace are able to accommodate current and projected enrolments from the Port Stephens area.
- (3) Not applicable.

*10942 HEALTHONE CLINIC—RAYMOND TERRACE—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) Was any funding allocated to the extension of the HealthOne clinic in Raymond Terrace in the 2010/11 State Budget?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) If so, how much and how will it be spent?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) The NSW Government has purchased the site for the HealthOne Clinic at 4 Jacaranda Avenue, Raymond Terrace. The purchase was settled in April 2010 at a cost of \$1,300,000 (ex GST).

The Development Approval is expected to be submitted in December 2010. Construction is expected to commence in June 2011 and is expected to be completed in June 2012. The facility is expected to be operational in July 2012.

*10943 EXTENSION OF F3 TO RAYMOND TERRACE—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) Was any funding allocated to the extension of the F3 to Raymond Terrace in the 2010/11 State Budget?

- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) If so, how much and how will it be spent?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) No funds were allocated in the 2010-11 State budget.
- (2) The F3 Freeway to Raymond Terrace upgrade will provide an improved link between the F3 Freeway near Beresfield and the completed Raymond Terrace bypass on the Pacific Highway. However, the connections between these two major routes are already to a dual carriageway standard and available funding for the upgrade of the Pacific Highway is being directed to upgrading two-lane sections of the existing highway to a four lane dual carriageway standard.

A total of \$3.6 billion will be invested to upgrade the Pacific Highway between 2009 and 2014.

- (3) N/A

*10944EXEMPTIONS FOR BUSES—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

Given that the then Minister for Roads stated back in April 2008 that he had referred issues regarding exemptions, buses seemed to be receiving for speeding whilst carrying passengers to ICAC:

- (1) What was ICAC's response to the referral?
- (2) What action has the Government taken in relation to the report?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) In April 2008 various media reports alleged that bus drivers had not been issued with speeding fines from speed cameras since a problem was discovered with a speed camera in 2005.

The evidence gathered shows that the allegations regarding the suspension of infringements were not 'corrupt behaviour' by any member of RTA staff as defined under the ICAC enabling legislation. The Independent Commission against Corruption determined not to take any action.

*10945EXCESSIVE NOISE—WARRINGAH FREEWAY—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In relation to ongoing excessive noise from the Warringah Freeway impacting residents in Cammeray and Crows Nest:

- (1) Has the Minister made himself aware of this issue given residents have been calling for action for the past 15 years?
- (2) What is the Minister's policy in relation to excessive noise caused to residents due to the Roads and Traffic Authority decisions to re-direct traffic flows?
- (3) Does the Minister consider appropriate noise barriers as a suitable response from Government?
- (4) If not, why not?
- (5) What relief is the Minister proposing for residents of Cammeray and Crows Nest now adversely impacted?

Answer—

- (1) to (5) I am advised that noise abatement measures along existing roads that do not form part of a new road or upgrade project are currently funded under the Noise Abatement Program.

Sites are considered for treatment on a priority basis in consideration of the current noise exposure, length of ownership, practical installation, visual impacts and cost-effectiveness.

Construction of noise barriers are considered to be a suitable response when they are an appropriate treatment.

Residents who are adversely affected by road traffic noise can call the RTA on 131782 to be registered under the Noise Abatement Program. The RTA will use this information to investigate whether treatment under the Noise Abatement Program is appropriate.

*10946BUDGET PAPERS—NEW GENERATION WARATAH ROLLINGSTOCK—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

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In relation to \$159.8 million for various safety and reliability improvements to infrastructure, including electrical traction power supply through new upgraded substations and high voltage transmission lines to meet the needs of new generation Waratah rollingstock (BP3 Vol 2, 13-16):

- (1) What is the total cost of safety and reliability improvements to meet the needs of new generation Waratah rollingstock?
- (2) When will the work be complete?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) \$90 million of the \$159.8 million for various safety and reliability improvements of infrastructure is attributable to improving the Traction Power Supply for the Waratah rollingstock.
- (2) The projects within the Traction Power Supply works will be completed on time to meet the required timetable for the introduction of the Waratah rollingstock.

*10947BUDGET PAPERS—CLEARWAYS—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

In relation to clearways as listed in the NSW Budget 2010-2011:

- (1) How much of \$303.92 billion will be spent on each of the following projects:
 - (a) Homebush turnback;
 - (b) Lidcombe turnback;
 - (c) Liverpool turnback;
 - (d) Kingsgrove to Revesby quadruplication;
 - (e) Richmond line duplication;
 - (f) Macarthur new platform?
- (2) What is the revised total cost and end completion date for each project?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1)
 - (a) and (b) \$16.2 million on the final commissioning of Homebush and Lidcombe turnbacks.
 - (c) and (b) \$20.3 million for Liverpool turnback.
 - (d) \$173.6 million for Kingsgrove to Revesby quadruplication.
 - (e) \$84.1 million Richmond line duplication.
 - (f) \$2.3 million for the new platform at Macarthur
- (2) The estimated final Rail Clearway cost for each of the remaining projects are as follows:
 - Homebush Turnback and Lidcombe Turnback: \$104.6 million
 - Liverpool Turnback: \$146.6 million
 - Kingsgrove to Revesby Quadruplication: \$793.5 million
 - Richmond Line Duplication (Stage 1 only): \$236.4 million
 - Macarthur Station Upgrade and Interchange \$41.4 million

Other Information relating to individual projects under the Rail Clearways Program can be found at www.tca.nsw.gov.au

*10948BUDGET PAPERS—TRANSPORT INTERCHANGES—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

In relation to transport interchanges as listed in the NSW Budget 2010-2011:

- (1) When were the following interchanges first announced and at what cost:
 - (a) Werrington;
 - (b) North Strathfield;
 - (c) Sutherland;
 - (d) Kingswood;
 - (e) Granville;
 - (f) Panania (bus shelter);
 - (g) Narwee;
 - (h) Allawah;

- (i) Kogarah;
- (j) Fairfield;
- (k) Hurstville?

(2) What is the revised cost and completion date for each transport interchange as listed above?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) Interchanges (a) to (j) were announced as part of the 2010-11 NSW State Budget.

Scoping studies for some of the above interchanges have been previously announced.

The total cost for interchanges (a) to (j), as part of the 2010-11 NSW State Budget is \$31.18 million.

The new Hurstville Bus Interchange is a Hurstville Council project and is being delivered by Council. The project was announced in 2007, with a NSW State Government allocation of \$14.5 million towards its cost.

(2) The cost for Interchanges (a) to (j) have not been revised since announced in the 2010-11 NSW State Budget.

After an application by Council to expand the Hurstville Bus Interchange project to accommodate key stakeholder input and future bus and passenger growth, the NSW State Government increased its contribution to the project to \$17.25 million.

(3) Funding has been allocated during the 2010-11 and 2011-12 financial years to complete the upgrades (a) to (j).

Hurstville Council advises that the Hurstville Bus Interchange upgrade is scheduled for completion early 2011.

*10949BUDGET PAPERS—COMMUTER CAR PARKS—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

In relation to commuter car parks as listed in the NSW Budget 2010-11:

- (1) What are the 29 commuter car parks?
- (2) How many and which of the 29 commuter car parks under the current Commuter Car Park Program (BP3 Vol 2, 13-7) are now able to be used by the public?
- (3) How many and which of the 29 commuter car parks are under construction?
- (4) What two car parks are yet to start and what stage are they at?
- (5) What is the total cost of the 29 car parks?
- (6) Are the 15 new car parks (NSW Budget 2010-11 BP3 Vol 2, 13-13) part of the 29 commuter car parks as listed in BP3 Vol 2, 13-7?
- (7) If not, what is the total cost for the extra 15 car parks?
- (8) Is the Macarthur commuter car park regarded as two car parks?
- (9) If not, what are the 15 commuter car parks?
- (10) What is the status of each of the 15 commuter car parks?
- (11) Which funding program do the following car parks come under, what is the total cost, when was each car park first announced and what is the completion date for each car park listed below:
 - (a) Gosford (partly funded by the Australian Government);
 - (b) Broadmeadow;
 - (c) Blaxland;
 - (d) Rockdale;
 - (e) Mortdale;
 - (f) Mount Druitt;
 - (g) Padstow;
 - (h) Cabramatta?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The 29 commuter car parks that form the Commuter Car Park Program are located at Wentworthville, Helensburgh, Glenfield (Seddon Park), Glenfield (Multi-storey), Morisset, Campbelltown, Holsworthy, Tuggerah, Windsor, Werrington, Katoomba, Woonona, Ourimbah, Berowra, Waterfall, Emu Plains, Macarthur (Menangle Road), Macarthur (Tailby Street), Wyong, Quakers Hill, St Marys, Seven Hills, Wollongong, Revesby, Woy Woy, Blacktown, Warwick Farm, Schofields and Penrith.

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(2) As of 6 July 2010, ten (10) commuter car parks are completed and open to the public as part of the Commuter Car Park Program including Campbelltown, Glenfield (Seddon Park), Helensburgh, Holsworthy, Ourimbah, Tuggerah, Wentworthville, Windsor, Woonona and Werrington.

(3) and (4) Of the 29 commuter car parks being delivered as part of the Commuter Car Park Program:

- 10 are completed;
- 17 are under construction; and
- 2 are in planning.

The two commuter car parks in planning are:

- Schofields - to be delivered as part of the Richmond Line Duplication and scheduled to commence later this year; and
- Penrith - to be delivered by Penrith City Council.

(5) The NSW Government is investing \$347 million in the Commuter Car Park Program.

(6) Yes.

(7) N/A

(8) Two commuter car parks are being delivered at Macarthur:

- Macarthur (Menangle Road) is being constructed adjacent to Macarthur Station off Menangle Road providing 80 spaces for commuters
- Macarthur (Tailby Street) is being constructed off Tailby Street and will provide approximately 450 spaces for commuters.

(9) N/A

(10) The 15 commuter car parks referenced in NSW Budget 2010-11 BP3 Vol 2, 13-13 are all under construction.

(11) The 2010-11 State Budget allocated \$9 million towards new commuter car parks at Gosford, Broadmeadow and Blaxland. These new commuter car parks were announced as part of the 2010-11 Budget.

The Metropolitan Transport Plan, announced in February 2010, allocates more than \$400 million over ten years towards new commuter car parks and interchanges. This includes new commuter car parks Rockdale, Mortdale, Mount Druitt, Padstow and Cabramatta.

These eight (8) car parks are all currently in the planning stage.

*10950 BUDGET PAPERS—OTHER TRANSPORT SERVICES—Ms Gladys Berejiklian asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

In relation to \$40.1 million being allocated to 130 organisations under the Home and Community Care Program and the NSW Community Transport Program (Budget Estimates 2010-11, BP3 Vol 2, 13-7):

- (1) How much of the \$40.1 million comes under HACC funding?
- (2) How much of the \$40.1 million comes under CTP funding?
- (3) What was the total amount allocated under the 2009-10 NSW Budget to help transport disadvantaged persons?
- (4) How much of the 2009-10 NSW Budget to help transport disadvantaged persons came under HACC funding?
- (5) How much of the 2009-10 NSW Budget to help transport disadvantaged persons came under CTP funding?
- (6) What was the total number of organisations in 2009-10?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (6) Transport NSW provided more than \$40 million in the 2009-10 financial year to 130 organisations through Local and Community Transport Programs to assist transport disadvantaged people in NSW, including many in rural and regional locations. This included \$36.3 million administered under the Home and Community Care (HACC) Community Transport Sub-program, and \$3.8 million administered under the NSW Community Transport Program.

*10951 HOME MODIFICATION PROGRAM—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Education and Training representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, Minister for Volunteering, and Minister for Youth—

Given Home modifications and maintenance scheme level 3 funding (\$20,000 and above) for the 2009-10 periods, what approaches were made by the Minister's office to Treasury to address the shortfall in funding for this scheme that developed prior to Christmas 2009 that resulted in home modifications level 3 requests being effectively held over until the next budget?

Answer—

The Home Modification scheme is funded through the Home and Community Care (HACC) program. The HACC program is jointly funded by the NSW and Australian Governments. Therefore, any additional funding for the Home Modification scheme needs to be sourced from HACC growth funding rather than a separate allocation from NSW Treasury.

*10952 PERMANENT CRISIS ACCOMMODATION—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Education and Training representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, Minister for Volunteering, and Minister for Youth—

- (1) How many people have received permanent crisis accommodation in 2009-10?
- (2) What is the average time period from an application from an individual requiring crisis accommodation from the parental home to them receiving it?
- (3) What is the average time period from an application from an individual requiring crisis accommodation from hospital or rehabilitation hospital to them receiving it?
- (4) How many young people (under the age of 45) have been placed in NSW aged care facilities directly from hospital or rehabilitation facilities in each year since 2006 and what are the ages of each of these individuals?
- (5) How many people are languishing in hospital or rehabilitation beds that have current applications or advocates support working with the department with applications for accommodation services?

Answer—

- (1) to (5) Ageing, Disability and Home Care (ADHC) funds the Emergency Response (ER) program to provide interim supports for people with a disability, who have a need for unplanned, short-term support, as well as people whose informal accommodation supports have broken down and require support until suitable permanent accommodation supports can be identified.

ADHC aims to respond immediately to support people with a disability, their families and carers who are in crisis.

As soon as an individual is deemed eligible for ER program funding, ADHC immediately liaises with relevant stakeholders to ensure that the individual transitions into the most appropriate and suitable accommodation support placement.

Responsibility for aged care facilities falls under the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA).

*10953 AGEING PARENT CARERS—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Education and Training representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, Minister for Volunteering, and Minister for Youth—

- (1) (a) How many ageing parent carers have had their Federally funded, State managed respite packages ceased this year?
(b) What method was used to inform the carers of this cessation of respite?
- (2) What process would be available to these ageing parent carers, who have proven eligibility and have received great life benefits and opportunities from this package, to reapply for the packages they were previously in receipt of?
- (3) If these packages are no longer available to some ageing parent carers, what replacement packages are being offered and what is the present degree of uptake of these packages?
- (4) What was the original reason that these respite packages were made available to these ageing parent carers?
- (5) Does the Government consider that the ageing parent carers situations have changed for the better and thus in the Minister's view no longer need these services?
- (6) How many of these ageing parent carers have lost their respite because the Government has provided them with accommodation services for their sons/daughters, brother/sisters?

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Answer—

- (1) to (6) There are 1,029 places funded through the Respite for Ageing Parent Carer Program and the respite services for older carers under the Disability Assistance Package. There has been no change to funding arrangements for these services targeting older carers of people with a disability in NSW.

The criteria for prioritising access to older carer respite packages are based on assessment of need against a range of factors affecting the carer and care recipient.

Any carer can contact the ADHC regional Intake, Referral and Information (IRI) service or non-government service providers regarding access to respite services.

*10954MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Education and Training representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, Minister for Volunteering, and Minister for Youth—

- (1) What is the effectiveness of existing Memorandums of Understanding operating between human services areas such as ADHC and DoCS?
- (2) How affective are they in supporting the individual in need transition through complimentary services being offered by different departments such as NSW Health?
- (3) In the case of the MOUs with the DoCS, how affective are they in supporting children with disability who are at risk of entering the care system?
- (4) How many children with disabilities have gone under the care of DoCS in the past 5 years in order to obtain disability services?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) An independent evaluation of the 2003 Ageing, Disability and Home Care (ADHC) /Community Services (CS) Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was commissioned by ADHC and CS in 2008. The main findings of the evaluation were that the MoU was successful in providing structured process for discussing joint clients and there was a substantial increase in understanding amongst staff from both agencies about roles and responsibilities. Other findings were that there was more collaboration between the agencies; the resolution of ambiguous or contentious areas of responsibility improved considerably; and most staff in both agencies knew who to contact to escalate a case under the MoU.

ADHC is working with a number of government agencies to facilitate access to complementary services for people with a disability.

Under the ADHC/CS MoU, joint action plans may be developed by case managers for individual clients. Where appropriate, these plans will include details on accessing complementary services.

ADHC has established services designed to support children and young people with a disability and their families at risk of requiring out-of-home care. These include the Intensive Family Support and Extended Family Support Programs. The Early Start initiative includes early childhood intervention, diagnosis support and My Plan My Choice - all of which are initiatives designed to support families and minimise the risk that they will require more intensive services or enter the care and protection system.

*10956PUBLIC SECTOR HIRING FREEZE—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In relation to public sector hiring freeze:

- (1) How many frontline workers have been employed since July 2009?
- (2) How many non-frontline workers have been employed since July 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

The collection of the workforce profile for the year ending 30 June 2010 is not yet complete.

*10957PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

In relation to public sector reform:

Given the NSW Government restructure of the public sector into 13 Super Departments, what has been the reduction in employee numbers using the Government's definition of "frontline versus non-frontline" staff since July 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

The collection of the workforce profile for the year ending 30 June 2010 is not yet complete.

*10958HOUSING NSW—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) How many Housing NSW properties were placed on the sales list program during FYE 2010 to-date in:
 - (a) Denistone;
 - (b) Denistone East;
 - (c) Denistone West;
 - (d) Eastwood;
 - (e) Macquarie Park;
 - (f) Marsfield;
 - (g) Meadowbank;
 - (h) North Ryde;
 - (i) Ryde;
 - (j) West Ryde?
- (2) How many Housing NSW tenants have been affected by a decision to place their property on the sales program list during FYE 2010 to-date in:
 - (a) Denistone;
 - (b) Denistone East;
 - (c) Denistone West;
 - (d) Eastwood;
 - (e) Macquarie Park;
 - (f) Marsfield;
 - (g) Meadowbank;
 - (h) North Ryde;
 - (i) Ryde;
 - (j) West Ryde?
- (3) On how many occasions has Housing NSW reversed its original decision and removed properties from the sales list during FYE 2010 to-date in:
 - (a) Denistone;
 - (b) Denistone East;
 - (c) Denistone West;
 - (d) Eastwood;
 - (e) Macquarie Park;
 - (f) Marsfield;
 - (g) Meadowbank;
 - (h) North Ryde;
 - (i) Ryde;
 - (j) West Ryde?
- (4) How many new properties are due for inclusion on the sales list program in the Ryde district during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2009;
 - (b) financial year ending 2010;
 - (c) financial year ending 2011?

Answer—

- (1) Housing NSW sells a very small number of properties each year. Independent market valuations are used to set prices for disposal. All proceeds from the sale of properties are re-invested into providing housing assistance.
- (2) If a tenant is asked to relocate, Housing NSW visits each tenant to talk to them about their specific needs and will find them a suitable property in their requested area.
- (3) No sale approval has been rescinded in the suburbs listed. However, Housing NSW will defer the sale of a property due to medical or personal circumstances of the tenant or household members.
- (4) See answer (1).

*10959NSW HEALTH SMOKE-FREE WORKPLACE POLICY 1999—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

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In relation to the goal of the NSW Health Smoke-free Workplace Policy 1999 to prohibit smoking throughout all property controlled by NSW Health:

- (1) As at 1 June 2010 how many NSW hospitals retain outdoor areas on hospital grounds that are exempted from the policy?
- (2) What is the average number of outdoor smoking areas on hospital grounds per hospital?
- (3) How many outdoor smoking areas are there on the grounds of Ryde Hospital?

Answer—

I am advised:

The purpose of the NSW Health Smoke Free Workplace Policy is to reduce the number of patients, staff and visitors exposed to environmental tobacco smoke when in contact with NSW Health's facilities, with implementation planned to occur over four phases.

All NSW Area Health Service hospital campuses are now smoke free. Exemptions from the policy remain in place for some services, including mental healthcare facilities, where smoking is permitted in outdoor designated smoking areas only. As a result, limited outdoor designated smoking areas are currently retained in some hospital campuses. Exemptions from the Policy are approved by local level implementation committees within the Area Health Service and all Area Health Services are expected to continue to progress action under the Policy.

The implementation and enforcement of the NSW Health Smoke Free Workplace Policy is the responsibility of the Chief Executive within each Area Health Service and it is the Chief Executives' discretion to determine the timing of implementation based on local circumstances and consultation with healthcare consumers and the community. Practical advice is provided to Chief Executives and designated personnel in Area Health Services who are planning the implementation of the NSW Health Smoke Free Workplace Policy in NSW public hospitals, residential mental healthcare facilities and drug and/or alcohol facilities (including step-down units) used by mental healthcare consumers.

Ryde Public Hospital provides both acute and non-acute inpatient services, including drug and alcohol and mental healthcare services.

*10960 PEDESTRIAN CROSSING DEVLIN STREET AND BLAXLAND ROAD CONTRACT—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In reference to my letter of 11 May 2010 to the previous Minister for Roads in relation to the reinstatement of the "at-grade" pedestrian crossing at the corner of Devlin Street and Blaxland Road (access to Top Ryde Shopping Centre):

- (1) What contracts or agreements exist between Beville Group, Ryde Council and the Roads and Transport Authority in relation to the removal of the "at-grade" pedestrian crossing and the installation of the two pedestrian bridges over Devlin Street and Lane Cove Road into Top Ryde Shopping Centre?
- (2) If such contracts or agreements exist, do these preclude the co-existence of "at-grade" pedestrian access?
- (3) When will the Roads and Traffic Authority finalise its decision on the reinstatement of the Devlin Street "at-grade" pedestrian crossing?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Ryde City Council and The Beville Group entered into a Public Private Partnership for the redevelopment of Top Ryde Shopping Centre.

As part of the development assessment, a comprehensive 'Integrated Traffic Solution' proposed the removal of the ground level crossing and subsequently was endorsed by the council, after consideration of traffic impacts at this intersection. A critical feature of the 'Integrated Traffic Solution' was the removal of the ground level pedestrian crossings across Devlin Street, providing improved road safety and network efficiency.

To facilitate pedestrian movements across Devlin Street, the developer was required to construct two new pedestrian bridges. The first pedestrian bridge was commissioned in November 2009 and is owned and maintained by the developer. The second bridge, 150 metres north of the first bridge, is under construction and due to be completed by August 2010.

- (2) Traffic modelling carried out as part of the "Integrated Traffic Solution" concluded that the removal of the ground level crossing would maintain intersection level of service at an acceptable level, while accommodating additional traffic generation as part of the redevelopment.

- (3) Two pedestrian bridges, one already completed and another under construction will provide improved safety for pedestrians and enhanced network efficiency.

*10961 PEDESTRIAN CROSSING CORNER OF DEVLIN STREET AND BLAXLAND ROAD—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In reference to my letter of 11 May 2010 to the previous Minister for Roads in relation to the reinstatement of the "at-grade" pedestrian crossing at the corner of Devlin Street and Blaxland Road (access to Top Ryde Shopping Centre):

- (1) What requirements exist for "at-grade" pedestrian crossings to be available on major arterial roads near public amenities? What is the maximum distance allowable between "at-grade" pedestrian crossings on major arterial roads?
- (2) Are there any other examples of "at-grade" crossings co-existing with pedestrian footbridges (at the same intersection)?
- (3) If so, in what locations?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) As the provision of pedestrian crossings is based on considerations including the number of pedestrians and the number of vehicles, there is no maximum distance between pedestrian crossings. Normal practice would be to remove the at grade crossing facility once a safer footbridge is provided.

*10962 REGULATIONS FOR PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In reference to my letter of 11 May 2010 to the previous Minister for Roads in relation to the reinstatement of the "at-grade" pedestrian crossing at the corner of Devlin Street and Blaxland Road (access to Top Ryde Shopping Centre):

- (1) What regulations exist for the "reasonable" provision of pedestrian crossings near major amenities?
- (2) What regulations exist for adequate and reliable access to pedestrian footbridges (i.e. lifts) needed to cross major roads?
- (3) What regulations exist for the provision of reasonable crossing alternatives for the elderly and people with poor mobility unable to climb stairs to access pedestrian footbridges?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (3) There are no regulations dealing with the provision of pedestrian crossings near major amenities, however, there are accepted traffic engineering guidelines which can be used to identify the need for a pedestrian crossing.

Under the federal Disability Discrimination Act the elderly and people with poor mobility must be catered for. This is usually done by providing a ramp or lift.

*10963 ENERGY AUSTRALIA'S BUDGET—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

In relation to EnergyAustralia's work on the new \$30 million Top Ryde (Buffalo Road) substation:

- (1) What is the budget for the project during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2009;
 - (b) financial year ending 2010;
 - (c) financial year ending 2011?
- (2) When will excavation of the site commence?
- (3) When will underground cabling work be completed?
- (4) What is the estimated date of completion for the project?

Answer—

- (1) (a) \$2.1 million.
- (b) \$12.7 million.
- (c) \$18.9 million.

These costs are for the Top Ryde zone substation, associated 11kV augmentation and transfer of load

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from North Ryde zone substation.

(2) Bulk excavation work for the zone substation commenced in April 2009 and was completed in October 2009. Completion of the civil works is expected in August 2010.

(3) There are four components to the underground cabling works in the area of the Top Ryde zone substation project.

- 132kV Feeder joint bays were installed before construction work started on Top Ryde zone substation and were completed in early 2009.
- 132kV Feeders into the substation are forecast to be completed in December 2010.
- The installation of six 11kV Feeders out of the substation are forecast to be completed by January 2011.
- A majority of the 11kV development works in the surrounding streets are complete. The last section of cabling work will be completed in association with commissioning in early 2011.

(4) It is forecast that the substation will be commissioned and completed by mid-2011.

*10964ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION IN RYDE—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

In relation to EnergyAustralia's statement that electricity consumption in Ryde has been growing at three per cent per year (Media Release 19/3/2009 "Work at Top Ryde substation begins to secure the area's power"):

- (1) How much is electricity consumption in Ryde forecast to grow over the next:
 - (a) 2 years;
 - (b) 5 years;
 - (c) 10 years; and
 - (d) 20 years?
- (2) What is the electricity consumption forecast for Top Ryde Shopping Centre in:
 - (a) 2 years;
 - (b) 5 years;
 - (c) 10 years; and
 - (d) 20 years;
- (3) What is the electricity consumption forecast for the Macquarie Centre Shopping Complex in:
 - (a) 2 years;
 - (b) 5 years;
 - (c) 10 years; and
 - (d) 20 years?
- (4) What is the electricity consumption forecast for the Macquarie University Campus in:
 - (a) 2 years;
 - (b) 5 years;
 - (c) 10 years; and
 - (d) 20 years?

Answer—

I am advised by EnergyAustralia:

- (1) The peak demand is expected to increase by:
 - (a) 4%
 - (b) 1.9%
 - (c) 1.8%
 - (d) 1.7%
- (2) to (4) This question relates to EnergyAustralia customer information and may be commercially sensitive. To obtain information of this kind, I suggest the member contact the customers directly.

*10965ENERGYAUSTRALIA'S MAINTENANCE WORK—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

In relation to EnergyAustralia's maintenance work on the electricity network in the Eastwood area:

- (1) How much money was spent on the recent underground cabling near Darvall Park?

- (2) How much money was spent on the recent insulation of cable near Reserve Street, West Ryde?
- (3) How much money was spent on maintenance and upgrades of substations servicing the Eastwood area during:
- (a) financial year ending 2005;
 - (b) financial year ending 2006;
 - (c) financial year ending 2007;
 - (d) financial year ending 2008;
 - (e) financial year ending 2009?

Answer—

I am advised by EnergyAustralia:

- (1) \$920,000
- (2) \$110,000
- (3) (a) \$8.7 million
- (b) \$8 million
- (c) \$9.4 million
- (d) \$9 million
- (e) 6.4 million

The above figures include the maintenance and capital works of all substations in EnergyAustralia's Sydney North Region as EnergyAustralia does not have records for money spent in individual suburbs. The figures include money spent on the upgrades of substations only and does not include investment on other network infrastructure - for example - vegetation management, streetlighting, cables and wires. They also do not include capital contributions towards new substations spent by developers to supply developments.

*10966UPGRADE OF THE ELECTRICITY NETWORK—NORTHERN DISTRICTS—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

In relation to EnergyAustralia's commitment to invest \$252 million in upgrading the electricity network in the northern districts by 2012:

- (1) How much money has been committed to upgrades to the network within the Ryde LGA during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2010;
 - (b) financial year ending 2011;
 - (c) financial year ending 2012?
- (2) How much money has been committed to upgrades to the network servicing the Eastwood Plaza precinct (Rowe Street, Glen Street, First Avenue and Railway Parade) during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2010;
 - (b) financial year ending 2011;
 - (c) financial year ending 2012?

Answer—

I am advised by EnergyAustralia:

- (1) (a) \$27.5 million
- (b) \$49.3 million
- (c) \$21.6 million
- (2) (a) \$1.2 million
- (b) \$2 million
- (c) \$1.3 million

*10967ELECTRICITY INTERRUPTIONS—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

In relation to EnergyAustralia figures on electricity interruptions, showing the average time a customer is without power per year:

- (1) What was the average time (in minutes) customers within the Ryde LGA were without power during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2005;

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- (b) financial year ending 2006;
 - (c) financial year ending 2007;
 - (d) financial year ending 2008;
 - (e) financial year ending 2009?
- (2) What was the average time (in minutes) customers in the Eastwood Plaza precinct (Rowe Street, Glen Street, First Avenue and Railway Parade) were without power during:
- (a) financial year ending 2005;
 - (b) financial year ending 2006;
 - (c) financial year ending 2007;
 - (d) financial year ending 2008;
 - (e) financial year ending 2009?

Answer—

I am advised by EnergyAustralia:

- (1) (a) 405.20
(b) 55.16
(c) 152.24
(d) 122.81
(e) 76.04
(f) 60.18
- (2) (a) 364.9
(b) 65.6
(c) 113.7
(d) 649.2
(e) 234.3
(f) 78.0

*10968POWER INTERRUPTIONS—RYDE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

In relation to EnergyAustralia figures recorded on electricity interruptions:

- (1) How many power interruptions were recorded within the Ryde LGA during:
- (a) financial year ending 2005;
 - (b) financial year ending 2006;
 - (c) financial year ending 2007;
 - (d) financial year ending 2008;
 - (e) financial year ending 2009?
- (2) How many power interruptions recorded within the Ryde LGA were attributed to environmental factors during:
- (a) financial year ending 2005;
 - (b) financial year ending 2006;
 - (c) financial year ending 2007;
 - (d) financial year ending 2008;
 - (e) financial year ending 2009?
- (3) How many power interruptions were recorded in the Eastwood Plaza precinct (Rowe Street, Glen Street, First Avenue and Railway Parade) during:
- (a) financial year ending 2005;
 - (b) financial year ending 2006;
 - (c) financial year ending 2007;
 - (d) financial year ending 2008;
 - (e) financial year ending 2009?
- (4) How many power interruptions recorded in the Eastwood Plaza precinct (Rowe Street, Glen Street, First Avenue and Railway Parade) were attributed to environmental factors during:
- (a) financial year ending 2005;
 - (b) financial year ending 2006;

- (c) financial year ending 2007;
- (d) financial year ending 2008;
- (e) financial year ending 2009?

Answer—

I am advised by EnergyAustralia:

- (1) (a) 166
- (b) 94
- (c) 128
- (d) 145
- (e) 123
- (f) 115

Interruptions lasting more than one minute have been counted.

- (2) (a) Between 47 and 137
- (b) Between 18 and 70
- (c) Between 29 and 103
- (d) Between 27 and 63
- (e) Between 23 and 41

Due to their nature it is not always possible to confirm environmental causes.

- (3) (a) 13
- (b) 9
- (c) 8
- (d) 19
- (e) 19
- (f) 8

Interruptions lasting more than one minute have been counted.

- (4) (a) Between 4 and 13
- (b) Between 1 and 4
- (c) Between 3 and 7
- (d) Between 7 and 12
- (e) Between 1 and 5

Due to their nature it is not always possible to confirm environmental causes.

*10969SMOKING ON NSW HEALTH PROPERTY—Mr Victor Dominello asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 Section 6:

- (1) On how many occasions were persons found to be smoking on NSW Health property (including buildings, campuses and vehicles) during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (2) On how many occasions were persons warned by staff and/or security at NSW hospitals for smoking within hospital buildings in contravention of section 6 during:
 - (a) FYE 2007;
 - (b) FYE 2008; and
 - (c) FYE 2009?
- (3) On how many occasions were Tobacco Compliance Officers at NSW hospitals required to enforce section 6 against a person for smoking within hospital buildings:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?

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- (4) On how many occasions were persons warned by staff and/or security at Ryde Hospital for smoking within hospital buildings in contravention of section 6 during:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?
- (5) On how many occasions were Tobacco Compliance Officers at Ryde Hospital required to enforce section 6 against a person for smoking within hospital buildings:
 - (a) financial year ending 2007;
 - (b) financial year ending 2008;
 - (c) financial year ending 2009?

Answer—

I am advised:

The purpose of the NSW Health Smoke Free Workplace Policy is to reduce the number of patients, staff and visitors exposed to environmental tobacco smoke when in contact with NSW Health's facilities, with implementation planned to occur over four phases.

All NSW Area Health Service hospital campuses are now smoke free. Exemptions from the policy remain in place for some services, including mental healthcare facilities, where smoking is permitted in outdoor designated smoking areas only. As a result, limited outdoor designated smoking areas are currently retained in some hospital campuses. Exemptions from the Policy are approved by local-level implementation committees within the Area Health Service and all Area Health Services are expected to continue to progress action under the Policy.

The implementation and enforcement of the NSW Health Smoke Free Workplace Policy is the responsibility of the Chief Executive within each Area Health Service and it is the Chief Executives' discretion to determine the timing of implementation based on local circumstances and consultation with healthcare consumers and the community. Practical advice is provided to Chief Executives and designated personnel in Area Health Services who are planning the implementation of the NSW Health Smoke Free Workplace Policy in NSW public hospitals, residential mental healthcare facilities and drug and/or alcohol facilities (including step-down units) used by mental healthcare consumers.

Ryde Public Hospital provides both acute and non-acute inpatient services, including drug and alcohol and mental healthcare services.

***10970 COUNSELLING SUPPORT FOR FORGOTTEN AUSTRALIANS**—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

In reference to former Premier Nathan Rees commitment of 19 September 2009 that \$9 million would be spent over five years to boost counselling support for forgotten Australians:

- (1) How much of this money has been spent thus far specifically on services for forgotten Australians in New South Wales?
- (2) What is the spending schedule for this money over the five years?
- (3) Have any non-government agencies been awarded contracts in relation to this money?
- (4) If so, how much are they receiving?
- (5) How much of the \$9 million is being spent on record-keeping for records that will be held within Community Services?
- (6) How much of the \$9 million is actually being spent on service delivery?

Answer—

(1), (2) and (5) Please refer to Written Question 10150.

(3) and (4) Relationships Australia (NSW) is the preferred service provider and has received fixed term funding of \$834,000 per annum over four years from 2010-11.

(6) Of the \$9 million funding package for Forgotten Australians, only the historic records project does not involve the direct service delivery.

***10971 CHILD WELLBEING UNIT**—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) Did the Department of Education have a functioning Child Wellbeing Unit set up by the beginning of school term 1, 2010?
- (2) If so, where is it based and what has been the establishment cost?
- (3) If so, how many employees were directly employed at this time working for the Child Wellbeing Unit?

- (4) How many regional intake and referral services have been contracted for any purpose by the Education Department's Child Wellbeing Unit?
- (5) How many children or young person have been the subject of a substantiated risk-of-harm report by the Education Department's Child Wellbeing Unit?
- (6) How many children or young people have been referred to the unit and what outcomes were decided:
 - (a) referred to DoCS for significant harm;
 - (b) referred to services;
 - (c) no further action?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The Child Wellbeing Unit is based in Darlinghurst. An allocation of \$3,322,606 was made to the Department in the 2009-2010 financial year to establish, staff and operate the unit.
- (3) At the beginning of Term 1, 2010, there were 27 staff employed at the Child Wellbeing Unit.
- (4) None. This is not part of the role of Child Wellbeing Units.
- (5) The Child Wellbeing Unit does not conduct investigations of risk of harm reports and therefore does not have a role to 'substantiate' or otherwise these reports.
- (6) In the first quarterly reporting period, that is from 25 January 2010 (when the Child Wellbeing Unit commenced operation), to 31 March 2010, the Child Wellbeing Unit had been contacted in relation to concerns about 1,926 children or young people.
 - (a) Of these 1,926 children and young people, the Child Wellbeing Unit appraised that 649 were at suspected risk of significant harm requiring a report to Community Services.
 - (b) The Child Wellbeing Unit does not generally make direct referrals to services. Where required this role is generally undertaken locally. This data is therefore not available.
 - (c) The Child Wellbeing Unit does not record outcomes of 'no further action' therefore this data is not available.

*10972 ATTENDANCE AT BROOKVALE BUS DEPOT—Mr Brad Hazzard asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

- (1) Can he explain what caused him to attend at Brookvale Bus depot without notifying local community representatives?
- (2) Is he aware that staff at the Brookvale Depot have been trying to get a date from his office for a formal opening of the newly built facilities?
- (3) What response has his office made to the requests?
- (4) If he has not responded to the requests, why not?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) In my new role as Minister for Transport, my visit to the Brookvale Depot on 4 June 2010 was undertaken to announce an extra 88 permanent bus services each week for the Northern Beaches. These additional timetabled services improve bus services for commuters. The visit gave me the added opportunity for a familiarisation tour of the operations of one of State Transit's most modern bus depots, and at the same time to open the redevelopment works completed at the depot at a cost of \$13.7 million.

*10973 BURST WATER MAINS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

- (1) How many incidents of a leaking or burst water main were reported to Sydney Water during:
 - (a) 2005;
 - (b) 2006;
 - (c) 2007;
 - (d) 2008;
 - (e) 2009;
 - (f) to date in 2010?
- (2) By year, how many of these incidents resulted in collateral damage to roads and other infrastructure?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) By investing over \$100 million a year Sydney Water has reduced leaks significantly. Since 2003 they have reduced leaks by over 30 billion litres per year. This has been achieved through active leak detection and repair, reducing pressure in the pipes, placing meters on the pipe system to

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detect leaks, improving response time to main breaks and replacing old pipes. Sydney Water's monthly leakage report is available on their website, www.sydneywater.com.au

*10974POLICE BUDGET—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

With reference to the NSW 2010-11 Budget Paper No. 4, Infrastructure Statement:

- (1) What is the amount that has been allocated to the Burrinjuck electorate and where will it be spent for each of the following items under the location "Various" on page 4-41:
 - (a) Digital Closed Circuit TV in Police Station Charge Areas;
 - (b) Upgrade of Police Forensic Crime Scene Investigation Equipment;
 - (c) Mobile Number Plate Recognition System Roll Out?
- (2) What is the amount that has been allocated to the Burrinjuck electorate and where will it be spent for each of the following items under the location "Various" on page 4-42:
 - (a) Portable Radio Frequency Identification;
 - (b) Rollout of Additional 25 Mobile Police Command Units;
 - (c) Upgrade of Information Technology Equipment Phase Two;
 - (d) Fit Out of Vehicles for Additional Police Officers?
- (3) What is the amount that has been allocated to the Burrinjuck electorate and where will it be spent for each of the following items under the location "Various" on page 4-43:
 - (a) Prisoner Handling Upgrades at 14 Locations;
 - (b) Rollout of Tasers to First Response Police?

Answer—

The NSW Police Force has advised me that it does not allocate resources by electorate. I am advised that some items, such as radio frequency identification and information technology equipment, relate to system upgrades which have statewide application. Other items are allocated to Local Area Commands based on police strength and operational need.

*10975GAS HEATERS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) With reference to the Minister's statement in the Legislative Assembly of 9 June 2010 regarding the removal of the unflued gas heaters from 100 NSW schools, which schools in the Burrinjuck electorate will be included in this program?
- (2) Given my recent representations to the Minister on behalf of several parents of children attending the Sutton Public School, will she include this school in this program?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) The criteria by which schools will be selected for the replacement program is currently being determined by a stakeholder group, which includes representatives of parents and teachers, the Asthma Foundation and the COUGH campaign group.

*10976HAWKESBURY RIVER OYSTER INDUSTRY—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) In relation to the oyster industry in the Hawkesbury River (and environs), how many oyster businesses are currently operating and what types of oysters are they growing?
- (2) What is the hectare area of leases on the river and its tributaries?

Answer—

- (1) There are 18 current aquaculture permit holders in the Hawkesbury River and Patonga Creek estuaries. Farmers are culturing QX resistant Sydney rock oysters developed by Industry & Investment NSW and spawnless (triploid) Pacific oysters.
- (2) There are 229 hectares of oyster leases held by the 18 permit holders. In addition there are 66 hectares of vacant lease area identified under the NSW Oyster Industry Sustainable Aquaculture Strategy as Priority Oyster Aquaculture Area retained for expansion of the industry

*10977MOBILE POLICE COMMAND UNITS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

- (1) In relation to the Budget (2010-2011) promise to increase funding for more mobile police command units, will the Kuring-gai Local Area Command receive any mobile units?
- (2) If so, will any be located in the Hornsby electorate?

Answer—

Announcements on the rollout of the 25 mobile police command units will be made in the coming months.

*10978BEROWRA WATERS ROAD, BEROWRA—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- (1) In the NSW State Budget 2010-2011, is the Government taking over management of Berowra Waters Road, Berowra area in the Hornsby electorate?
- (2) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) The Road Classification Review Panel's report was recently released and the Panel determined that Berowra Waters Road does not currently meet the criteria for reclassification from regional to State road.

*10979VIVID SYDNEY COSTS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Tourism, Minister for the Hunter, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister for Women—

- (1) How much were Lou Reed and his co-curator paid for their work on Vivid Sydney for 2010?
- (2) How much public money (cash and in-kind) was spent on Vivid Sydney this year?
- (3) How many free tickets to Vivid Sydney events were issued to Government MPs and their staff?
- (4) How much did the 'concert for dogs' at the Sydney Opera House cost?

Answer—

I am advised:

"Vivid Sydney" falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Major Events. As such this question should be referred to the Hon Kevin Greene MP, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Sport and Recreation and Minister for Major Events.

*10980NSW BER ALLOCATION OF FUNDS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) How much has been allocated or spent on architectural and design fees for NSW Building the Education Revolution (BER) projects?
- (2) Who is paid or keeps the money allocated for such design fees where a BER project essentially replicates the design of another similar BER school project?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) There is no allocation for architectural and design fees. The Managing Contractor is paid the actual costs for design and documentation charged by their consultants.

*10981EMPLOYMENT RATE IN NSW—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Special Minister of State—

- (1) In the next financial year, how many new jobs is it estimated will be created in NSW?
- (2) How many of these new jobs will be in the:
 - (a) public sector;
 - (b) private sector?
- (3) What is it estimated that the current NSW unemployment rate of 5.2% will change to in:
 - (a) 9 months from June 2010;
 - (b) 12 months from June 2010?

Answer—

Information on employment figures can be found in the 2010-11 Budget papers.

*10982WORKCOVER ADVERTISEMENTS—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

In relation to the WorkCover advertisements "Be Aware Take Care":

- (1) Who from WorkCover authorised the placement of the advertisements "Be Aware Take Care"?
- (2) How much money has been spent on this advertisement program, broken down by medium:
 - (a) television;

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- (b) print;
- (c) internet;
- (d) other;
- (e) general administration costs of the program?

Answer—

The "Be Aware Take Care" community awareness campaign conveys an important message, making sure workers, parents, teachers and the school community are aware of the potential hazards on and around a construction site.

The campaign went through all the appropriate approval processes for a public education and safety campaign and was assessed and approved in line with New South Wales Government Advertising Guidelines by the Government.

New South Wales Treasury provided funds for the campaign.

*10983HURSTVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) Given that Hurstville Public School, with over 1,000 students, is utilising classrooms at the nearby boys-only Government High School due to space constraints at Hurstville Public, have there been any issues or concerns regarding intimidation by high school boys towards the younger primary school students?
- (2) (a) Have any measures been taken to ensure the safety of the primary school students on the high school site?
(b) If so, what are they?
- (3) Has the DET looked into alternative options for housing the classes for the primary school students, such as building new classrooms?
- (4) (a) When were the parents advised of these changes?
(b) When did the changes occur (i.e. when did the primary students commence their classes on the Government high school site)?
- (5) (a) Does the DET require the parents' authorisation before sending the primary school children to the nearby boys-only Government High School?
(b) If yes, has this occurred?
- (6) If parents do not want their primary school children sent to the high school for these classes, what options are available to these parents?
- (7) If parents are concerned about the strong language, intimidation and threats of violence by the high school boys towards the primary school students, will the DET act to fix this problem?
- (8) Has the Minister ever visited this school?
- (9) (a) Has the Minister spoken with parents, teachers or the Principal regarding these matters?
(b) If so, what were the outcomes?

Answer—

- (1) The students at Hurstville Public School are not currently utilising the space at Georges River College Hurstville Boys Campus. The Principals of both schools have not managed any formal complaints about the intimidation of younger students nor had any current incidents been brought to their attention.
- (2) (a) Not applicable.
(b) Proposed measures to ensure safety of students on the site in 2013 when the project is completed include: defined entrances limiting access to parts of buildings; clear agreed policies and procedures for supervision of students; a barrier between some of the buildings; designated play spaces; and amendments to timetables.
- (3) Yes. Various options have been considered.
- (4) (a) Parents were advised of the decision in 2009.
(b) Students have not commenced classes on the new primary site. The anticipated start date is at the commencement of 2013.
- (5) (a) No.
(b) Not applicable
- (6) The new site will incorporate buildings on the current Hurstville Boys Campus. These buildings will be refurbished and become part of the primary school.

- (7) Parents need to report specific examples of strong language, intimidation and threats of violence to the Principal or staff at either school. This behaviour is not tolerated by the Department and will be managed at a school level as a matter of priority.
- (8) No.
- (9) (a) Representatives of the Hurstville Public School Parents and Citizens Association and the Principals of both schools met with the Minister and Ms Cherie Burton MP, Member for Kogarah in May 2009.
- (b) The representatives of the Hurstville Public School Parents and Citizens Association preferred the option of building on the primary site. However, both Principals; the majority of staff from both sites; the Georges River College Hurstville Boys Parents and Citizens Association; and departmental staff were supportive of re-development of learning spaces for the primary school on the high school site.

*10984WARILLA NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Adrian Piccoli asked the Minister for Education and Training—

- (1) How much will it cost to clean up asbestos found during BER works at Warilla North PS?
- (2) How much asbestos was found?
- (3) How long will the school remain closed?
- (4) (a) Has additional assistance (financial and other) from the NSW Government been provided to Mount Warrigal Public School and Barrack Heights Public?
- (b) If so, what are the details regarding this Government assistance?
- (5) Given the concerns regarding bullying and confusion at their new schools, has any action been taken to ensure that the students of Warilla North can feel like they fit in their new schools?

Answer—

- (1) The total cost of remediating asbestos at Warilla North Public School is not known at this time. The Department of Education and Training has sought advice from occupational hygienists, who will provide estimated costs.
 - (2) While undertaking work associated with the Building the Education Revolution program at Warilla North Public School, materials were discovered in the ceiling and wall cavities of Block J which contained asbestos. Tests have subsequently been conducted by occupational hygienists for any other materials containing asbestos at the school.
 - (3) Students and staff will not return to Warilla North Public School until asbestos remediation is completed and the site is certified as safe for school activities to resume.
 - (4) (a) Yes.
 - (b) Buses have been organised to transport students to Barrack Heights and Mount Warrigal Public Schools until they are able to return to Warilla North Public School. To date \$11,160 has been provided for bus services for students to both schools. Financial assistance for transportation of students will continue until students are allowed to return to Warilla North Public School.
- Both host schools had sufficient spare classrooms to accommodate Warilla North Public School students without disruption. All classes have appropriate desks and chairs and learning materials have been provided to all classes and their students.
- The staff from Warilla North Public School have taken their classes and aide duties to the respective host schools. Warilla North Public School has taken learning and curriculum resources to the host schools.
- (5) The students from Warilla North Public School are temporarily relocated to two neighbouring schools. Their classes operate separately from those of the host schools, Mount Warrigal Public School and Barrack Heights Public School. The students are being well looked after at their host schools and a sound and safe learning environment is being maintained for all students. No incidents of bullying have been reported to the Principals of Warilla North Public School or the host schools.

*10985TWEED HOSPITAL—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

In relation to the waiting time for colonoscopies at the Tweed Hospital:

- (1) What is the current waiting time for elective colonoscopies at the Tweed Heads Hospital?
- (2) What is the current waiting time for non-elective colonoscopies at the Tweed Heads Hospital?

Answer—

I am advised:

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(1) Patients booked for a planned procedure are allocated a priority category by their doctor. There are three categories:

- category 1 - procedure within 30 days;
- category 2 - procedure within 90 days; and
- category 3 - within 365 days.

The patient's doctor can advise the hospital of a different priority if the patient's circumstances change.

(2) Patients clinically requiring an urgent and/or emergency colonoscopy usually have their procedures on the same day as diagnosis.

*10986DRIVING TESTS FOR OVER 85 YEARS OLD—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In relation to licensed drivers over 85 years and the mandatory 85 and over driving tests in the Tweed electorate:

- (1) How many people in the Tweed electorate were required to undertake the mandatory 85 years and over driving test in the following years:
 - (a) 2008-09;
 - (b) 2009-10?
- (2) What is the percentage of the above people who were successful in retaining their driving licence in the following years:
 - (a) 2008-09;
 - (b) 2009-10?
- (3) What is the number of licensed drivers over 85 in the Tweed electorate in the following years:
 - (a) 2008-09;
 - (b) 2009-10?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) (a) 380 aged driving tests were undertaken by licence holders aged 85 and over in the Tweed electorate in 2008-09.
(b) 290 aged driving tests were undertaken by licence holders aged 85 and over in the Tweed electorate in 2009-10.
- (2) (a) The percentage of drivers aged 85 years or more that passed a Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) conducted driving assessment in 2008-09 at Tweed Heads motor registry was 95 per cent.
(b) The percentage of drivers aged 85 years or more that passed an RTA conducted driving assessment in 2009-10 at Tweed Heads motor registry was 96 per cent.
- (3) (a) As at 30 June 2009, there were 866 licensed drivers aged 85 and over in the Tweed electorate.
(b) As at 31 May 2010, there were 972 licensed drivers aged 85 and over in the Tweed electorate.

*10987REGISTERED MARINE VESSELS—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Mineral and Forest Resources, Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—

What was the total number of registered marine vessels in the Tweed electorate in the following years:

- (a) 2008;
- (b) 2009;
- (c) year to date?

Answer—

I am advised NSW Maritime does not collate this information according to electorates.

*10988STATEMENT OF INTENT FOR ARTHROPOGENIC CLIMATE CHANGE—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) When will the draft "statement of intent for arthropogenic climate change" be released?
- (2) What specific research projects are included in the NSW Government Climate Change Impacts and Adaption Research Program (please list)?
- (3) How much money has been given to each project (please list)?
- (4) When will the draft "Climate Impact Profile" be released?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

(1) The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) is preparing a response to the listing of Anthropogenic Climate Change as a key threatening process under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995.

The document, "Priorities for Biodiversity Adaptation to Climate Change", outlines the actions which DECCW intends to implement over the next five years. It is anticipated that it will be published later this year.

(2) and (3) Specific research projects included in the NSW Government Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Research Program include:

- The effects of climate change on bushfire threats to biodiversity, ecosystem processes and people in the Sydney region (\$270,000).
- High resolution terrain mapping of the NSW Central and Hunter coasts for assessments of potential climate change impacts (\$381,400).
- The effect of climate change on Sydney's water supplies and demand for water in Sydney (\$300,000).
- Biodiversity Impacts Study: key ecological processes and biodiversity/threatened species risk assessment (\$190,000).
- A preliminary assessment of the climate change impacts and adaptation options for coastal NSW (\$132,000).
- Aquatic ecosystems climate change adaptation research project (\$210,000).
- Assessing the impact of climate change on invasive species (\$300,000).
- Health effects of climate change - NSW adaptation strategy (\$300,000).
- Extension of regional conservation planning tools to address potential climate change impacts on biodiversity (\$100,000).

(4) The NSW Climate Impact Profile was released on 1 July 2010 and can be downloaded from the DECCW website at www.environment.nsw.gov.au. Hard copies can also be obtained by calling the Department's Environment Line on 131 555.

*10989 WASTE REDUCTION AND PURCHASING POLICY—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

What is your department doing to better promote the Waste Reduction and Purchasing Policy to other agencies, noting your department was in the top 15% of agencies reporting high disposal rates and low recycling rates in 2007?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) is responsible for producing and distributing a biannual whole-of-government progress report on the Waste Reduction and Purchasing Policy (WRAPP). These reports are tabled in Parliament and provided to all agencies.

To raise awareness of WRAPP and related issues of sustainable procurement, DECCW conducts workshops and publishes guidelines, websites and newsletters for agencies, providing guidance on reporting and how to take action.

DECCW is one of the larger agencies within the NSW Government and leads by example. In 2009, it exceeded the averages for NSW Government agencies for recycling rates and use of recycled materials by:

- recycling 68% of its waste materials listed under WRAPP, 97% of its waste paper, 69% of its concrete waste, 62% of its construction and demolition waste and 100% of its end-of-life computers;
- purchasing A4 copy paper which has 98% recycled content;
- using landscaping materials which have 81% recycled content; and
- using paper for publications paper which has 89% recycled content.

*10990 CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

(1) Where is the Climate Change Action Plan announced in last year's budget?

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- (2) (a) Is the Department going to release this Plan?
 (b) If so, when?
 (3) What are the top five ways the Government plans to cut greenhouse gas emissions?
 (4) How many tonnes of greenhouse gases will be saved by each of these measures?
 (5) Does that plan factor in the two new power plants the Government is planning?

Answer—

I am advised as follows:

(1) As result of the Commonwealth's deferral of the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme, reassessment of state level responses to climate change has been required. This has delayed the completion of a draft action plan for public comment.

To the extent that they are available, developments in climate change science (including more information about the projected impacts in different regions of NSW) and updates from Investing in a Better Future, the 2010 NSW State Plan will be reflected in the revised draft Plan.

(2) Once endorsed by Cabinet the draft Plan will be released for public comment.

(3) and (4) To meet the State Plan target of a 60 per cent reduction on year 2000 emissions by 2050, NSW will need to reduce its emissions to around 61 million tonnes per year. Without action, "business as usual" emissions are expected to grow to approximately 280 million tonnes in 2050, driven by population and economic growth.

NSW remains committed to a national emissions trading scheme as the principal mechanism for delivering the greenhouse gas emissions reduction, as this will help meet its target at least cost to the economy.

In the short term, other innovative approaches that NSW has developed to help meet its greenhouse emissions reduction target include:

The Energy Savings Scheme, which is Australia's strongest energy efficiency driver. It places a statutory obligation on electricity retailers to invest in projects that save households and businesses power consumption. The Scheme will provide up to \$1 billion of incentives for energy savings projects by 2020 and achieve savings equal to 40 per cent per annum of electricity consumption by 2014.

The \$150 million Energy Efficiency Strategy, serving low income households (the Home Power Savings Program), small and medium business (the Energy Efficiency for Small Business Program), the training sector (the Energy Efficiency Training Program) and the wider community (extending the Sustainability Advantage Program and Public Sector energy savings). It is anticipated that, together, these programs will return more than \$400 million in avoided electricity costs to the NSW economy.

A Renewable Energy Target of 20 per cent by 2020. To complement the Commonwealth's expanded Renewable Energy Target, NSW has established six Renewable Energy Precincts, committed to the \$120 million Solar Flagships bid, streamlined planning approvals for renewable energy projects and established the \$40 million Renewable Energy Development Program.

The \$700 million Climate Change Fund, which helps families, businesses and communities take practical action on climate change. As of March 2010, \$274 million has been allocated to 589 projects and 245,000 household rebates, resulting in 940,000 tonnes of carbon pollution saved per year, equivalent to 0.56 per cent of NSW's greenhouse gas emissions.

(5) Development sites for increasing the power generation capacity in NSW are being made available to the private sector as part of the NSW Energy Reform Strategy. Ultimately, private sector investors will plan and make decisions on fuel types and technologies, and will make their own assessment about how carbon emissions will be priced in the future.

*10991 PROPOSED INGLESIDE LAND RELEASE—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

What is the latest information regarding the proposed Ingleside land release?

Answer—

I am advised the former Minister for Planning wrote to you about this matter in November 2009. As indicated in that letter, \$115,000 of additional funding under the Planning Reform Fund (PRF) program was approved for Pittwater Council to continue the planning for Ingleside.

I am advised Council has yet to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Planning with regard to how the money should be spent. Until a decision is made by Council to proceed with the PRF funding, there is limited information that can be provided on the planning and timing of the Ingleside Land release.

*10992DRUG EDUCATION SERVICES—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

- (1) What measures is the NSW Government taking to support drug education services on the Northern Beaches?
- (2) What funding has been allocated in the 2010-11 Budget to support drug education services on the Northern Beaches?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Staff of the Northern Beaches Drug and Alcohol Service provide ongoing drug education to health staff and also participate in community health promotion and education activities regarding licit and illicit substances.
- (2) The Northern Beaches Drug and Alcohol Service does not receive a separate allocation for education activities. Participation in community drug education activities is a core role responsibility for Drug and Alcohol staff.

*10993PROPOSED FRENCHS FOREST HOSPITAL—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

What monies have been spent in relation to the proposed Frenchs Forest Hospital including land acquisition, preliminary planning procedures and consultation as at 11 June 2010?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Health Department records indicate that at 31 May 2010 \$29.8 million has been spent in relation to land acquisition and project planning for the new Northern Beaches Health Service (Hospital).

*10994BUDGET PAPERS—MAJOR WORKS UNDER THE PORTS PORTFOLIO—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Mineral and Forest Resources, Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—

In relation to Major Works under the Ports Portfolio in Budget Paper No. 4 at page 4-53, the following entries appear:

- (a) Charter Vessel Wharves - Upgrade Program - Various
- (b) Commuter Wharves - Upgrade Program - Various

For each entry above:

- (1) Will the Minister provide a more detailed description of the project (including the name of the particular wharves that will receive funding)?
- (2) Which NSW electorate(s) will receive funding for each project in 2010-2011?
- (3) How much funding will each NSW electorate listed in (2) receive for each project in 2010-2011?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Charter Vessel wharves upgrade program includes an upgrade of Circular Quay 1 pontoon which services the charter vessel industry and the installation of ticket booths for wharf 6 at Circular Quay to improve the operations of the charter vessel operations from this wharf.

The commuter wharf upgrade program will see the completion of the new Milsons Point wharf, the upgrade of the Rose Bay wharf, a start to the upgrade of the Neutral Bay wharf and installation of a vessel arrestor at Watsons Bay wharf.

- (2) and (3) NSW Maritime does not collate this information according to electorates.

*10995NSW REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE (DII) FUNDING—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Special Minister of State—

In relation to NSW Regional Development Assistance (DII) funding:

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Given that the 2009-2010 NSW Budget provided a detailed breakdown of individual regional small business funding programs and that the 2010-11 NSW Budget contains a single item on this funding under the title "Regional Development Assistance Package":

- (1) Will the Minister provide a breakdown of the individual regional small business funding programs which constitute the "Regional Development Assistance Package" in the 2010-11 NSW Budget?
- (2) In relation to (1), if any individual programs listed in the 2009-10 NSW Budget are no longer being funded in the 2010-11 NSW Budget, why has this funding ceased (broken down per program)?
- (3) For 2009-2010, why was the budgeted amount of \$49.6 million for the "Regional Development Assistance Package" revised down to \$31.6 million?

Answer—

I am advised:

The NSW Government has a range of programs designed to assist regional and small businesses located in NSW. They include the Western Sydney Business Employment Fund, Regional Business Employment Fund, Business Drought Assistance, Illawarra Advantage Fund, Hunter Advantage Fund and Regional Business Development Scheme. As a response to customer feedback the Government has consolidated its business assistance programs to make them easier for companies to access and navigate. There has been no reduction in program funding as a result of this process.

The revised funding amount listed for the Regional Development Assistance Package in the 2009/10 Budget reflects variants in cash flow relating to the uptake of funding commitments and draw down amounts for programs under the Building the Country package.

Companies offered financial assistance through the Government's regional development programs must reach specific project milestones to claim particular funding amounts which comprise a total offer of assistance. Companies may not necessarily achieve these project milestones in the same financial year that an offer of financial assistance is made. This results in the variation of the forecasted cash flow for the Government's regional development programs as funding amounts are not necessarily paid out in the same financial year they are committed. However, this does not impact on the availability of funding originally earmarked for these programs, but rather alters the financial year in which some program funds are distributed.

*10996BUDGET PAPERS—MAJOR WORKS UNDER THE ROADS PORTFOLIO—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

In relation to Major Works under the Roads Portfolio in Budget Paper No. 4 at page 4-48 and 4-49, the following entries appear:

- (a) Bus Priority on Strategic Corridors - Various (page 4-48)
- (b) Network Management (Pinch Point) Strategy - Various (page 4-49)

For each entry above:

- (1) Will the Minister provide a more detailed description of the project?
- (2) Which NSW electorate(s) will receive funding for each project in 2010-2011?
- (3) How much funding will each NSW electorate listed in (2) receive for each project in 2010-2011?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The RTA bus priority program provides road infrastructure to support the Government's 10 year commitment to 1000 new buses and 43 bus corridors in the Metropolitan Transport Plan. The bus priority program provides bus lanes, queue jumps at intersections and if necessary, enabling works such as improved turning paths for buses and safer pedestrian access. Corridor performance is measured using GPS units on buses to record travel times and reliability. This information, plus front line feedback from operators, is used to identify locations requiring treatment.

The Network Management ('Pinch Point') Strategy is a NSW Government initiative aimed at improving traffic flows at key congestion points on Sydney's major arterial road corridors.

The Pinch Point Strategy targets peak hour traffic 'pinch points' on 23 corridors in Sydney and develops measures to maintain travel speeds, provide reliable travel times and improve information available to Sydney motorists.

- (2) and (3) Bus priority on strategic corridors in the 2010-11 financial year by electorate:

URBAN - CROSS ELECTORATES
CAMPBELLTOWN

COOGEE
MANLY
OATLEY
PARRAMATTA
PITTWATER
RYDE
STRATHFIELD
SYDNEY
THE ENTRANCE
VAUCLUSE
WAKEHURST
WILLOUGHBY
WOLLONGONG
WYONG

The Pinch point strategy in the 2010-11 financial year allocated by Electorate:

URBAN - CROSS ELECTORATES
BANKSTOWN
BAULKHAM HILLS
CRONULLA
DAVIDSON
DRUMMOYNE
GRANVILLE
KOGARAH
KU-RING-GAI
LAKEMBA
LANE COVE
LIVERPOOL
MACQUARIE FIELDS
MIRANDA
NORTH SHORE
OATLEY
PARRAMATTA
ROCKDALE
TOONGABBIE
WILLOUGHBY

Figures are not final as they may change during the design and implementation phases.

*10997MID NORTH COAST CORRECTIONAL CENTRE—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

In relation to the Mid North Coast Correctional Centre (MNCCC):

- (1) How many inmates convicted on charges of child sex offences or paedophilia are currently accommodated at the MNCCC, including Swanson Lodge?
- (2) How many of these inmates are currently being rehabilitated back into the community?
- (3) Are inmates with serious convictions, such as paedophilia, entitled to unsupervised release during rehabilitation?
- (4) What is the current procedure of advising the community of the impending release of such inmates?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (4) The Honourable Member is referred to the answer to Question No 10871.

*10998BUDGET PAPERS—EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Education and Training—

Regarding Education infrastructure listed in the 2010-2011 Budget:

In Budget Paper No. 4 on pages 4-15 to 4-21 the following entries appear:

- Enterprise Information Management System - Various
- Learning Management and Business Reform Project Human Resource & Payroll Systems - Various

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- Learning Management and Business Reform Project Student Administration and Learning Management System - Various
- Building Better Schools - New High School Gymnasiums - Various
- Building Better Schools - New Primary School Halls - Various
- Central Coast Centre for Industry Training Excellence Upgrades at Local High Schools - Various
- Connected Classrooms - Various
- Electronic Document and Record Management System - Various
- Learn to Earn - Trade Schools - Various
- Learning Management and Business Reform Project - Various
- Newcastle Schools for Special Purposes - Consolidation - Various
- Premier's Sporting Challenge - Upgrade Sports High Schools - Various
- State-wide Demountable Replacement Program - 2008-09 - Various
- State-wide Demountable Replacement Program - 2009-10 - Various
- State-wide Gymnasiums and Halls Project 2008-09 - Various
- TAFE Learning Management and Business Reform Project Student Administration and Learning Management System - Various

What is the amount under the entry that has been allocated to the Oxley electorate?

(2) In Budget Paper No. 4 at page 4-73 the following entry appears:

- New Houses to Meet Demand Growth - Various

What is the amount under the entry that has been allocated to the Oxley electorate?

Answer—

(1) The Enterprise Information Management System project, various Learning Management and Business Reform projects and Electronic Document and Management System project are statewide initiatives that will benefit staff and students in schools in every electorate.

Under the Connected Classrooms program, the following schools in the Oxley electorate will receive interactive whiteboards funded in the 2010-11 budget: Aldavilla, Bobin, Elands, Frederickton, Kempsey West, Long Flat, Orama, Smithtown, South West Rocks, Telegraph Point, Nambucca Heads and Wauchope Public Schools.

The Central Coast Centre for Industry Training Excellence and Newcastle Schools for Special Purposes projects are site specific in the locations indicated by their titles.

Among the remaining capital works programs listed above, no funds have been allocated in 2010-11 to schools in the Oxley electorate, however Oxley schools have seen \$22,679,879 in NSW Government-funded capital works completed over the past two financial years

(2) This question should be directed to the Minister responsible for the Teacher Housing Authority.

*10999BUDGET PAPERS—MAJOR WORKS UNDER THE STATE DEVELOPMENT PORTFOLIO—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Special Minister of State—

In relation to Major Works under the State Development Portfolio in Budget Paper No. 4 at page 4-34, the following entries appear:

- (a) Information and Communication Technology Enhancement - Various
- (b) Regional Tourism Signposting Strategy - Various

For each entry above:

- (1) Will the Minister provide a more detailed description of the project?
- (2) Which NSW electorate(s) will receive funding for each project in 2010-2011?
- (3) How much funding will each NSW electorate listed in (2) receive for each project in 2010-2011?

Answer—

- (a) Information and Communication Technology Enhancement - Various

- (1) This project was established to enhance the efficiency and performance of the Industry & Investment NSW Wide Area Network (WAN) to enable the Department to deliver better services to the people of NSW. The final phase of the project scheduled in 2010-2011 will comprise upgrading of network cabling and data switching infrastructure at the major network hubs at Orange and Maitland.
- (2) The funding will be shared between the Maitland and Orange electorates.
- (3) Approximately 50% (\$75,000) will be spent in each electorate.

- (b) Regional Tourism Signposting Strategy - Various

- (1) Tourism NSW was allocated \$300,000 over four consecutive years (total \$1.2 million) for tourist signposting enhancement initiatives. Funding ceases in June 2011. Funds have been invested in the tourist signposting network, which enhances the touring experience across NSW.
- (2) Funding is not provided on an electorate basis.
- (3) N/A

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(Paper No. 211)

*11000 SECTION 94 DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Have there been claims that the recently announced Section 94 cap on Development Contributions will impact on the frequency of garbage collection services in some local government areas?
- (2) Could this policy impact on such services in the Blacktown City Council area?
- (3) How would such a "cap" affect garbage collection services?

Answer—

- (1) An article in the Sunday Telegraph, 13 June 2010, incorrectly claimed that the \$20,000 cap on Section 94 development contributions would impact on waste collection services in some western Sydney councils.
- (2) No.
- (3) Garbage collection services are not funded by the Section 94 Development Contributions.

11001 2010-11 BUDGET—FAIR TRADING—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for the Arts—

11002 HEALTH BUDGET—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

11003 HEALTHONE CENTRE—COROWA—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

11004 ILLEGAL FISHING IN AQUATIC RESERVES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

11005 BIOMASS GENERATOR—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Mineral and Forest Resources, Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—

11006 SOLAR BONUS SCHEME—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

11007 TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

11008 STRICKLAND HOUSE ESTATE—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

11009 CUSTOMER SERVICE SURVEYS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

11010 BOARDERS AND LODGERS—Mr Victor Dominello to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for the Arts—

11011 RTA E-TAGS—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

11012 CHIEF EXECUTIVE SERVICE AND SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE POSITIONS—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—

11013 ROADWORKS—AVOCA DRIVE, GREEN POINT—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

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- 11014 NATURAL DISASTER FUNDING—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 11015 DARLING RIVER WATER SAVING PROJECT—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 11016 COLLECTOR CREEK TIMBER BRIDGE—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 11017 GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 11018 FLOODING AT LINDSAY MADEW MENTAL HEALTH UNIT AT HORNSBY—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 11019 REDEVELOPMENT OF THE WAHROONGA SITE—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 11020 ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY UNIT—HORNSBY HOSPITAL—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 11021 PARKING FINES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Special Minister of State—
- 11022 APPLICATIONS PURCHASED—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Special Minister of State—
- 11023 DATA CENTRE CONSOLIDATION PROJECT—CONSULTANCY—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 11024 DATA CENTRE CONSOLIDATION PROJECTS—DSTA—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 11025 LANGUAGE SUPPORT CLASS—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 11026 MEREWETHER HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL EARLY LEARNING CENTRE—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 11027 MEREWETHER HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL EARLY LEARNING CENTRE—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- *11028 OFFICE OF THE TRUSTEE AND GUARDIAN—Mr Greg Piper asked the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, Vice President of the Executive Council—
- As the office of the Trustee and Guardian advises there is a 21-day turnaround for responses to emails, what policy applies when carers and clients seek prompt responses in respect of urgent matters?
- Answer—
- I am advised:
- Urgent enquiries are responded to within 24 hours.
- 11029 BOAT LICENCES—TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Mineral and Forest Resources, Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—
- *11030 NORTHERN REGION JOINT REGIONAL PLANNING PANEL—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—
- (1) Will the Minister list the number of projects currently being discussed by the Northern Regional Planning Panel?
 - (2) What is the estimated value of these projects?

(3) How many times has the Northern Region Joint Regional Planning Panel met to discuss these projects in the last 12 months?

Answer—

Information on matters before the Northern Regional Planning Panel may be found on the Joint Regional Planning Panel website www.jrpp.planning.nsw.gov.au

- 11031 REPLACEMENT PROCEDURE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 11032 TRUCK ENGINE BRAKE NOISE—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 11033 NOISE BARRIERS—M2 UPGRADE—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 11034 I-MIEV ELECTRIC CAR—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 11035 CTP GREEN SLIPS—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

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(Paper No. 212)

- 11036 ALBURY CITY COUNCIL REQUESTS FOR FREEWAY INFORMATION—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 11037 SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION—ALBURY ELECTORATE—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Education and Training representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, Minister for Volunteering, and Minister for Youth—
- 11038 UNFLUED GAS HEATERS IN ALBURY ELECTORATE SCHOOLS—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- *11039 CASEWORKER POSITIONS—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

How many caseworker positions were there at Raymond Terrace in the following years:

- (a) 2006-2007;
- (b) 2007-2008;
- (c) 2008-2009;
- (d) 2009-2010?

Answer—

- (a) 2006-2007: 22
- (b) 2007-2008: 23
- (c) 2008-2009: 23
- (d) 2009-2010: 23

- 11040 WILLIAMTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 11041 WIRREANDA PUBLIC SCHOOL HALL—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 11042 TOURLE STREET BRIDGE UPGRADE—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 11043 RELOCATION OF RAYMOND TERRACE OFFICE—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

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*11044 DREDGING OF MYALL RIVER—Mr Craig Baumann asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Can the Minister provide an update on the dredging of the Myall River?
- (2) When will dredging begin?
- (3) When will dredging be completed?
- (4) Will dredging of the Myall River become a regular activity?
- (5) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) Dredging of the lower Myall River in the existing marked western navigation channel to the north of Corrie Island is being managed by Great Lakes Council, with funding provided on a shared basis by the NSW Government and Council.
- (2) Dredging commenced on 23 June 2010.
- (3) Dredging is expected to be completed by the end July 2010.
- (4) and (5) Any decision on future dredging campaigns in the Myall River is a matter for Great Lakes Council to consider in the first instance.

11045 WORKERS' COMPENSATION ENTITLEMENTS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

11046 PENSIONER CONCESSIONS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Special Minister of State—

11047 EXTERNAL LEGAL SERVICES—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Special Minister of State—

11048 EXTERNAL LEGAL SERVICES—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Special Minister of State—

11049 EXTERNAL ACCOUNTING SERVICES—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Special Minister of State—

11050 BUS BREAKDOWNS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

11051 MANLY HOSPITAL EMERGENCY PATIENTS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

11052 HAWKESBURY NEPEAN RIVER—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

11053 ROAD TRAINS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

*11054 GRABINE LAKESIDE STATE PARK—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) What was the problem with the Grabine Lakeside State Park's water system that caused the Land and Property Management Authority to close the park on 12 February 2010 for testing and maintenance?
- (2) What is the current status of this rectification action?
- (3) On what date is the park expected to reopen?
- (4) Why are customers who have on-site vans at the park still required to pay rates when they are unable to access the park?

Answer—

- (1) The Grabine Lakeside State Park Trust decided to close the park due to low water levels and poor water quality following adverse results to a water quality test.

- (2) The Trust, with the assistance of the Land and Property Management Authority, Department of Health and Upper Lachlan Council, is seeking to determine the scope of works required to be carried out so that the park can reopen.
- (3) This is a matter for the Trust to decide once it has been established that public health is no longer at risk.
- (4) This is a matter to be taken up personally with the Trust.

11055 HUMAN SERVICES BUDGET—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

*11056 HAWKESBURY RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

- (1) In 2009 and 2010 to date, have there been any outbreaks of dangerous growths of weed etc. in the Hawkesbury River and tributaries?
- (2) If so, which and in what areas?
- (3) If yes, what plant or animal life in the river is/was endangered?
- (4) If yes, what is/was being done to eradicate this danger?

Answer—

The Office of the Hawkesbury-Nepean coordinates aquatic weed management in the Hawkesbury River and tributaries.

The Minister for Water has responsibility for this office.

11057 F3 FREEWAY EMERGENCY TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

11058 F3 FREEWAY INCIDENT—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

11059 LIVESTOCK HEALTH AND PEST AUTHORITIES RATES—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

11060 CASEWORKER POSITIONS—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

11061 DEPARTMENT OF ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—

11062 MOBILE POLICE COMMAND UNITS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

11063 PUBLIC HOUSING IN THE CRONULLA ELECTORATE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

11064 85 YEARS AND OVER DRIVING TEST—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

11065 SECURITY FENCING FOR SCHOOLS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Education and Training—

11066 ROADWORKS—CAMDEN VALLEY WAY AND HOXTON PARK ROAD—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

11067 NOISE ABATEMENT MEASURES—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

11068 MACQUARIE FIELDS LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Dr Andrew McDonald to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

11069 E10 FUEL CONSUMPTIONS AND EFFICIENCIES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

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11070 DAVIDSON HIGH SCHOOL—SAFETY ISSUES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Education and Training—

*11071 KU-RING-GAI PLANNING PANEL—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—

- (1) Does the per meeting fee paid to Ku-ring-gai Planning Panel members of \$770 (or \$933 for the chair) for formal Panel meetings extend to informal meetings or site meetings?
- (2) Were any Planning Panel meetings held in March, April or May 2010?
- (3) What were the time durations of the formal Planning Panel meetings held so far in 2010?
- (4) When does the Government intend to abolish the Ku-ring-gai Planning Panel?

Answer—

(1) No.

(2) and (3) Information on the meeting schedule and agenda may be found on the Ku-Ring-Gai council website www.kmc.nsw.gov.au

(4) On 30 April 2010, I appointed new members to the Ku-ring-gai Planning Panel for a period of up to 12 months while the review of the Panel is underway. I will await the findings of the review prior to making any determination on the future of the Panel.

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(Paper No. 213)

11072 WORLD SCHOOL MILK DAY—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

11073 MILK PROCESSORS—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

11074 EGG INDUSTRY—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

11075 DEREGULATION OF THE DAIRY INDUSTRY—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—

11076 NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE STAFF—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

11077 ALBURY WODONGA HUME FREEWAY LANDSCAPING—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

11078 ALBURY WODONGA HUME FREEWAY—NOISE ASSESSMENT—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

11079 SUBMISSIONS TO SYDNEY WATER—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

11080 GRAFFITI AND VANDALISM PREVENTION EXPENDITURE—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

11081 BOATS IN THE SYDNEY REGION—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Mineral and Forest Resources, Minister for Ports and Waterways, and Minister for the Illawarra—

11082 EMISSIONS FROM SYDNEY BUSES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

11083 PURCHASING OF QUARTERLY AND ANNUAL PASSES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

- 11084 DELAYS TO STANDARD SYDNEY BUSES SERVICES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—
- 11085 REDUCED OPENING HOURS—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister for Major Events—
- 11086 SOLAR BONUS SCHEME—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Energy, Minister for Public Sector Reform, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs—
- 11087 REVENUE RECEIVED FROM ENERGY COMPANIES—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Special Minister of State—
- 11088 HIGH SCHOOL IN MEDOWIE—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 11089 MYALL RIVER—STUDY INTO PROBLEMS—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 11090 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING PROPERTIES—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—
- 11091 NEW GRAFTON BRIDGE—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—
- 11092 RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 11093 BUS SERVICE CUTBACKS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—
- 11094 SOLAR HOT WATER SYSTEMS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 11095 INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT SCHEME—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 11096 HEAVY VEHICLE SPEEDING—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 11097 DRUNK AND DISORDERLY OFFENCE—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 11098 AIR AMBULANCE TRANSPORTATION—Mr Thomas George to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 11099 INSECT LOCUST LEVY—Mr Thomas George to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 11100 DRIVING CHARGES AGAINST P-PLATER MOTHER—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 11101 TAMWORTH COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTRE—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 11102 STAYING HOME LEAVING VIOLENCE PROGRAM—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—
- 11103 PRIORITY SCHOOLS PROGRAM—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 11104 TODDLER IN CAR CONTAINING DRUGS AND CASH—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
TUESDAY 20 JULY 2010

11105 PRINCES HIGHWAY UPGRADES—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

*11106 DOCS CASEWORKER POSITIONS—Mrs Shelley Hancock asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services—

How many DOCS caseworker positions were there at Nowra in the following years:

- (a) 2006-07;
- (b) 2007-08;
- (c) 2008-09;
- (d) 2009-10?

Answer—

Please refer to Written Question 10733.

11107 GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS SECURITY FENCING—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Education and Training—

11108 PARKING OFFENCES IN SCHOOL ZONES—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

11109 TREASURY MANAGED FUND ACCOUNTING SERVICES—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer, Minister for State and Regional Development, Special Minister of State—

11110 PUBLIC HOUSING—TERRIGAL ELECTORATE—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

11111 PUBLIC HOUSING—THE ENTRANCE ELECTORATE—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Small Business, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs—

11112 RED GUM COMPENSATION—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

11113 SCHOOL BUS SAFETY—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

11114 UNDERGROUND WATER LICENCE—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—

11115 RESPONSE TO REPRESENTATION—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

11116 BIKE POLICE—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

11117 WORKLOAD ASSESSMENT—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

11118 MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET—Mr Kevin Humphries to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

11119 REBATES FOR SOLAR AND HEAT PUMP HOT WATER SYSTEMS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

11120 SIGNAGE TO CAPTAIN COOK'S LANDING PLACE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

11121 MOTOR ACCIDENTS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

11122 POLICE OFFICERS—CRONULLA LINE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—

- 11123 MILLENNIUM TRAINS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—
- 11124 GRANTS FOR EQUIPMENT—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister for Major Events—
- 11125 COMMEMORATIVE SCHOLARSHIPS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister for Major Events—
- 11126 TRANSPORT INTERCHANGES AND COMMUTER CAR PARKS PROJECTS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Central Coast—

- *11127 LEASES FOR PERMANENT RESIDENTS IN CARAVAN PARKS—Mr Donald Page asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

Regarding leases for permanent residents in caravan parks on community land owned by councils:

- (1) Will the Minister amend the Local Government Act 1993 to allow an exemption enabling a lease to be provided over community land as requested by Byron Shire Council?
- (2) Do "existing use" rights have any status in the context of new legislation?
- (3) If land is reclassified to community land, is it possible to guarantee a caveat to allow permanent residents to continue to reside in the Park?
- (4) Is it possible to have dual classification, i.e. community and operational, in the same park but in different sections, to allow long-term residential leases to be issued.

Answer—

- (1) No. Council owned public land is required to be classified as "community" land or "operational land". The primary distinction between the community land and operational land classifications is that operational land can be alienated from the public, for example by sale or by granting leases for more than 21 years. Community land cannot be sold and is subject to restrictions on leasing that ensure its long-term retention for the public.
 - (2) It is unclear as to what legislation or existing rights the member refers. Accordingly, no answer has been provided.
 - (3) No. The Local Government Act 1993 does not contain provisions that allow leasing of community land for periods in excess of 21 years, nor does it allow leasing for housing except in relation to residential housing owned by a council.
 - (4) A council can reclassify all or part of a parcel of community land by way of a Local Environmental Plan and by complying with the requirements of the reclassification process contained in the Local Government Act 1993. It is a matter for Council and its community to determine whether, after completion of the reclassification process, it undertakes a subdivision of the land to create two separate allotments to further differentiate between land held as community land and land held as operational land.
- 11128 MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 11129 NEW NATIONAL PARKS—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 11130 2010-2011 BUDGET—EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 11131 2010-2011 BUDGET—JUVENILE JUSTICE INFRASTRUCTURE—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 11132 PALM AVENUE SCHOOL AND DALWOOD ASSESSMENT CENTRE—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 11133 PALM AVENUE SCHOOL AND DALWOOD ASSESSMENT CENTRE—Mr Adrian Piccoli to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
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- 11134 CARY STREET TORONTO—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 11135 BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 11136 LEASING OF CROWN LAND—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—
- 11137 THIRD-PARTY INSURANCE FOR MOTORBIKES—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 11138 PERMANENT CRISIS ACCOMMODATION—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Education and Training representing the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, Minister for Volunteering, and Minister for Youth—
- 11139 2010-11 BUDGET PAPER NO. 4—INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 11140 2010-11 BUDGET PAPER NO. 4—EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 11141 BULLI SEAM OPERATIONS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 11142 CLIMATE CORRECTED DEMAND MODEL—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 11143 DESALINATION PLANT—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 11144 REPAIR AND PRESSURE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 11145 MOTORCYCLE COMPULSORY THIRD PARTY PREMIUMS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 11146 DO-IT-YOURSELF WATER SAVING KITS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- 11147 ADDITIONAL FUNDING—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 11148 PATIENT BEDS—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 11149 AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 11150 AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2010—Mr George Souris to ask the Premier, and Minister for Redfern Waterloo—
- 11151 WARRIEWOOD MOTOR REGISTRY—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 11152 NORTHERN BEACHES AND MANLY LOCAL AREA COMMANDS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Police, and Minister for Finance—
- 11153 NARRABEEN LAGOON—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 11154 PROPOSED HOSPITAL AT FRENCHS FOREST—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 11155 DEEP CREEK BRIDGE—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—

- 11156 REPOSSESSION ORDERS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health representing the Attorney General, Minister for Citizenship, Minister for Regulatory Reform, Vice President of the Executive Council—
- 11157 WAKEHURST PARKWAY FLOODING—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 11158 HEALTH SERVICES ON THE NORTHERN BEACHES:—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, and Minister for Health—
- 11159 INFRINGEMENT NOTICES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Rural Affairs—
- 11160 RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTENANCE—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Western Sydney—
- 11161 BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION—PAYMENT OF SUBCONTRACTORS—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 11162 BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION—NABIAC SCHOOL HALL—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Education and Training—
- 11163 PROPOSED CHANGES TO WATER FLOWS IN THE HAWKESBURY RIVER—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Water, and Minister for Corrective Services—
- *11164 REVIEW OF THE METROPOLITAN PLAN—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for the State Plan, and Minister for Community Services representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Lands—
- When will the review of the Metropolitan Plan for Sydney be completed and a decision made regarding this area?
- Answer—
- The Review of the current 2005 Metropolitan Strategy will culminate in a Metropolitan Plan before the end of the year, which will fully integrate land use and transport planning for Metropolitan Sydney.
- 11165 GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS SECURITY FENCING—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Education and Training—